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Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Agency Report.

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- Federally funded, WDNR water quality, plant and some fish monitoring in the Mississippi River over the last year has continued despite Covid-19.
- Recent projects include long-term sediment trap monitoring, long-term trend metals sampling, long-term trend water quality sampling, zebra mussel trend monitoring, long-term subsurface light environment monitoring, and water quality monitoring at areas of special interest.
- We continue to be involved in Lake Onalaska area habitat project proposals. This includes the lower Black River forestry project, which was chosen as a priority project. And the Lake Onalaska sedimentation project, which proposes target area dredging and investigations on problem definition and quantification and remediation practices.
- Another habitat project that may affect Lake Onalaska and is in the project pipeline for possible implementation include: Bank Stabilization and Natural Levee.
- Routine fish sampling was done in Sept., 2020 on Lake Onalaska. We do this every 4 years. A summary report is available on the WDNR Fish and Habitat Reports web page.
- WDNR continues to be involved in Upper Mississippi Partnership Activities (states, Coe, FWS, EPA, US Coast Guard, NGOs). Systemic Flood, Sediment & Drought Plan.
- UMRBA continues to work with Rep. Ron Kind (WI) and others to develop a draft Upper Mississippi River Water Quality Improvement Act. If enacted, it would enhance implementation of land management practices known to reduce delivery of sediment and nutrients to the river and would establish a Mississippi River Program Office to help improve coordination among implementing agencies.
- High water from previous years continues to cause with dredge material disposal. WDNR staff continues to work with the CoE on creative ways to use this material.
- WDNR continues to work on project proposals for the Navigation & Ecosystem Sustainability Program (NESP).