

Kalamazoo River Streambank Restoration Ross Township, Michigan



This project involved non-point source streambank erosion repairs along the Kalamazoo River in Ross Township. It was conducted as part of the larger Kalamazoo River Water Quality Trading Demonstration Project; one of the five EPA supported water quality trading projects in the U.S. in the late 1990's. The overall project sought to identify and demonstrate the environmental and economic benefits of watershed-based nutrient (phosphorus) trading between point and non-point sources.

Restoration techniques at this site included bank reshaping and biostabilization using native vegetation, root wad revetments and riprap. The annual phosphorus load reduction is estimated at 71 lbs.

Results of this restoration effort, and the other Kalamazoo demonstration sites, were formally used by the state of Michigan and K&A to develop the first statewide water quality trading rules in the U.S. These rules substantially served as the basis for EPA's 2003 Federal Trading Policy.

Project benefits included:

- Streambank stabilization
- Visual native riparian buffer vegetation
- Riprap and root wad revetment toe protection measures
- Use of photodegradable erosion controls
- Reduction of 71 lbs total phosphorus/yr

Project partners included:

The FORUM of Greater Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo Conservation District, USDA-NRCS, MDEQ and K&A

Contact:

James Coury
USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service
Potawatomi RC&D Council
315 W. Green Street
Marshall, MI 49068
(269) 789-2354

Project Costs:
\$13,800 (K&A)

Project Duration:
1999