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Buckhannon River Watershed-Based Plan

Project No. WV-127: Amendments to Buckhannon River Watershed-Based Plan

Recipient: West Virginia University

Principal Investigator: Brady Gutta, Research Associate
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Funding:

\$7,000	WVDEP
\$0	Cost-Share
\$7,000	Total Value

Project Duration: 12/28/2005 – 6/30/2006

Project Description: The purpose of this plan was to document the existing characteristics and conditions within the Buckhannon River watershed, as well as identify areas in need of restoration. The original Buckhannon River Watershed-Based Plan was completed in 2004 however, watershed-based plan requirements were later amended by the US EPA. As a consequence of these federal rule changes, the Buckhannon River Watershed-Based Plan needed to be amended as well. The scope of the original plan was expanded to include more background information about the watershed as well as pollution sources that had been discovered since the initial plan was written. Project implementation progress and water quality data from specific monitoring sites were also updated as part of the amendments to the original watershed-based plan.

Project Significance: Locating and prioritizing water quality problems is important when determining the overall health of a watershed. Once all pollution sources have been found, a watershed-based plan is constructed in order to receive future funding for pollution remediation. Updating the Buckhannon River Watershed-Based Plan ensured a more complete accounting of the pollution sources within the watershed and allowed for more efficient use of reclamation funding by determining where the greatest amount of remediation could occur for the lowest price.