



# The Upper Grand River Watershed Alliance

120 West Michigan Avenue, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor ~ Jackson, MI 49201

517-788-4398

[www.uppergrandriver.org](http://www.uppergrandriver.org)

## Memo

**Date:** February 18, 2010

**RE:** **Draft** Goals for Discussion at Upper Grand River Watershed Planning Workshop #2

All Surface Waters of the State are protected for the following Designated Uses:

1. Agriculture
2. Industrial water supply
3. Public water supply at the point of intake
4. Navigation
5. Warmwater fishery
6. Other indigenous aquatic life and wildlife
7. Partial body contact recreation
8. Total body contact recreation between May 1 and October 31

Other Designated Uses

1. Mackey Brook, upstream from confluence with Sandstone Creek (T2S, R2W, S16, Jackson County), is designated as a trout stream (coldwater fishery)

Other Desired Uses:

1. A Heritage Water Trail along the Grand River and a system of interconnecting walking and biking trails throughout the watershed
2. River tourism and recreation-based local economies

### **H2Oshed Goals from 2003 Watershed Management Plan**

- Reduce nonpoint source inputs of pathogenic and oxygen-depleting materials to the Upper Grand River to meet full-body contact health and water quality standards.
- Reduce other nonpoint source pollutants, particularly phosphorous, nitrogen, eroded soil, and metals.



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- Improve aquatic habitat and increase the abundance and diversity of native fish, aquatic macroinvertebrates, and other aquatic flora and fauna.
- Identify critical wetland resources within the watershed.
- Restore, develop, and promote the Upper Grand River as a recreational asset through development of river corridor and canoe trail systems.
- Foster a stewardship ethic among watershed residents.
- Develop institutional capacity for continued watershed management plan implementation and monitoring.
- Increase storm water conveyance in portions of the river system that serve as designated county or inter-county drains.
- Protect threatened and endangered species.
- Preserve and restore wetlands.
- Protect the State-designated uses of waters in the Upper Grand River Watershed.
- Develop plans for storm water quality and quantity management and pretreatment.
- Conduct targeted stream restoration.
- Update sewer ordinances.
- Coordinate the Watershed Management Plan with other plans and programs (e.g., Jackson County Wellhead Protection program, the Jackson County Master Plan).
- Map wetland resources within the Upper Grand River Basin.

## **H2Oshed Goals from 2006 Watershed Management Plan Update**

- Have a well informed and involved public to protect and manage the watershed
- Assure that new development projects will be water quality friendly
- Meet warm water fisheries and aquatic life and wildlife designated uses
- Protect and restore the loss of natural features
- Protect and enhance recreation opportunities
- Encourage water quality friendly agricultural practices
- Increase water quality through pollution prevention/good housekeeping practices for municipal operations
- Continued watershed management plan implementation and institutionalization

## **New 2010 Goals**

- Develop a national Heritage Water Trail throughout the Upper Grand River and perhaps the Grand River as a whole
- Identify and protect prime agricultural lands in the watershed
- Protect open space and rural community character
- Support and facilitate the development of dedicated fishing and paddling access sites along the river
- Develop a non-motorized trail network within the watershed



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- Protect key riparian and wetland properties for the protection of 1st and 2nd order headwater streams
- Protect key habitat for threatened & endangered species
- Reduce flooding along Grand River mainstem in northern Jackson County and along Portage River system in Ingham & Jackson Counties
- Clear recreational passage on the Grand River mainstem throughout the watershed north (downstream) of Michigan Center
- Continue to broaden membership and involvement of Watershed Alliance - beyond Phase II regulatory and storm water issues
- Access and facilities for paddling sports and fishing - including urban paddling and fishery - river and its communities seen as a tourism destination