

Kinney Creek & Wingleton Road Timber Bridge Project Pere Marquette River Watershed

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Conservation
Resource Alliance

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The Pere Marquette River is a state designated Natural River, a federally designated Wild and Scenic River, and a Blue Ribbon Trout Stream. Tributaries like Kinney Creek provide critical spawning and escape cover for fish, travel corridors for wildlife, and instream habitat for aquatic insects. Kinney Creek is approximately 3 miles long and this project opens up fish passage to almost a mile of it. Kinney Creek connects Wingleton Lake to the PM mainstem.

The Wingleton road/stream crossing, site #L-15, was comprised of twin 24" culverts that were undersized and constricting the stream channel. The culverts were approximately 50' long and too short with steep, eroding embankments. Through this project partners designed and completed the installation of a timber bridge that accommodates the natural stream channel. Paved approaches and spillway channel road runoff away from the stream, as well.

Project Cost:
\$273,997 incl. match

Contributors:

- US Forest Service
American Recovery Reinvestment Act
- Lake County Road Commission
- CRA's River Care Fund with support from DTE Energy Foundation and the George Fund

Location
Sweetwater Twp.
Section 36
Lake County, MI



Best Management Practices:

- Timber deck (20' span, 30' 1" roadway) installation incl. support beams & guardrail
- Fieldstone placement
- Pave & curb approaches (1,500 lineal feet)
- 6 spillways
- Grading and revegetation

Project Benefits:

- Natural movement of woody debris, substrate, fish & aquatic insects.
- Reduce sedimentation of stream from embankment erosion and steep, sandy road approaches into Kinney Creek.
- Stream channel returned to a more natural state, unaltered by undersized culverts impounding water & sand upstream.

Partners involved:

Pere Marquette River Restoration Committee including the following partners – US Forest Service, Conservation Resource Alliance, Lake County Road Commission, Wilcox Professional Services, Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, McDowell Construction & Pere Marquette Watershed Council.

Wingleton Road and Kinney Creek Site #L-15 Photos

Looking upstream of road crossing – Before



After



Inlet – Before



After



Outlet – Before



After



Wingleton Road and Kinney Creek Site #L-15 Photos cont.

Approaches were steep & unpaved – Before



Pavement, curbing – After



Eroding shoulders – Before



Spillways – After



Ribbon cutting ceremony



Bridge Plaque

