

Au Sable Institute MiCorps - Project Fact Sheet:

Project Name: Upper Manistee River Watershed Volunteer Stream Monitoring Project

Grant Amount: \$11,651.00

Grant Match: \$9,524.36

Project Total: \$21,175.36

Project Duration: June 2014 – June 2016

Applicant Information:

Name: Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies

Address: 7526 Sunset Trail NE, Mancelona, MI 49659

Phone: 231-587-8686

Contact: Paul Wiemerslage, Environmental Education Coordinator

Project Location: Upper Manistee River watershed - Kalkaska County, Michigan

Project Partners:

- Upper Manistee River Association
- Conservation Resource Alliance
- Garfield Township – Environmental Committee
- Blue Lake – Cold Spring Civic Association
- Big Twin Lake Association
- Manistee Lake Association
- Anglers of the Au Sable
- Trout Unlimited

Project Summary:

The Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies, through the help of the Michigan Clean Water Corps, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, and the Great Lakes Commission, established a volunteer stream monitoring program within the Upper Manistee River watershed. We accomplished the following goals as a result of our project: 1.) Educate watershed residents on monitoring, quality, and protection of our water resources, 2.) Engage stakeholder groups and individuals through collaborative water monitoring projects and citizen science, 3.) Monitor stream and tributary conditions within the Upper Manistee River Watershed, and 4.) Identify or verify problem areas where degradation has occurred and remediation or best management practices can be implemented. This fact sheet provides further evidence of the outcomes of our project activities.

Project Accomplishments:

- 512 people reached through educational efforts
- 63 people volunteered in collection events
- 20 individual samplings occurred within the Upper Manistee River watershed (5 sites x 2 samplings/year x 2 years = 20 individual samplings)
- 4 training events were conducted to train stream team leaders
- 4 presentations were given to stakeholder groups

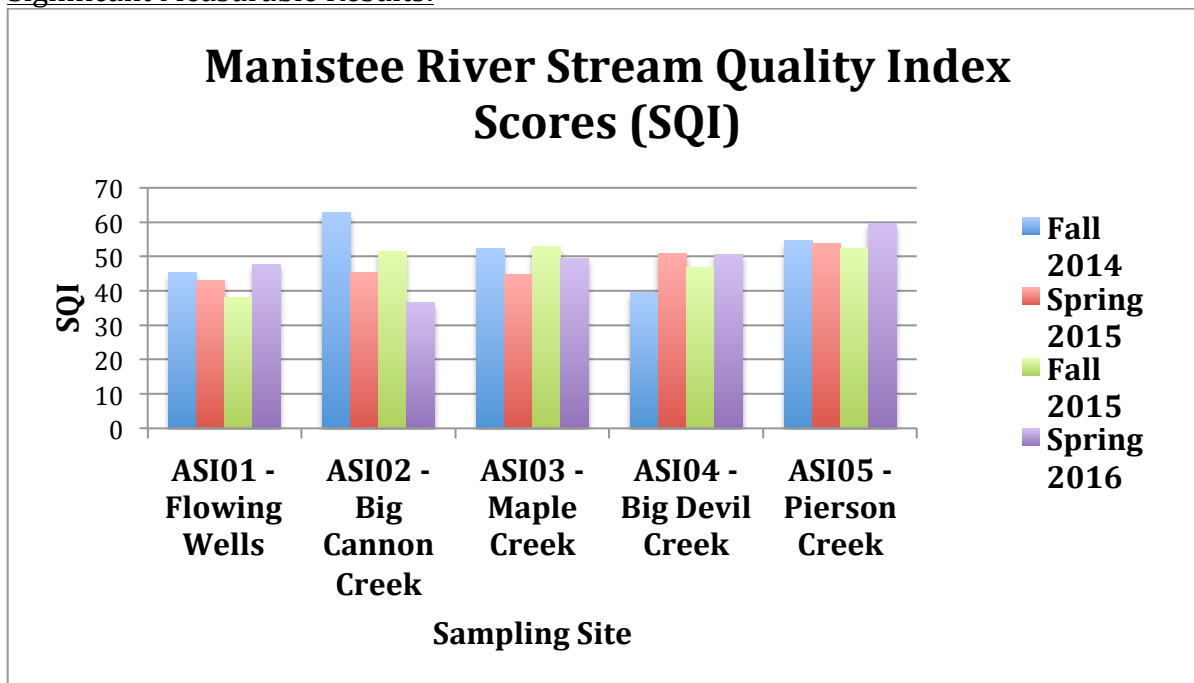
Monitoring Activities:

The Institute monitored five sites within the Upper Manistee River watershed during the spring and fall of each year during the grant contract. All sites are located within Kalkaska County. All

data acquired was entered into the MiCorps data exchange network online and is accessible to the public. The names and locations of our monitoring sites are included below:

1. Flowing Wells, Section 35, Excelsior Township
44.689889, -85.007361
2. Big Cannon Creek, Section 8, Garfield C Township
44.583333, -85.073056
3. Maple Creek, Section 1, Garfield W Township
44.583611, -85.105028
4. Big Devil Creek, Section 4, Garfield C Township
44.585722, -85.043833
5. Pierson Creek, Section 18, Oliver Township
44.641070, -85.088029

Significant Measurable Results:



Photos: (Attached)

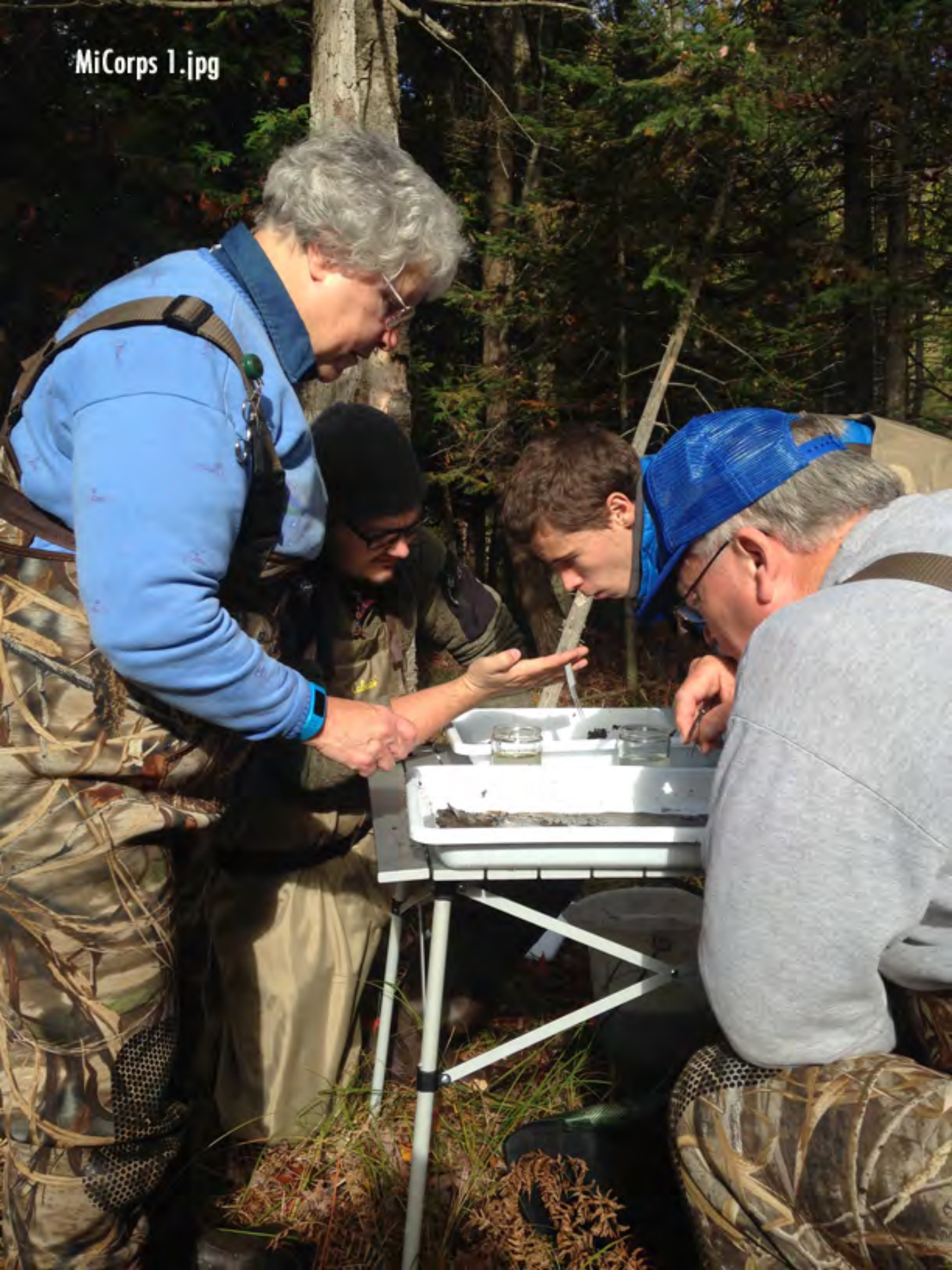
Captions:

MiCorps 1.jpg – Members of our volunteer stream team sort through their collection of macroinvertebrates on the banks of Big Devil Creek, located in Kalkaska County.

MiCorps 2.jpg – College students participating in Au Sable’s summer research program attend a MiCorps training presentation. Students are seen practicing macroinvertebrate identification.

MiCorps 3.jpg – Members of Au Sable’s stream brush up on collection and sorting methods during a spring training event.

MiCorps 4.jpg – Au Sable has utilized elements of the MiCorps program in a variety of programs we offer local youth. Here an Au Sable intern (left) trained in the MiCorps procedures helps a student and teacher participating in one of our day programs learn about macroinvertebrates.



MiCorps 2.jpg





