

Appendix I

National Historic Register Properties in the French Creek Watershed

Crawford County

Historic Name	Municipality	Listed	Eligible
Alliance College	Cambridge Springs		6/15/92
Beach Avenue Historic District	Cambridge Springs		12/16/91
Bridge in Cambridge Springs Borough	Cambridge Springs	6/22/88	
Cambridge Springs Borough Hall	Cambridge Springs		4/11/94
Cambridge Springs Historic District	Cambridge Springs		12/19/94
Amos Kelly House	Cambridge Springs	7/23/80	
Riverside Hotel	Cambridge Springs	12/13/78	
Cochranton Railroad Station	Cochranton		5/7/81
Meadville Line	Corry to E. Fallowfield Township		5/5/94
Bridge over Unger Run	East Fallowfield	6/22/88	
Mumford Homestead	Fairfield Township		8/8/91
Allegheny College Historic District	Meadville		6/8/87
Atlantic & Great Western Railroad Foundry	Meadville		1/13/96
Baldwin-Reynolds House	Meadville	12/30/74	
Bentley Hall at Allegheny College	Meadville	5/6/77	
Chestnut Street Historic District	Meadville		6/8/87
George B. DeArment House	Meadville		2/13/95
Holland Hall	Meadville		10/16/96
Independent Congregational Church	Meadville	3/8/78	
Market House	Meadville		5/9/83
Mead Avenue Bridge	Meadville		4/17/91
Meadville Downtown Historic District	Meadville	10/2/84	
Dr. J. R. Mosier Office	Meadville	3/28/77	
North End Historic District	Meadville		7/28/91
Park Avenue Historic District	Meadville		7/28/91
Roueche House	Meadville	3/4/82	
Ruter Hall at Allegheny College	Meadville	9/18/78	
Judge Henry Shippen House	Meadville	6/6/84	12/2/81
Terrace Street Historic District	Meadville		6/8/87
U.S. Post Office, Meadville	Meadville		5/12/80
405 Walnut Street	Meadville		3/15/85
438 Walnut Street	Meadville		3/15/85
611-13 Terrace Street	Meadville		11/13/85
John Brown Tannery Site	New Richmond	12/14/78	
Bridge over French Creek	Rockdale Township	6/22/88	

Conneaut Lake Park	Sadsbury Township		9/14/95
Patrick McGill House	Saegertown		6/25/81
Edward Saeger House	Saegertown	8/22/80	
Oliver Saeger Mansion	Saegertown		3/24/87
Calvary Protestant Episcopal Church	Townville		6/25/81
Charles Prescott House	Vernon Township		11/30/92
Bridge over French Creek	West Mead Township	6/22/88	
Woodcock Academy	Woodcock		4/30/81

Erie County

Historic Name	Municipality	Listed	Eligible
Hornby School	Greenfield Township		12/4/87
Bridge in Union City Borough	Union City	6/22/88	
Union City Historic District	Union City	3/9/90	
J. G. Hubbell House	Amity Township		3/4/99
Academy Hall	Edinboro		4/29/93
Tanner Road Bridge over French Creek	Venango Township		10/13/89
Eagle Hotel	Waterford	10/28/77	
Waterford Borough Historic District	Waterford	3/9/90	
Waterford Covered Bridge	Waterford Township	9/17/80	

Mercer County

Historic Name	Municipality	Listed	Eligible
Bridge in French Creek Township	French Creek Township	6/22/88	

Venango County

Historic Name	Municipality	Listed	Eligible
Samuel F. Dale Home	Franklin	12/4/75	
Franklin Historic District	Franklin	1/26/84	
Franklin Rolling Mill and Foundry Company	Franklin		5/5/95
Plumer Block	Franklin	4/20/78	
206 11 th Street	Franklin		8/8/86
513 15 th Street	Franklin		8/8/86
U. S. Post Office	Franklin		7/3/84
W. H. Cowan Bridge	Jackson Township		3/27/92
Gleason Bridge	Jackson Township		3/27/92
Jack Cowan Bridge	Plum Township		4/10/90
Third Street Bridge	Utica		1/7/98

Source: Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, Bureau for Historic Preservation

Appendix J

Meeting Notes

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
French Creek Watershed Conservation Plan
Steering Committee
Meeting Notes
March 10, 2000 – 11 A.M.
Edinboro University

Attendees: Todd Sampsell, Jacqui Bonomo, Charles Bier – WPC; Brian Hill – FCP; Henry Lawrence, Brian Zimmerman – Edinboro University; Dave Skellie – Erie Co. Dept. of Planning; John Holden – PA DEP; Robert Wellington – Erie Co. Dept. of Health; Mike Campbell – Mercyhurst College; Budd Luce – French Creek Outiftters; Marnee Gormley – USFWS; Robert Anderson – USGS; Jeff Lang – Dad’s Products; Jon Chase – Pitt.; Dan Miller - Attorney; Chrissa Hebert – Crawford Co. Conservation District; Ron Wooster – Lord Corp.

Objectives: The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the committee members and WPC staff and establish a uniform agenda on the conservation planning process. This involved a discussion of the roles of the steering committee and the proposed scope of work.

For next mtg: (committee) – review GIS layers; review scope of work; identify sources of information on French Creek; recommend other committee members

(WPC) – begin implementation of scope of work; schedule individual meetings with committee members; establish listserve; establish webpage

Date of next mtg: September 29, 2000

Important dates: Glacial Lakes Symposium – April 1, 2000 (social – March 31)
Pymatuning Open House – April 1-2, 2000
Watertrails meeting – April 5, 2000
Stakeholder’s meetings for conservation plan – April 13, 27, and May 5, 2000

Meeting highlights:

Discussed possible additional committee members (US Army Corps of Engineers, Conservation Districts, NRCS, PennDot, Presque Isle Audubon, Erie Aggregates)

Discussed role of steering committee:

- act as a resource
- provide input, steer development

- review drafts
- workgroup substructure
- attend meetings
- data analysis
- augments expertise of WPC staff
- refer additional experts not on committee
- partner to WPC to lend credibility and objectivity to planning process
- assist in homepage and hard document creation for external audiences
- communicate via listserv on contact info, meeting notes, and watershed activities
- review advance material
- review compiled material
- prioritize areas for conservation and restoration
- form implementation groups (phase II)
- help formulate indices to monitor progress in watershed

Discussed important notes for conservation plan

- explore PennDot's GIS capabilities
- explore "dirt and gravel road mapping"
- develop program for townships to take advantage of in final plan (recommendations)
- facilitate better coordination among local groups (recommendations)

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
French Creek Watershed Conservation Plan
Steering Committee
Meeting Notes
November 17, 2000 – 1 P.M.
Northwest Field Station at Lake Pleasant

Attendees: Todd Sampsell, Charles Bier – WPC; Brian Hill – FCP; Marnee Gormley – USFWS; Sarah Galloway – Erie Co. Conservation District; Brian Pilarcik – Crawford Co. Conservation District; Dave Skellie – Erie Co. Dept. of Planning; Bob Anderson – USGS; Jeff Lang – DAD's Products & Conneaut Lake/French Creek Valley Conservancy
***Attendance was low due to significant snow accumulation.**

Objectives: In addition to welcoming and orienting new committee members, the purpose of this meeting was to provide a progress report to the committee from the Watershed Conservationist and discuss next steps.

For next mtg: (committee) – review draft outline and provide comments by 12/31/00; review drafts of sections as they are completed by Watershed Conservationist and provide comments in time allotted; think about management options and recommendations based on data for next meeting.

(WPC) – finish data collection and library research of available information; begin drafting sections of plan and providing to committee members and WPC staff for comments; establish webpage based on committee recommendations.

Date of next mtg: late Spring 2001

Meeting highlights:

Presented updated list of committee members, subject to change if new key individuals are identified as important potential members of committee.

Reviewed March 10, 2000 meeting notes to orient new members.

Discussed progress on Conservation Plan to date:

- presented draft outline for committee review
- discussed intern working on French Creek GIS
- reported on excellent public stakeholder meetings and presentations to other groups

Discussed content of webpage as Conservation Plan develops:

- links to data sources on French Creek
- overview of what a Conservation Plan is
- list of committee members (w/o contact info.)

- meeting minutes
- draft outline
- allow public to pose questions anonymously
- promote citizen action committees

Discussed important notes for conservation plan:

- must be user friendly to insure document gets used
- include summary of land use controls such as comprehensive plans, zoning, and development regulations
- make recommendations about smart development, attention to wording when plans are being developed, agricultural security areas, and zoning

Important announcements:

- FCP and WPC are holding a meeting with key individuals to develop outreach and education plan for zebra mussel issue in French Creek watershed

WPC has applied for planning grant to provide guidance on operation of Northwest Field Station and development of Lake Pleasant Conservation Area. This office will be base of operations for WPC work in northwest PA.

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
French Creek Watershed Conservation Plan
Steering Committee
Meeting Notes
May 22, 2001 – 12 P.M.
Allegheny College, Meadville

Attendees: Todd Sampsell, Charles Bier – WPC; Brian Hill, Alice Sjolander, Zahavo Cheropovich – FCP; Marnee Gormley – USFWS; Sarah Galloway – Erie Co. Conservation District; Brian Pilarcik – Crawford Co. Conservation District; Dave Skellie – Erie Co. Dept. of Planning; Bob Anderson – USGS; Jeff Lang – Conneaut Lake/French Creek Valley Conservancy; John Holden – PA DEP; Cindy Smith – PA DOT; Jim Mondock – Mercer Co. Conservation District; Brian Zimmerman, Hank Lawrence – Edinboro University

Objectives: The purpose of this meeting was to develop specific recommendations to address perceived threats in the watershed. From those specific recommendations, the next step was to define and develop specific management options and action plans for organizations, municipalities, agencies, and others in the watershed to adopt and carry out.

The committee was also asked what else the plan needed to be effective.

Results: An excellent discussion ensued for approximately 3 hours. The committee did not achieve all objectives of the meeting so it was decided that a follow-up meeting was needed to continue these important discussions. A June 6, 2001 meeting was scheduled at Edinboro University.

The following is a summary of the thoughts discussed at the May 22nd meeting. For each threat, specific recommendations are listed.

Nutrients & Organic Wastes

- Address P in the watershed
- Collect nutrient data/nutrient budget
- BMP's with monitoring of results
 - o Ag
 - o Streambank fencing
 - o Riparian Restoration
- Better use of NMP's planning through Conservation Districts/NRCS
 - o Increase public awareness of program
- Public awareness of non-ag NPS
 - o Septic systems
 - o Lawn care
 - o CSO's (point source?)

- Establish program to assist homeowners in septic system evaluation
 - o PennVest
 - o HomeAssist
 - o Cons. Dist. Factsheets
- Rural electric newsletter used as educational outlet
- Franklin Township, Erie Co. model of septic system maintenance agreement
- Research to determine nutrient loads by sub-basin, prioritize
 - o Identify sources
- Education of fertilizer users on appropriate amounts @ point of sale
- Encourage soil tests
- Increase air quality monitoring stations

Toxins

- Identify sources through sampling
- Look at DEP requirements that say minor discharges (< 100K gal/day) aren't monitored
- Make sure stored toxins are adequately buffered against spills
- Toxins not stored in floodplain
- Increase what toxins are required to be tested for by dischargers
- Determine total loadings for toxins in watershed discharges
- Use toxin info. To increase public awareness
- Promote recycling/proper disposal of toxins (batteries, pesticides, etc.)
- Look @ costs associated with comparing tissue/sediment toxin levels with discharge levels
- Education of public on useage of household hazardous wastes (pesticides)
- Get info. On abandoned well capping
- Determine impacts of abandoned wells
- Determine impacts of salt/brine application on roads (look @ permitting and regulation)
- Determine impacts of releases of toxins and nutrients from hatcheries

Suspended solids

(Ag related)

- Determine sources and deposition contributed by sub-basins
- Collect baseline info. On streambed conditions
- Need macro info. From non-riffle areas
- Research to increase understanding of fluvial geomorphology
- Promote stormwater management planning to address erosion/runoff from urban areas
- Promote no-till farming, organic methods

(Forestry)

- Promote BMP's for timbering
- Promote conservation easements for timbering
- Education for loggers and woodlot owners
- Develop watershed-wide forest owner cooperatives
- State forest practices act

- Clearinghouse of info. On watershed timberers
- Promote forest certification (Sustainable forestry initiative)
- Promote reforestation
 - o Proper locations (soil, waterways)
 - o Consider economics
 - o Tax forgiveness for forested areas
 - o Modify tax code for forest landowners
- landowner education on reputable foresters

(Roads & Construction)

- Gain support for stormwater management plans
- Promote urban BMP's in construction
- Promote conservation easements
- Oil grit separators
- Construction BMP's
- Education on proper construction & urban BMP's
- Promote dirt and gravel road program
- Prioritize municipalities based on impacts for dirt & gravel road program
- Increase capacity to monitor E&S from construction projects

(Sand & Gravel mining)

- Promote conservation easements
- Promote natural vegetative buffers
- Identify native species and promote for planting (reclamation)
- Increase bond amounts

- No more dams

- Look at removal of all small dams
- Research impacts of dams on FC communities
 - o Consider alternatives for Union City dam

Invasive Species

- Identify initial invasions and address
- Education for landowners on identification
- Support landowners for removal
- Expand current control programs (i.e. Mike Zoeller, hogweed)
- Education for landowners, nurseries
- Organize volunteers for removal
- Annual volunteer inventory of watershed
- Prioritize threats by species, sites, impacts, activities
- Zebra mussel education (Goby & all invasives)
- Increase monitoring for invasives (lakes, streams)
- Work with baitshops on education
- Review PFBC regulations on baitfish sales

- Develop list of acceptable baitfish for watershed (ecotourism)

What else???

- Prioritize projects

- establish timeframes
- establish targeted audience
- agency/organization resource list (including small watershed groups)
- Bib
- Timeframe
- Specific plan for review of plan
- ID key parties for project adoption
- Executive summaries tailored to specific groups (farmers, municipal officials, etc.)

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
French Creek Watershed Conservation Plan
Steering Committee
Meeting Notes
June 5, 2001 – 11 A.M.
Edinboro University, Edinboro

Attendees: Todd Sampsell, Charles Bier – WPC; Brian Pilarcik – Crawford Co. Conservation District; Dave Skellie – Erie Co. Dept. of Planning; Jeff Lang – Conneaut Lake/French Creek Valley Conservancy; Cindy Smith – PA DOT; Jim Mondock – Mercer Co. Conservation District; Brian Zimmerman, Hank Lawrence – Edinboro University; Jess Sunder – Venango Co. Conservation District

Objectives: The purpose of this meeting was to continue to develop specific recommendations to address perceived threats in the watershed. From those specific recommendations, the next step was to define and develop specific management options and action plans for organizations, municipalities, agencies, and others in the watershed to adopt and carry out.

Results: Todd Sampsell began with a summary of findings from the May 22nd meeting. This led to a short discussion about point source pollution and the need for the plan to present discharge info. and a plan to identify potential dischargers that aren't permitted.

An excellent discussion ensued for approximately 4.5 hours. The committee finished proposing specific recommendations to address threats in the watershed.

The committee decided that the plan should have a 3-year timeframe with the idea of re-evaluating and revising the plan at that time.

The committee listed the top priority action plans/management options for protection of land, water, biological, and cultural resources to be accomplished within the 3 years following the completion of the plan.

The committee decided on other important action plans, which address:

- 1) expanded educational programs with increased coordination between organizations currently doing education in the watershed
- 2) plan should present a reference tool for people to easily determine what topics require education, what are the issues about the topics that should be emphasized in educational programs, and who is the target of those educational programs

In closing the discussion, the committee decided to continue meeting, potentially quarterly, and to include members of sub-watersheds groups that are recommended to be formed in the plan. This group will meet to discuss success and failures as the recommendations in the plan are implemented. Lastly, it was

determined that periodic forums should be held throughout the watershed to encourage targeted groups (i.e. municipal officials, scientists, educators, landowners, etc.) to come together for facilitated discussions about issues they face in the watershed.

The following is a summary of the thoughts discussed at the June 5th meeting. For each threat, specific recommendations are listed and for resources, management options/action plans are prioritized for completion in 3 years following completion of the plan.

Alterations of Hydrology

- In the plan, expand on how dams not only increase scour but also prevent natural flooding and natural erosion/deposition patterns
- Agencies should consider controlled flooding
- Agencies should look at how releases are managed
- Develop a watershed budget/hydrologic model which takes into account stormwater
 - o Key partners – USGS & team of university researchers
 - o Start w/ theoretical model and build onto by monitoring and collecting info.
- Check on new GIS being developed for the purpose of stream reach evaluation
 - o May be a tool the conservation districts utilize
- Address the many agricultural drainage tiles in the watershed
- Encourage counties to develop stormwater management plans and municipalities to adopt stormwater development ordinances
- Promote BMPs for urban development (both new development and retrofitted BMPs)
- Retrofit projects in established urban areas
- Promote urban reforestation

Water Withdrawals

- Encourage better monitoring/permitting of individuals withdrawing
- Monitoring should be designed to provide early warning of impacts to watershed
- Consider revising state regulations with PA DEP as the authority
- Tie community withdrawals into an overall hydrologic model
- Determine adequacy of well info. and permitting for residential wells
- Conduct meeting of withdrawers to coordinate withdrawals
- Encourage ag operations to make reservoirs for withdrawals, identify funding to help

Channel/Streambank Modifications

- Promote more incentive programs for streambank fencing and riparian buffer/streambank restoration
- Educate landowners to benefits to both environment and landowner for streambank protection
- Educate landowners on resources/agencies available to help
- Re-establish natural channel morphology at bridges (through engineering)
- Educate landowners that modifications of natural streambed/banks is not desirable
- Educate landowners/loggers that cutting trees off streambank is not beneficial to stream
- Education should be geared towards the idea that FC is dynamic and that symptoms are too often addressed w/o addressing the problems (i.e. hydrologic alterations can increase flows, which result in increased erosion – fixing the erosion is not addressing the causes)
- Education has to include the “big” picture of how the watershed works (need hydrologic model)

Agriculture/Livestock

- Increase streambank fencing
- Sub-watershed associations should go after funding to help local landowners
- Promote agricultural BMPs and NMPs
- Promote leaving riparian buffers between crops and streams

Logging

- Wetland (and vernal pool) protection should be a priority
- Stricter enforcement of E&S plans is needed; may require modifications of regulations
- Introduce bonds as is used in mining
- Require logging permits
- Promote lobbying for state regulations requiring sustainable forestry practices

Mineral Extraction

- Identify critical properties that are likely to be mined and promote easements
 - o Should be prioritized based on impacts to watershed
- Promote volunteer monitors for mine effluents
- Mandatory setback from wetlands/waterways for drilling rigs

Transportation Corridors

- Make sure emergency response is adequate for stream protection (need knowledge of train/truck cargo)
- County and PA DEP emergency response education for dealing with stream protection (not just public health)

Recreation

- Address ATV usage
 - o Promote regulations for stream crossings (fines for non-compliance)
 - o Promote designated trails in less sensitive areas
 - o Increase education requirements for ATV riders
- Promote rail/trail development along stream
- Access areas must be located in appropriate areas based on ecological research
- Increase education about invasive species transportation
- Promote catch and release
- Creel limits and sizes should be customized to French Creek
- Increase and enforce regulations for taking of baitfish
- Increase education about the impacts of powerboating and environmental degradation
- Develop guidelines for riparian development for cabins or trails

Urbanization

- Promote setback regulations for development
- Development plans should maximize green space
- Restore bank and riparian habitats in urban areas
- Focus on urban streams as community assets (park land)
- Target growth areas with state funds
- Conduct long range planning
- Promote assistance to municipalities for zoning issues

Landfills

- Need to address small, old, individual, or abandoned municipal dumps
- Promote volunteer inventory of sites coupled with water quality monitoring
- Provide incentives and education to landowners for dump clean-up
- Promote recycling and household hazardous waste management

Management Options/Plan of Action

- 3-year review (initially)
- Prioritized
- Municipality must nominate plan to state registry

Land Resources

- 1) Form network of sub-watershed associations or citizen action committees to implement help implement plan recommendations

- 2) Promote county and municipal land use comprehensive plans, zoning, and subdivision regulations (existing plans should be updated to incorporate Smart Growth concepts)
 - a. Utilize conservation plan in process
 - b. Stress environmental protection in process
 - c. Stress farmland preservation
- 3) Identify key riparian buffer areas
 - a. Identify where degraded
 - b. Increase promotion of riparian restoration
- 4) Develop conservation easement program
- 5) Summarize, disseminate, and encourage BMP implementation for:
 - a. Agriculture
 - b. Logging
 - c. Urban areas
 - d. Development

Water Resources

- 1) Assess physical stream conditions
 - a. Visual assessment of stream channel and riparian areas
 - b. Biological assessment for water quality (watershed wide)
 - c. Water quality assessment (nutrient budget)
- 2) Develop hydrologic model/water budget
 - a. Include impacts from low-flow withdrawals
- 3) Begin development and implementation of comprehensive systematic water quality monitoring plan
- 4) Encourage watershed stormwater management plan and municipal stormwater regulations
- 5) Assess impacts to biota during base or lower flows with potential exacerbation from withdrawals
- 6) Apply sub-watershed approach
- 7) Assess wetland resources to allow monitoring and protection

Biological Resources

- 1) Complete CNH Inventories
 - a. County-wide or just watershed
 - b. Update Erie Co. inventory
- 2) Complete watershed-wide species of concern and natural communities assessments
 - a. Instream habitat
 - b. Wetland habitat
- 3) Inventory and monitor and plan for control or removal of invasive species
 - a. Zebra mussel
 - b. Purple loosestrife
 - c. Gobie
 - d. Hogweed

- e. Eurasian milfoil
- f. Hybrid cattail
- g. Phragmites
- h. Japanese knotweed
- 4) Monitor select endangered species
 - a. Clubshell
 - b. Northern riffleshell
 - c. Others to be identified or already known
- 5) Monitor stream community
 - a. Identify appropriate indicator organisms/protocols for monitoring FC community health
 - b. Mussels, insects, fish at select locations
 - c. Plankton might be appropriate indicator to monitor

Cultural Resources

- 1) Inventory and map existing public lands and FC access points
- 2) Assess impacts and develop watershed recreation plan to include:
 - a. ATV usage
 - b. Watertrail feasibility
 - c. Railtrail feasibility
 - d. Appropriate access areas
 - e. Fishing regulations or recommendations customized to FC
 - f. Greenway corridor identification

Other Action Plans

- 1) Expanded educational program
 - a. Develop brochures with “top 10” lists of ways to protect FC targeted to different audiences
 - b. Increased coordination and cooperation of existing educational programs (FCP, WPC, Creek Connections, Universities, Glinodo, Cons. Districts, PFBC, DCNR, PGC, Asbury Woods)
- 2) Summarize public educational needs as identified throughout the plan and present within plan as a tool that would identify topics for education, issues regarding topics that need to be addressed in education, and targeted audiences for education

Future Considerations by Committee:

- 1) French Creek Steering Committee will include representative of each sub-watershed association and will meet periodically after plan is produced and implemented to discuss successes and failures and to review and update plan.
- 2) French Creek Steering Committee should consider holding periodic forums throughout watershed to target specific groups to come together and discuss watershed issues.

Public Meetings on Draft French Creek Conservation Plan

August 7, 2001 – WPC Northwest Field Station, Lake Pleasant

August 9, 2001 – Bandstand Park, Franklin, PA

August 16, 2001 – Allegheny College, Meadville, PA

*Attendance was low at first two meetings. French Creek Project Advisory Council invited to third public meeting. Meeting summary follows as captured by French Creek Project staff.

Brian Hill began the meeting with a brief description of current work on French Creek. He also introduced Todd Sampsell from the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Todd provided a 35-minute power point presentation on the draft conservation plan, after which there was a discussion on the plan.

Comments on the plan fell into four basic categories: a recognition of the importance of the plan and the amount of the work associated with its development; concern about new regulations; concern about responsibility for final implementation of the plan; and support for local control.

A number of those who commented on the draft plan lauded the work that had gone into the plan and its usefulness as a summary document on French Creek. For example, Denny Puko from the Mercer County Planning Commission emphasized the need to provide basic documentation for the natural, historical, and cultural resources in the watershed and he indicated his support for the effort to develop the plan. Jeff Allio and Mark Gorman from PA DEP also expressed their support for the planning effort and the development of the plan. In fact, among those attending the meeting there appeared to be general support for the plan's development and the need to provide documentation on French Creek.

Keith Klingler from the PA Landowners Association raised a number of objections to the plan. He pointed to recommendations that encouraged new regulations. He said that he felt that this was a violation of the original agreement underlying the French Creek Project. He said that the PLA would oppose the plan without significant changes.

A number of farmers who attended the meeting, including Wayne Stainbrook and George Greig stated their support for the ongoing work of the French Creek Project. They added that they thought that education and voluntary initiatives were the most effective approaches for working with farmers and landowners. They pointed to an initiative by PA DEP to engage farmers to help work with other farmers who are out of compliance with environmental rules. This program started in this region and it has been so successful that it is now used throughout the state. They also stated that local control of the plan's implementation is essential to its success.

Bob Concilus from the Conneaut Lake and French Creek Valley Conservancy and Doug Mehan from PPG Industries both expressed their strong belief that the implementation of the plan should be overseen by the French Creek Project Advisory Committee and not the newly created steering committee. They believe that the Advisory Committee is diverse and has an understanding of the cultural landscape in the watershed. They emphasized the need for local control and

concerns about “a Pittsburgh-based” organization overseeing the plan. Mr. Mehan also had some technical issues with the plan, but he submitted written comments covering those issues.

John Izbinski from the Environmental Alliance for Senior Involvement stated it was important that the groups involved work together to develop a final plan that was acceptable to all parties.

Special Meeting of the French Creek Project Advisory Committee
September 21, 2001
Allegheny College
Meadville, PA

Background: At the request of several members of the French Creek Project Advisory Committee and because of concerns raised by farmers about the draft conservation plan, Brian Hill called a meeting of the Advisory Committee to discuss concerns. He also invited a number of farmers from the French Creek watershed. Todd (Sampsell) invited representatives from the Western PA Conservancy Steering Committee.

Comments: After brief opening remarks by Brian Hill and Todd Sampsell, there was an extensive discussion of the draft plan. Most of the comments related to the substance of the plan, concern about the recommendations that propose new regulations, concern about the composition of the steering committee overseeing the plan, the need for local control, concern about how agriculture is portrayed in the plan, and recognition of ongoing work in the watershed.

Hank Ingram and Mark Troyer, both board members of PA Landowners' Association, raised a number of objections to the plan. Mr. Ingram pointed to the composition of the steering committee and said that there were no farmers or landowners represented on the group. He thought that this was a significant oversight. He also focused on a number of the recommendations in the plan that proposed additional regulations and stated that this is not in accord with original concept behind the French Creek Project (Mr. Ingram also submitted detailed written comments). He said that the French Creek Project and its partners should promote cooperation.

Mr. Troyer agreed with Mr. Ingram's comments and said that he believed that the draft plan portrayed agriculture as the major problem. The plan fails to describe the positive impacts associated with farming and the fact that a significant amount of work is already occurring to improve farm practices. His concern about how farming is depicted was reinforced by a number of other farmers who were present at the meeting including Doug Gilbert, Wayne Stainbrook, George Greig, and Walter Royek. They also raised specific concerns about provisions calling for new logging permits ("will I now have to get a permit to cut trees on my property?") and permits for water withdrawal. Finally, they were concerned that farmers were not included on the steering committee. These farmers as well as Calvin Ernst and Jeff Peters emphasized the importance of the cooperative programs that are currently underway by NRCS, the conservation districts, and the French Creek Project. These are successful and should continue.

Jeff Lang from Dads Products stated that if the plan appeared to be regulatory in nature it was unintended. The language should be modified, because the intention of the steering committee was not to increase regulations. In fact, most of the plan describes cooperative approaches and education. This point was reinforced by Brian Pilarcik.

Robert Concilus from the Conneaut Lake and French Creek Valley Conservancy emphasized the importance of a "community based" approach during plan development and implementation.

Jim Lang also from Dads Products said he understood why WPC chose to include certain expertise on their steering committee, though he thought we could have broadened the FCP Advisory Committee to meet those needs. Nevertheless, he believed that once the plan was complete that FCP Advisory Committee was more diverse and, therefore, better prepared to oversee implementation.

Bob Concilus advocated that the FCP Advisory Committee oversee the plan implementation and asked for a vote. The Committee voted 14 to 1 in support with 1 abstention.

With the assistance of Mark Kulich from PA DCNR, the group also discussed the purpose of the conservation plan. It was clearly stated that the development of the plan was not a precursor to scenic river designation. Once the plan is in place it will allow municipalities and others in the watershed to access certain PA DCNR funding for a variety of purposes.

The group discussed implementation of the final plan, including broadening the FCP Advisory Committee with extra members to help oversee that effort.

David Skellie from the Erie County Planning Department said he had seen similar debates about plans in the past and after listening to the discussion of the group he believed that most, "maybe 95%," of the plan is acceptable to everyone. We need to deal with the 5% that is of concern.

The FCP Advisory Committee voted to create a special committee to review the plan and make recommendations on behalf of the FCP Advisory Committee to Todd Sampsell. Larry Schweiger and Todd Sampsell said that the comment period would be extended to October 21, 2001. Their goal is to solicit as much public input as possible and to develop a plan that is acceptable to the people who live in the watershed, and will be used.

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
French Creek Watershed Conservation Plan
Steering Committee
Meeting Notes
November 16, 2001 – 1:00 P.M.
Edinboro University

Attendees: Todd Sampsell, Charles Bier, Ryan Evans – WPC; Brian Pilarcik – Crawford Co. Conservation District; Jim Mondock – Mercer Co. Conservation District; Budd Luce – French Creek Canoe and Kayak; Brian Zimmerman – Edinboro University; Dave Skellie – Erie Co. Dept. of Planning; Brian Hill – French Creek Project; Hank Lawrence – Edinboro University; Cindy Smith – PennDOT; Sarah Sargent – Conneaut Lake/French Creek Valley Conservancy; Michael Koryak – U. S. Army Corps of Engineers; Ron Wooster – Lord Corp.; Marnee Gormley – Landowner

Objectives: The purpose of this meeting was to discuss a reorganization of the potential threats, recommendations, and action plans. Also, to discuss comments received during the public review and comment period and to propose changes based on those comments. Next steps were also presented.

Results: The group discussed the list of potential threats and recommendations that were originally derived by the group. Based on comments received that the section could be more effective if reordered, it was decided that the potential threats would be consolidated and that recommendations would be grouped into the type of action needed: education, research, or cooperative action. It was decided that Todd would take an initial attempt to prioritize the recommendations and the steering committee would provide feedback once the amended plan was posted to the web page.

Changes based on comments received were discussed. The steering committee supported removing recommendations that appeared to call for increased regulations or rewording to show that the recommendation clearly called for voluntary, cooperative actions.

Todd informed the steering committee that the FCP Advisory Committee had voted to oversee implementation of the final plan. Also, members of the steering committee were invited to join the advisory committee on this effort.

The steering committee opposed the notion put forth by some members of the FCP advisory committee that WPC should play no part in this future implementation. The steering committee was reminded by Marnee Gormley of WPC's long history in the French Creek watershed, of their role in the initiation of the French Creek Project, and of their concern for and local presence in the watershed.

Nest Steps: The final plan would be completed and placed on the web page for review by the steering committee and others interested by early January. Notification would be sent to those groups and individuals who submitted comments on the draft plan. The plan would be available for 1-2 weeks online to insure the plan met with public approval before going to print by the end of January. A final public meeting would then be held to present the final plan.

WPC would form a science advisory committee to aid the FCP advisory committee in implementation of the plan. Steering committee members were invited to work with either committee, depending on background and interest.

Appendix K

Conservation Organizations Active in the French Creek Watershed

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Allegheny Valley Trails RD 3 Box 116A Franklin, PA 16323	Jim Holden (814) 425-7969
Bartramian Audubon Society P.O. Box 315 Slippery Rock, PA 16057 web site: www.csonline.net/russs/bas	Suzanne Butcher, President
Center for Economic and Environmental Development (CEED) Steffee Hall of Life Sciences, Allegheny College 520 N. Main Street Meadville, PA 16335 web site: http://ceed.allegheny.edu	Eric Pallant or Kathy Uglow (814) 332-2713 ceed@allegheny.edu
Cochranton Area Greenways 175 N. Franklin Street Cochranton, PA 16314	Dale Shreve (814) 425-7969
Conneaut Lake Aquatic Management, Inc. P.O. Box 314 Conneaut Lake, PA 16316 email: reimanns@toolcity.net	Tim Anderson (814) 382-2485
Conneaut Lake/French Creek Valley Conservancy P.O. Box 434 297 ½ Chestnut Street Meadville, PA 16335	Sarah Sargent, Director (814) 337-4321 conserve@mdvl.net
Corry Community Development Corporation 221 N. Center Street, Room 209 Corry, PA 16407	Christine Schalles, Executive Director (814) 665-1310 ccdc@erie.net
Crawford Co. Conservation District 14699 N. Main Street Extension Meadville, PA 16335 web site: www.crawfordconserv.com email: consdist@toolcity.net	Lynn Sandieson, District Manager Brian Pilarcik, Watershed Specialist (814) 724-1793

Crawford Co. Planning Commission
County Courthouse
903 Diamond Square
Meadville, PA 16335

Jack Lynch,
Director
(814) 333-7341
ccplan@toolcity.net

Creek Connections
Box 10 Allegheny College
520 N. Main Street
Meadville, PA 16335
web site: <http://creekconnections.allegheny.edu>

Jim Palmer or
Chris Resek
(814) 332-5351
creek@allegheny.edu

Ducks Unlimited, Inc
Western PA
217 Pflugh Road
Butler, PA 16001

Edinboro Lake Preservation and Restoration Foundation

John Marchese,
Volunteer Lakekeeper
(814) 734-1143

Environmental Alliance for Senior Involvement
Crawford/Venango counties
c/o French Creek Project
Erie County
c/o Greater Erie Community Action Committee
18 W. 9th Street
Erie, PA 16501

Alice Sjolander
(814) 332-2946
Ron Howze
(814) 459-4581 x457

Erie Co. Conservation District
12723 Route 19
Waterford, PA 16441
email: eriecons@erie.net

LeRoy Gross,
Executive Director
Sarah Galloway,
Watershed Specialist,
(814) 796-6760

Erie Co. Dept. of Health
606 W. 2nd Street
Erie, PA 16507

Bob Wellington,
Aquatic Biologist
(814) 451-6700

Erie Co. Dept. of Planning
140 W. 6th Street, Room 119
Erie, PA 16501

David Skellie,
Director
(814) 451-6336
dskellie@erie.net

Erie Co. Environmental Coalition
6270 E. Lake Road
Glinodo Center

Kathy Horan
(814) 899-2572

Erie, PA 16511

Erie National Wildlife Refuge (USFWS)
11296 Wood Duck Lane
Guy Mills, PA 16327
web site: <http://erie.fws.gov>

Jeff Haas,
Manager
(814) 789-3585

French Creek Environmental Advisory Council
PPG Industries, Inc.
Works No. 8
Kebert Industrial Park
Meadville, PA 16335

Doug Mehan
(814) 336-8326
mehan@ppg.com

French Creek Outdoor Learning Center
18308 Broadway
Crawford Co. Industrial Park
Meadville, PA 16335
web site: www.craw.org/wend/fcpl/htm

Judy Acker
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fcplc@gremlan.org

French Creek Project
Box 172 Allegheny College
520 N. Main Street
Meadville, PA 16335
web site: <http://frenchcreek.allegheny.edu>

Brian Hill
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1-888-920-8699
frenchcreek@aol.com

French Creek Recreational Trails
773 N. Main Street
Meadville, PA 16335

Tom McNally
(814) 333-1258
1-800-332-2338

Lake Erie-Allegheny Earth Force
6270 East Lake Road
Erie, PA 16511
web site: www.earthforce.org

Pat Lupo, OSB
(814) 899-2572
lea@earthforce.org

Meadville Community Energy Project
Box E Allegheny College
520 N. Main Street
Meadville, PA 16335
web site: <http://webpub.allegheny.edu/group/mcep/index.html>
email: kgreely@allegheny.edu

Kathy Greely or
Michael Maniates
(814) 332-2986

Mercer Co. Conservation District
747 Greenville Road
Mercer, PA 16137
email: mercercdd@pathway.net

Jim Mondock,
District Manager
(724) 662-2242

Mercer Co. Regional Planning Commission
2491 Highland Road
Hermitage, PA 16148

Denny Puko,
Executive Director
(724) 981-2412
dpuko@mcrpc.com

Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA)
14699 N. Main Street Extension
Meadville, PA 16335
web site: www.nrcs.usda.gov

Carl Pelino
(814) 336-2127 x111

Northwest Duckhunters Association

(814) 456-6942

Northwest Pennsylvania Woodland Association
c/o PSU Cooperative Extension, Warren County
609 Rouse Avenue, Suite 200
Youngsville, PA 16371

(814) 563-9388
WarrenExt@psu.edu

Oil Heritage Region, Inc.
National Transit Building
206 Seneca Street 4th Floor
P.O. Box 128
Oil City, PA 16301
email: oilheritage@usachoice.net

Marilyn Black
(814) 677-3152 x17
1-800-4VENANGO
x17

PA Bureau of Forestry
14699 N. Main Street Extension
Meadville, PA 16335

(814) 332-6875

PA Cleanways of Venango County
1007 Elk Street #1
Franklin, PA 16323
web site: www.pacleanways.org/venango.html

Brad Mauersberg
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bmauers@yahoo.com

PA Dept. of Agriculture
13410 Dunham Road
Meadville, PA 16335

(814) 332-6890

PA Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources
Northwest Region
212 Lovell Place
Erie, PA 16503
web site: www.dcnr.state.pa.us

Mark Kulich
(814) 871-4190

PA Dept. of Environmental Protection
Northwest Region
230 Chestnut Street

main office:
(814) 332-6945
Art Provost,

Meadville, PA 16335
web site: www.dep.state.pa.us

PA Dept. of Transportation
Engineering District 1-0
P.O. Box 398
255 Elm Street
Oil City, PA 16301
email: minnich@dot.state.pa.us

PA Fish & Boat Commission
Northwest Region
11528 State Highway 98
Meadville, PA 16335
web site: www.fish.state.pa.us

PA Game Commission
Northwest Region
1509 Pittsburgh Road
P.O. Box 31
Franklin, PA 16323
web site: www.pgc.state.pa.us

Pennsylvania Environmental Council
64 S. 14th Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
web site: www.alleghenywatershed.org

Penn State Crawford Co. Cooperative Extension
13400 Dunham Road, Suite A
Meadville, PA 16335
email: CrawfordExt@psu.edu

Penn State Erie Co. Cooperative Extension
850 E. Gore Road
Erie, PA 16509
email: ErieExt@psu.edu

Penn State Mercer Co. Cooperative Extension
P.O. Box 530
463 North Perry Highway
Mercer, PA 16137
email: MercerExt@psu.edu

Penn State Venango Co. Cooperative Extension
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Holly Hedstrom,
Director
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Janet McDougall,
Director
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Jeffrey Fowler,
Director

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Pennsylvania Landowners' Association P.O. Box 391 Waterford, PA 16441 web site: pa.landowners.org email: info@pa.landowners.org	1-800-757-5178
Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers (POWR) 25 N. Front Street P.O. Box 765 Harrisburg, PA 17108 web site: www.pawatersheds.org	(717) 234-7910
Presque Isle Audubon Society P.O. Box 1783 Erie, PA 16507 web site: www.presqueisle.org/audubon	Susan Smith (814) 461-9044 ssmith@velocity.net
Purple Martin Conservation Association Edinboro University of Pennsylvania Edinboro, PA 16444 web site: www.purplemartin.org	(814) 734-4420 pmca@edinboro.edu
The Nature Conservancy P.O. Box 310 129 W. Main Street Sherman, NY 14781 web site: www.tnc.org	Andy Peck (716) 761-4212 apeck@tnc.org
Trout Unlimited Northwest PA Chapter 3765 Gable Court Erie, PA 16506 web site: www.fisherie.com/nwpatu	Eric Lyle (814) 838-9512 elyle@adelphia.net
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Woodcock Creek Lake Rte. 198 Saegertown, PA 16433	Reservoir Manager (814) 763-4477 or (814) 763-4422
Venango Co. Conservation District R.D. 5 Box 320 Franklin, PA 16323	Jes Sunder, Watershed Specialist (814) 676-2832

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