

2. Watershed Characteristics

2.1 General Watershed Description

The NBCR watershed is located in northeastern Cook County, Illinois. The headwaters of the three major tributaries, the West Fork, the Middle Fork, and the Skokie River, are located in Lake County. These tributaries flow south and combine with the NBCR at two separate confluence points. Another tributary, the NSC, enters the system near Albany Avenue in Chicago. Twenty municipalities are located entirely, or in part, in the watershed, and the entire watershed is approximately 141 square miles. The downstream limit of the NBCR is at the confluence with the Chicago River and South Branch near West Lake Street. This reach has been widened and dredged, with widths up to 300 feet and depths of 10 to 15 feet. For the next seven miles upstream to the North Branch Dam, the river is about 90 feet wide with a depth of 10 feet.

The NSC flows into the NBCR near Albany Avenue. The channel is a nearly 8-mile long manmade canal constructed in the early 1900s to carry wastewater from the northern suburbs away from LM. With a depth of 15 feet, and a width of 30 feet, its conveyance capacity was 2,000 cfs when constructed. The flow and water surface elevation in the NSC are controlled by the Wilmette Pumping Station at the upstream end.

The Skokie River flows from Waukegan south to its confluence with the NBCR just south of Winnetka Road. Near the county line, the Botanical Garden Diversion, about 1 mile in length, diverts flow around the Chicago Botanic Gardens located north of Dundee Rd. Proceeding south to Willow Road, the river is divided into several parallel components: the Skokie Lagoons, the Skokie River, the Skokie River West Diversion Ditch, and the Skokie River East Diversion Ditch. The east and west diversion ditches were first created in the 1930s to help keep impure water in the Skokie River from flowing into the Skokie Lagoons, a group of 7 lagoons created by the dam at Willow Road. The Skokie Lagoons were created in 1933 by the Civilian Conservation Corps as an effort to drain the Skokie Marsh. The Skokie Marsh was converted to the Skokie Lagoons to minimize flooding in the western part of town.

The Middle Fork begins in Libertyville and flows south through Northbrook and Northfield to the confluence with the NBCR. The Middle Fork and the Skokie River combine about a ¼ mile downstream of Happ Road to form the NBCR.

The West Fork flows from Everett Road in Lake County through portions of Deerfield, Northbrook, and Glenview. Tributaries include: the Underwriters Tributary, the South and North Forks of the Techny Drain, the Techny Drain, and the North and South Navy Ditches. The West Fork combines with the NBCR just upstream of Beckwith Road in Niles.

The LM watershed includes areas tributary to LM in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan. The portion of the watershed included in this report is located in eastern Cook County south of Lake-Cook Road and north of the Chicago River. The watershed is generally less than 1¼ miles wide and in some locations is about ½ mile wide.

The NSC connects LM to the NBCR watershed. During normal operation, the channel is an outlet for local stormwater flows, which flow downstream to the confluence with the North Branch. The channel also provides diversion of Lake Michigan flows at Wilmette Pumping Station. The controlling works regulate the amount of Lake Michigan flows diverted to the North Branch through a vertical lift gate. During large storm events, when the combined sewer system capacity is exceeded, flows may be diverted into Lake Michigan at this location.

Figure ES.1 shows the municipal boundaries and the major streams within the NBCR and LM watersheds. Figure ES.1 also shows the subwatershed divides for the major streams within the NBCR watershed. Table 2.1.1 lists the municipalities within the NBCR and LM watersheds. Table 2.1.2 lists the stream lengths of major streams and tributaries to the NBCR.

TABLE 2.1.1
Municipalities in the NBCR and LM Watersheds within Cook County

Municipality	% of Municipality Area within NBCR & LM Watershed	% of NBCR & LM Watershed Area by Municipality	Municipality	% of Municipality Area within NBCR & LM Watershed	% of NBCR & LM Watershed Area by Municipality
Chicago	26	43.5	Niles	74	3.1
Deerfield	9	0.5	Norridge	31	0.4
Evanston	100	5.4	Northbrook	87	7.8
Glencoe	100	2.7	Northfield	100	2.0
Glenview	88	7.5	Park Ridge	<1	<0.1
Golf	100	0.3	Skokie	100	7.1
Harwood Heights	48	0.3	Wilmette	100	3.8
Kenilworth	100	0.4	Winnetka	100	2.7
Lincolnwood	100	1.9	Unincorporated	2	4.5
Morton Grove	100	3.6			

TABLE 2.1.2
NBCR and LM Watersheds Open Channel Stream Lengths

Open Channel Name	Length (miles)
North Branch	24.6
North Shore Channel	7.7
West Fork	9.5
Underwriter's Tributary	0.3
Techny Drain	2.2
South Fork Techny Drain	0.6
North Navy Ditch	0.5
North Navy Ditch Diversion	0.2
South Navy Ditch	0.5
Skokie River	3.6
Skokie Lagoons	6.4
Skokie River West Ditch	3.3
Skokie River East Ditch	3.9
Skokie River Botanic Garden Diversion	2.0
Middle Fork	6.5
Ravine 1	0.7

TABLE 2.1.2
NBCR and LM Watersheds Open Channel Stream Lengths

Open Channel Name	Length (miles)
Ravine 2	0.7
Ravine 3	0.1
Ravine 4	0.6
Ravine 5	0.9
Ravine 6	0.3
Ravine 7	0.3
Ravine 8	1.8
Total	75.5

NOTE: Stream Lengths given are only for Cook County portions of the individual reaches

Table 2.1.3 lists the subwatersheds each municipality drains to, with subwatersheds listed in decreasing order based upon the area within the municipality. Although municipalities contribute stormwater to the listed subwatersheds, the actual stream may not be included within the municipality's boundaries.

TABLE 2.1.3
Municipality and Subwatersheds within the Municipality Boundary

Municipality	Subwatersheds within Municipality Boundary (square miles)
Chicago	Mainstem (49.21), Lake Michigan(7.81), North Shore Channel(7.11)
Deerfield	West Fork(0.51), Middle Fork ^b
Evanston	North Shore Channel(4.91), Lake Michigan (2.60), Skokie River (0.13)
Glencoe	Skokie River(1.91), Lake Michigan(1.82)
Glenview	West Fork(9.39), Mainstem (1.97), Middle Fork(0.34), Skokie River ^b
Golf	West Fork(0.34), Mainstem(0.11)
Harwood Heights	Mainstem(0.38)
Kenilworth	Lake Michigan(0.60), Skokie River ^b
Lincolnwood	North Shore Channel(2.68)
Morton Grove	Mainstem(4.99), West Fork ^b , North Shore Channel ^b
Niles	Mainstem(4.06), North Shore Channel(0.28), West Fork ^b
Norridge	Mainstem(0.56)
Northbrook	West Fork(7.77), Middle Fork(2.16), Skokie River(1.38)
Northfield	Middle Fork(1.95), Skokie River(1.08), West Fork(0.19)
Park Ridge	Mainstem ^b
Skokie	North Shore Channel(8.68), Skokie River(1.34), Mainstem ^b
Wilmette	Skokie River(3.03), North Shore Channel(1.32), Lake Michigan(0.83), Mainstem(0.15)
Winnetka	Skokie River(2.49), Lake Michigan(1.34)
Unincorporated	Skokie River(2.05), West Fork(1.08), Mainstem(0.81), Middle Fork(0.56), Lake Michigan ^b

^bLess than 0.1 square miles within municipality contributes to subwatershed

2.2 Stormwater Problem Data

To support DWP development, the District solicited input from stakeholders within the watershed. Municipalities, townships, and countywide, statewide, and national agencies such as Cook County Highway Department (CCHD), Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), and the USACE, for example, were asked to fill out two forms with information to support DWP development. Organizations such as ecosystem partnerships were also contacted by the District as part of this information-gathering effort. Form A included questions on stormwater data and regulations, Form B questions on known flooding, erosion, and stream maintenance problem areas. In addition to problem areas reported by municipalities, townships, public agencies and other stakeholders, results of H&H modeling performed as a part of DWP development identified stormwater problem areas. The H&H modeling process is described in general in Section 1.3 and specifically for each modeled reach in Section 3.

Figure 2.2.1 and Table 2.2.1 summarize the responses to Form B questions about flooding, erosion, and stream maintenance problem areas. Table 2.2.1 also includes the problem areas identified during the workshops with the WPC. As noted, the scope of the DWP addresses regional problems along open channel waterways. The definition of regional problems was provided in Section 1.

TABLE 2.2.1
Summary of Responses to Form B Questionnaire

Problem ID	Municipality	Problem as Reported by Local Agency	Location	Problem Description	Local/Regional	Reason for Classification
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-01	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Citywide	Basement flooding, storm water sewer flow restriction. City sewer improvements are often focused towards areas of the most complaints.	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-02	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Illinois Rt 19 at Ravenswood Pkwy (both sides)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-03	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at California Ave	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-04	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Edens Junction (Montrose to Wilson)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-05	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Addison St (NWB & SEB)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-06	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Fullerton Ave	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-07	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Ogden Ave	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-08	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Augusta Blvd (Lane 3) NB	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-09	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at IL Rt 50 (Cicero Ave) Lane 3	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-10	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Damen Ave (Lane 1) NB	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-11	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Division St	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-12	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at IL Rt 64 (North Ave) Lane 1 NB	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-13	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Diversey Ave	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5

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Problem ID	Municipality	Problem as Reported by Local Agency	Location	Problem Description	Local/Regional	Reason for Classification
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-14	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Kimball (Exit 4)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-15	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Ashland Ave (Lane 1) NB	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-16	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Montrose Ave	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	6
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-17	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Kostner Ave	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-18	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Logan Blvd	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-19	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Armitage Ave (Lane 1) NB	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-20	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at IL Rt 19 (Irving Park Rd) Lane 1 SB	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-21	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Pulaski Rd entrance ramp	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-22	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Willow St (W/O)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-23	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 94 (Edens) at Wilson Rd (N/O Kennedy)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-24	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Illinois Route 43 at IL Rt 72 (Higgins Rd) Lane 2	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-25	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Lawrence Ave at C, M & St. Paul Rd (viaduct) W/O I-94	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCD-CH-FL-26	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Lawrence Ave at Milwaukee Ave	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5

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Problem ID	Municipality	Problem as Reported by Local Agency	Location	Problem Description	Local/Regional	Reason for Classification
NB-NBCD-CH-WQ-27	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Citywide	Basement flooding, storm sewer flow restriction, water quality (pollution). The City sewer improvements are often focused towards areas of the most complaints.	Local	5
NB-NBCU-CH-ER-28	City of Chicago	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	LaBagh Woods - Bryn Mawr & Kostner Ave	FPDCC reported off-site stormwater volumes are causing downcutting in a ditch, thereby lowering the water table in the adjacent natural wetland areas.	Regional	1
NB-NBCU-CH-FL-29	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Citywide	Basement flooding, storm water sewer flow restriction throughout area. City sewer improvements are often focused towards areas of the most complaints.	Local	5
NB-NBCU-CH-FL-30	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Central Ave	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-CH-FL-31	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Milwaukee Ave (Lane 3)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-CH-FL-32	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90/94 at Jefferson, Park Tunnel (NR Ainslie St) Lane 3	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-CH-FL-33	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 94 (Edens) at N Elston Ave (SB)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-CH-FL-34	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90 at Austin Ave	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-CH-FL-35	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90 at Lawrence Ave	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-CH-FL-36	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90 at Bryn Mawr Ave	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-CH-FL-37	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 90 at Nagle Ave (NB ramp)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-CH-FR-38	City of Chicago	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Albany Park	FPDCC reported off-site stormwater volumes are causing downcutting in a ditch, thereby lowering the water table in the adjacent natural wetland areas - (ponding checked on form B)	Regional	1
NB-NBCU-CH-WQ-39	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Citywide	Basement flooding, storm sewer flow restriction, water quality (pollution) throughout area. The City sewer improvements are often focused towards areas of the	Local	5

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Problem ID	Municipality	Problem as Reported by Local Agency	Location	Problem Description	Local/Regional	Reason for Classification
				most complaints		
NB-NBCU-CH-WQ-40	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Throughout Chicago wetland areas	FPDCC reported off-site stormwater volumes are causing downcutting in a ditch, thereby lowering the water table in the adjacent natural wetland areas - (wetland issue considered WQ)	Local	4
NB-NSCH-CH-FL-41	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 94 at Peterson/Caldwell Ave	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NSCH-CH-FL-42	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 94 at US Rt 14	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NSCH-CH-FL-43	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Devon Ave @ 2570 Devon Ave	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-CH-FL-44	City of Chicago	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Central Avenue at South of Devon Avenue	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-CH-FR-45	City of Chicago	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Albany Park	Overbank flooding throughout the community	Regional	1
LM-EV-SM-01	City of Evanston	Streambank erosion on intracommunity waterways	Lake Michigan Beachfront	Erosion at outfall at beach - maintenance	Local	6
NB-NSCH-EV-FL-02	City of Evanston	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Various locations in Evanston	Map of the pavement flooding for the September 2008 storm.	Local	5
NB-NSCH-EV-FL-03	City of Evanston	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Various locations in Evanston	Map of the basement flooding for the September 2008 storm.	Local	5
NB-NSCH-EV-FL-04	Village of Skokie, City of Evanston	Intracommunity (local) flooding	McCormick Blvd at Golf Rd (1/4 mile N/O)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NSCH-EV-FL-05	City of Evanston	Intracommunity (local) flooding	McCormick Boulevard at Bridge Street (Northwest Corner)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
LM-GC-EL-01	Village of Glencoe	Streambank erosion on intracommunity waterways	Ravines	Erosion in ravines	Local	6

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Problem ID	Municipality	Problem as Reported by Local Agency	Location	Problem Description	Local/Regional	Reason for Classification
NB-SKED-GC-FL-02	Village of Glencoe	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Dundee Rd storm sewer (60" dia Sewer)	Dundee Road storm sewer Most flooding localized to intersections and private properties	Local	3,5
NB-NBCU-GV-FL-01	Village of Glenview	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Sunset Ridge Rd - East Lake Ave to Skokie Rd	Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-GV-FL-02	Village of Glenview	Intracommunity (local) flooding	East of Harm Road South of Lake Avenue	Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NVDN-GV-ER-03	Village of Glenview	Streambank erosion on intracommunity waterways	John's Drive at Willow Rd	Stream bank destabilization, erosion and sedimentation, and wetland/riparian areas at risk. Trees along channels continually contribute to log jams. Invasive species degrade habitat.	Regional	1
NB-NVDN-GV-SM-04	Village of Glenview	Stream maintenance	North Navy Ditch beginning at John's Dr. Navy Ditch confluence with West Fork	Following removal of buckthorn/brush from North Navy Ditch, remaining large cottonwood/box elder trees exposed to greater wind force, causing limb breakage/tree failure and minor re-blockage of channel	Regional	1
NB-NVDS-GV-ER-05	Village of Glenview	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	Lehigh Road and Chestnut	Stream bank destabilization, erosion and sedimentation, and wetland/riparian areas at risk. Trees along channels continually contribute to log jams. Invasive species degrade habitat.	Regional	1
NB-NVDS-GV-FR-06	Village of Glenview	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Tall Trees Subdivision	Overbank Flooding	Regional	1
NB-NVDS-GV-SM-07	Village of Glenview	Stream maintenance	South Navy Ditch beginning at LeHigh Rd. South Navy Ditch confluence with West Fork	South Navy Ditch beginning at Lehigh Rd, Ongoing aging and breakage of trees along the South Navy Ditch eventually contributes to small log jams.	Regional	1
NB-NBCU-GV-FL-08	Village of Glenview	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Village of Glenview - Villagewide	Ponding and storm sewer flow restriction village-wide. Numerous areas in the Village developed prior to the 1980s have inadequate storm water conveyance and detention	Local	5
NB-WFNB-GV-FR-09	Village of Glenview	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Techny Basin 32C Glenview	Overbank flooding - Techny Basin 32C provides bulk of the Village's upstream storm water protection storage within the West Fork NBCR watershed. Recent storms brought risk of extreme flooding.	Regional	1

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Problem ID	Municipality	Problem as Reported by Local Agency	Location	Problem Description	Local/Regional	Reason for Classification
NB-WFNB-GV-SM-10	Village of Glenview	Stream maintenance	Willow Rd & Ravine Ave, Techny Basin 32C	Maintenance necessary at the MWRD maintained spillway that has been identified for years at the biannual inspections.	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-GV-FL-11	Village of Glenview	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Illinois Tool Works Detention Pond	Local overbank flooding of existing detention pond due to debris collection at restrictor. Problem causing overbank flooding of local residents backyards and local power outages.	Local	6
NB-WFNB-GV-ER-12	Village of Glenview	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	River between Glenview Rd and Waukegan Rd	Stream bank destabilization, erosion and sedimentation, wetland/riparian areas at risk. Significant erosion and undermined turf on East bank of West Fork (400 linear ft).	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-GV-ER-13	Village of Glenview	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	Village of Glenview -Lot 16 Bank Stabilization	Stream bank destabilization, erosion and sedimentation, wetland/riparian areas at risk. Channel clogged primarily by woody debris. Banks unstable/choked with invasive species, particularly buckthorn.	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-GV-ER-14	Village of Glenview	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	1201 Long Valey Road	Regional erosion occurring within 30 ft of residence on the west streambank.	Regional	1
NB-NBCU-GV-FL-15	Village of Glenview	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Village of Glenview	Ponding/storm sewer flow restriction in ~30% Village that is completely/partially non-storm-sewered. Village Storm Water Study: inadequate storm water detention/conveyance, inlet capacity.	Local	5
NB-NBCU-GV-FL-16	Village of Glenview	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Illinois Rt 43 at C, M, & St Paul RR	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-WRNB-GV-FL-17	Village of Glenview	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Greenwood Ave at S/O West Lake Ave	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-WFNB-GV-FL-18	Village of Glenview	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Pfingston Rd North of Glenview Road, South of Knollwood Lane	Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-WFNB-GV-FL-19	Village of Glenview	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Shermer Rd North of Central Road, South of Robincrest Lane	Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-WFNB-GV-FL-20	Village of Glenview	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Harlem Ave North of Lake Street, West of Robincrest Lane	Pavement flooding	Local	5

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Problem ID	Municipality	Problem as Reported by Local Agency	Location	Problem Description	Local/Regional	Reason for Classification
NB-WFNB-GV-FL-21	Village of Glenview	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Spruce Drive South of Lake St, West of LeHigh Ave	Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-WFNB-GV-FL-22	Village of Glenview	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Locust Lane and Rolwind Road	Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-WFNB-GV-FL-23	Village of Glenview	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Country Lane and North Branch Rd	Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-WFNB-GV-FL-24	Village of Glenview	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Tall Trees Subdivision	Overbank flooding along West Fork	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-GV-SM-25	Village of Glenview	Stream maintenance	West Fork at Willow Rd & Ravine Wayand at Chestnut Ave	Log jam flow obstruction, continuing onwards to river S of Loyola Academy athletic campus. Trash/woody debris in dry former river channel to N of Lot 16.	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-GV-ER-26	Village of Glenview	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	East side of West Fork NBCR, South of Glenview Rd; East side of West Fork NBCR, North of Waukegan Rd	Streambank Erosion	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-GV-WQ-27	Village of Glenview	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	Village of Glenview	Stream bank destabilization, erosion and sedimentation, water quality affected by pollution, wetland/riparian areas at risk. East bank (400 linear ft) shows significant erosion and undermined turf.	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-GV-FL-28	Village of Morton Grove, Village of Glenview, Village of Golf	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Golf Rd E/O IL Rt 43 (Metra Viaduct)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-WFNB-GV-FL-29	Village of Golf, Village of Glenview, Village of Morton Grove	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Golf Rd/Simpson St at C, M, & St Paul RR (viaduct)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-WFNB-GV-ER-30	Village of Glenview	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	Raleigh Road from York Road to Baffin Road	Streambank Erosion	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-GV-FL-31	Village of Glenview	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Illinois Route 43 at S/O Lake Avenue (Block 1200)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5

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Problem ID	Municipality	Problem as Reported by Local Agency	Location	Problem Description	Local/Regional	Reason for Classification
LM-KW-SM-01	Village of Kenilworth	Stream maintenance	Green Bay Road at Metra North Line	48" culvert silted up and deteriorating - no flooding	Local	5
LM-KW-SM-02	Village of Kenilworth	Stream maintenance	Sheridan Road - North of Kenilworth	Concrete pad surrounding MWRD interceptor is cracked and deteriorating	Local	5
NB-NSCH-LW-FL-01	Village of Lincolnwood	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Various locations throughout the Village of Lincolnwood	Basement flooding/ponding/water quality pollution. Sewer/floor drain back ups, street flooding, overland flooding entering through window wells, etc. Insufficient capacity of combined sewer system.	Local	5,6
NB-NSCH-LW-FL-02	Village of Lincolnwood	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 94 (Edens) at Pratt Ave	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NSCH-LW-FL-03	Village of Lincolnwood	Intracommunity (local) flooding	US Rt 41 at Crawford Ave	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NSCH-LW-FL-04	Village of Lincolnwood	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Touhy Ave at Crawford Ave	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NSCH-LW-WQ-05	Village of Lincolnwood	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Various locations throughout the Village of Lincolnwood	Basement flooding/ponding/water quality pollution. Sewer/floor drain back ups, street flooding, overland flooding entering through window wells, etc. Insufficient capacity of combined sewer system.	Local	5,6
NB-NSCH-LW-FL-06	City of Chicago, Village of Lincolnwood	Intracommunity (local) flooding	McCormick Blvd at Devon Ave (50 ft north)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-MG-ER-01	Village of Morton Grove	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	Linne Woods, Village of Morton Grove	Tree impeding flow, failing streambank stabilization	Regional	1
NB-NBCU-MG-FL-02	Village of Morton Grove, Village of Glenview	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Illinois Rte 43 at IL Rt 58	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-MG-FL-03	Unincorp Cook County, Village of Morton Grove, Village of Golf	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Golf Rd at West of Harms Rd	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-WFNB-NB-ER-01	Village of Northbrook	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	Middle Fork adjacent to properties on Red Coach Lane	Red Coach Lane - Bank erosion and sedimentation. There is severe erosion along the east bank of the Middle Fork NBCR adjacent to the properties on Red Coach Lane.	Regional	1

TABLE 2.2.1
Summary of Responses to Form B Questionnaire

Problem ID	Municipality	Problem as Reported by Local Agency	Location	Problem Description	Local/Regional	Reason for Classification
NB-WFNB-NB-FR-02	Village of Northbrook	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Il Rt 68 at Waukegan Rd to Lee St/Shermer Rd	IDOT Pavement flooding due to overbank flooding of Middle Fork	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-NB-FR-03	Village of Northbrook	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Dundee at Timber Ln, Northbrook	IDOT Pavement flooding	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-NB-FL-04	Village of Northbrook	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Illinois Rt 68 at Interstate Rt 94 (E/O @ Skokie Blvd)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-WFNB-NB-FL-05	Village of Northbrook	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 94 (Edens) at Il Rt 68 (Dundee Rd)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-WFNB-NB-FR-06	Village of Northbrook	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	From Fieldwood Dr and Techny Rd to Techny Drain near its confluence with West Fork	Flooding within backwater influence of West Fork NBCR extending approx 2000ft upstream along Techny Drain. Property/structure flooding within the backwater influence for short localized storms	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-NB-ER-07	Village of Northbrook	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	Between Dundee Rd & Cherry Ln	Bank erosion and sedimentation. Severe bank erosion along both sides of West Fork NBCR	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-NB-ER-08	Village of Northbrook	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	Fair Lane near Dundee Road/Western Ave. intersection	Banks along the West Fork of the North Branch are severely eroded behind Fair Lane.	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-NB-FR-09	Village of Northbrook	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Somme Prairie Grove Forest Preserve - Dundee & Waukegan Rd	FPDCC reported that the West Fork often overtops its banks and spills warm urban runoff into preserve degrading wetland and native habitats adjacent to the river.	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-NB-WQ-10	Village of Northbrook	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Somme Prairie Grove Forest Preserve - Dundee & Waukegan Rd	FPDCC reported that the West Fork often overtops its banks and spills warm urban runoff into preserve degrading wetland and native habitats adjacent to the river.	Regional	1
NB-MFNB-NB-FR-11	Village of Highland Park, Village of Northbrook, Village of Deerfield	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Northbrook Court, Deerfield, Highland Park	Overbank flooding, storm sewer flow restriction, insufficient river capacity. Regional detention at Northbrook Court fills and backs up river to overflowing. Stream rises into street inlets, street floods	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-NB-FR-12	Village of Northbrook	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Techny Basin 32A (Meadowhill Park)	Overbank flooding, storm sewer flow restriction. Diversion culverts (triple elliptical pipes) prone to clogging during high flow events and do not allow a sufficient amount of water to pass through.	Regional	1

TABLE 2.2.1
Summary of Responses to Form B Questionnaire

Problem ID	Municipality	Problem as Reported by Local Agency	Location	Problem Description	Local/Regional	Reason for Classification
NB-WFNB-NB-FR-13	Village of Northbrook, Unincorp Cook County	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Techny Basin 32A (Meadowhill Park)	Overbank flooding. The Village of Northbrook's major storm sewer outfalls are submerged and conveyance problems result.	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-NB-FR-14	Village of Glenview	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Techny Basin 32B	Overbank flooding	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-NB-FR-15	Unincorp Cook County, Village of Northbrook	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Village of Northbrook, Unincorporated Cook Co	Overbank flooding, and storm sewer flow restriction. Overbank flooding and reduced conveyance capacity of sewers that get submerged.	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-NB-SM-16	Unincorp Cook County, Village of Northbrook	Stream maintenance	Techny Rd – Western Ave to Waukegan Rd	CCHD reported that structure number 016-3234 over West Fork NBCR - some debris accumulation at the center pier.	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-NB-FR-17	Northbrook, Unincorporated Cook County	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Northbrook, Unincorporated Cook Co	Overbank Flooding	Regional	1
NB-SKRV-NB-FL-18	Village of Northbrook	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 94 (Edens) at Lake Cook Road	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-WFNB-NB-FL-19	Village of Northbrook	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Illinois Route 43 at Techny Road to Sherman Road	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-WFNB-NB-FL-20	Village of Northbrook	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Willow Road, East of Sherman Road (railroad Viaduct)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-MFNB-NB-ER-21	Village of Northbrook	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	Pebblebrook Rd	Regional erosion occurring greater than 30 ft from residences on west and east streambanks	Regional	1
NB-MFNB-NF-FR-01	Village of Northfield	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	N Bristol & Robinhood Ln	Willow Hill Condos - Basement and local road flooding due to overbank flooding	Regional	1
NB-MFNB-NF-ER-02	Village of Northfield	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Robin Hood Ln	Complaints about bank erosion/scouring on Middle Fork along Robin Hood Lane. Bank erosion threatening to wash away road.	Regional	1
NB-MFNB-NF-ER-03	Village of Northfield	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	Meadowbrook Drive to Sunset Lane	Regional erosion occurring within 30 ft of residences and utility poles on west and east streambanks.	Regional	1
NB-MFNB-NF-ER-04	Village of Northfield	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	2094 Middle Fork Road, Northfield, IL	Regional erosion occurring within 30 ft of residence on the west stream bank.	Regional	1

TABLE 2.2.1
Summary of Responses to Form B Questionnaire

Problem ID	Municipality	Problem as Reported by Local Agency	Location	Problem Description	Local/Regional	Reason for Classification
NB-MFNB-NF-ER-05	Village of Northfield	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	Willow Road to Abbot Court	Regional erosion occurring within 30 ft of residences on the west and east streambank of Middle Fork from Willow Road to Abbot Court.	Regional	1
NB-MFNB-NF-FL-06	Village of Northfield	Intracommunity (local) flooding	East of Wagner Road, South of Willow Road	Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-MFNB-NF-FR-07	Village of Northfield	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Interstate Rt 94 at Winnetka Ave to Skokie Rd (NB & SB)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Regional	1
NB-MFNB-NF-FR-08	Village of Northfield	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	S side of Willow Rd over Middle Fork	Basement and local flooding due to Overbank flooding	Regional	1
NB-MFNB-NF-FR-09	Village of Northfield	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	N side of Willow Rd over Middle Fork	Basement and local flooding due to Overbank flooding	Regional	1
NB-SKRV-NF-FR-10	Village of Northfield	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Interstate Rt 94 (Edens) at Skokie River	IDOT Pavement flooding	Regional	1
NB-SKWD-NF-FL-11	Village of Northfield	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Willow Rd from Happ Rd to Interstate Rt 94	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-SKWD-NF-FL-12	Village of Northfield	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Willow Rd at Central Ave Pavement flooding	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-SKWD-NF-FR-13	Village of Northfield	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Interstate Rt 94 (Edens) at Willow Rd (NB & SB)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Regional	1
NB-MFNB-NF-FL-14	Village of Northbrook, Village of Northfield, Village of Glenview, Unincorp Cook County	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Sunset Ridge Rd - East Lake Ave to Skokie Rd	CCHD reported that the 36" corrugated metal pipe West Side, 36" C.P. East Side, 1/4 mile North of Rolling Ridge Rd - some debris accumulation at the East end.	Local	2, 6
NB-MFNB-NF-FR-15	Village of Northfield, Unincorp Cook County	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Winnetka Rd - Wagner Rd to Happ Rd	CCHD reported that the creek floods the surrounding property in this area.	Regional	1
NB-SKRV-NF-FR-16	Unincorp Cook County, Village of Northfield	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Village of Northfield, Unincorporated Cook County	Unincorporated Cook County on Skokie River Downstream overbank flooding due to inefficient use of storage.	Regional	1

TABLE 2.2.1
Summary of Responses to Form B Questionnaire

Problem ID	Municipality	Problem as Reported by Local Agency	Location	Problem Description	Local/Regional	Reason for Classification
NB-MFNB-NF-ER-17	Village of Northfield	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	North of Winnetka Road along West side of Northfield Road	Streambank Erosion within 30ft of Northfield Road	Regional	1
NB-WFNB-NF-FL-18	Village of Northfield	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Illinois Route 43 at Willow Road to Winnetka Road	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-SKRV-NF-FR-19	Village of Northfield	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Willow heading East to I-94	Overbank Flooding	Regional	1
NB-NBCU-NL-FL-01	Village of Niles	Intracommunity (local) flooding	US Rt 14 at Illinois Rte 21 (Milwaukee Area)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-NL-FL-02	Village of Niles	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Illinois Route 21 at Main St (S/O US Rt 14)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-NL-FL-03	Village of Niles	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Illinois Rte 43 at Oakton St	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-NL-FL-04	Village of Niles	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Dempster Street East of Harlem Avenue	Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-NL-FR-05	Village of Niles	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Tam Golf Course	During major storm events, overbank flooding of the adjacent golf course - Tam Golf Course and/or its buildings owned by the Niles Park District.	Regional	1
NB-NBCU-NL-FR-06	Village of Niles	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Harts Rd & Riverside Drive, Niles	Overbank flooding in areas of the intersection during severe storm events.	Regional	1
NB-NBCU-NL-FL-07	Village of Niles	Intracommunity (local) flooding	IL Route 58 at Washington	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-NL-FL-08	City of Chicago, Village of Niles	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Illinois Rte 43 at Howard St (N/O)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-NL-FL-09	Village of Skokie, Village of Niles	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Gross Point Rd at 7500 Gross Point Rd	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-NL-ER-10	Village of Niles	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	Wood River Drive	Severe erosion problem along the NBCR for the townhouses located at 6620, 6622, 6624, 6626, 6628, 6630, 6632, 6634, 6636, 6638, and 6640 Wood River Drive.	Regional	1

TABLE 2.2.1
Summary of Responses to Form B Questionnaire

Problem ID	Municipality	Problem as Reported by Local Agency	Location	Problem Description	Local/Regional	Reason for Classification
NB-NBCU-SK-FL-01	Village of Skokie	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 94 at IL Rt 58	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-SK-FL-02	Village of Skokie	Intracommunity (local) flooding	US Rt 41 at Gross Point Rd	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-SK-FL-03	Village of Skokie	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Gross Point between Emerson & Kenton	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-SK-FL-04	Village of Skokie	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Church Rd at Gross Point Rd	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-SK-FL-05	Village of Skokie	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Harms Flatwoods Forest Preserve -Old Orchard Rd and Harms Rd	FPDCC reported that off-site stormwater volumes from adjacent properties modifies the hydrology in this ecologically significant flatwoods community with endangered and threatened plant species.	Local	6
NB-NBCU-SK-WQ-06	Village of Skokie	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Harms Flatwoods Forest Preserve -Old Orchard Rd and Harms Rd	FPDCC reported that off-site stormwater volumes from adjacent properties modifies the hydrology in this ecologically significant flatwoods community with endangered and threatened plant species.	Local	6
NB-NBCU-SK-FL-07	Village of Skokie	Intracommunity (local) flooding	US Rt 41 at Skokie Swift (S/O Oakton St)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-SK-FL-08	Village of Skokie	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Church Rd at Central Park (construction zone)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-SK-FL-09	Village of Skokie	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Church St at E/O US Rt 41 (Skokie Blvd)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-SK-FL-10	Village of Skokie	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Oakton St at Skokie Blvd to McCormick Blvd	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-SK-FL-11	City of Evanston, Village of Skokie	Intracommunity (local) flooding	US Rt 41 @ Old Orchard Rd to Golf Rd	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NSCH-SK-FL-12	Village of Skokie, Village of Lincolnwood	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 94 (Edens) at Touhy Ave (NB & SB)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5

TABLE 2.2.1
Summary of Responses to Form B Questionnaire

Problem ID	Municipality	Problem as Reported by Local Agency	Location	Problem Description	Local/Regional	Reason for Classification
NB-NSCH-SK-FL-13	Village of Skokie, Village of Lincolnwood	Intracommunity (local) flooding	McCormick Blvd at Touhy Ave to Howard Street	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NSCH-SK-FL-14	Village of Skokie, City of Evanston	Intracommunity (local) flooding	McCormick Blvd at Emerson St	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NSCH-SK-FL-15	Village of Skokie, City of Evanston	Intracommunity (local) flooding	McCormick Blvd at Oakton St (S/O)	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NSCH-SK-FL-16	Village of Skokie, City of Evanston	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Crawford Ave at N/O Golf Rd	IDOT Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-UC-ER-01	Unincorporated Cook County	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	Harms Flatwoods Forest Preserve -West of Old Orchard Rd and Harms Rd	FPDCC reported that properties on the west side of the preserve discharge stormwater directly to forest preserve with impacts of erosion, sedimentation, and habitat degradation.	Regional	1
NB-NBCU-UC-WQ-02	Unincorporated Cook County	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Harms Flatwoods Forest Preserve -West of Old Orchard Rd and Harms Rd	FPDCC reported that properties on the west side of the preserve discharge stormwater directly to forest preserve with impacts of erosion, sedimentation, and habitat degradation.	Regional	1
LM-WK-EL-01	Village of Winnetka	Streambank erosion on intracommunity waterways	Ravines	General streambank erosion ravines	Local	6
NB-SKRV-WK-FL-02	Village of Winnetka	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Skokie Ditch	Flooding due to poorly defined overflow routes and inadequate capacity of Skokie Ditch storm sewers.	Local	6
LM-WK-ER-03	Village of Winnetka, Village of Glencoe	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	Lake Michigan Waterfront	Bluff erosion	Regional	1
NB-NBCU-WM-FL-01	Village of Wilmette	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Various locations west of Ridge Rd in the Village of Wilmette	Ponding/storm sewer flow restriction after rain events in isolated low areas/storm restrictions. Storm sewer surcharging by high river water levels results in yard ponding/depressed driveways/garages	Local	5
NB-NBCU-WM-FL-02	Village of Wilmette	Intracommunity (local) flooding	US Rt 41 at N/O Hibbard Rd	Pavement flooding	Local	5
NB-NBCU-WM-FL-03	Village of Wilmette	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Interstate Rt 94 (Edens) at Glenview Rd	Pavement flooding	Local	5

TABLE 2.2.1
Summary of Responses to Form B Questionnaire

Problem ID	Municipality	Problem as Reported by Local Agency	Location	Problem Description	Local/Regional	Reason for Classification
NB-NBCU-WM-FL-04	Village of Wilmette	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Various locations in Wilmette	Map of the local ponding for the September 2008 Storm	Local	5
NB-NBCU-WM-FL-05	Village of Wilmette	Intracommunity (local) flooding	Various locations in Wilmette	Map of the local basement flooding for the September 2008 storm	Local	5
NB-NBCU-WM-FR-06	Village of Wilmette	Intercommunity (regional) flooding	Wilmette Golf Course	Flooding and ponding at the Wilmette Golf Course after rain events. High water levels in the river causes stormwater to back up within the golf course.	Regional	1
LM-MM-ER-01	Village of Winnetka, Village of Glencoe	Streambank erosion on intercommunity waterways	Lake Michigan Waterfront	Bluff erosion	Regional	1

Reasons for Regional / Local Classifications:

1. Located on an open channel waterway with greater than 0.5 square mile drainage area
2. Roadway culvert (two-lane road)
3. Roadway culvert (greater than two-lane road)
4. Located in headwater area (less than 0.5 square mile drainage area)
5. Located with storm sewer system (regardless of drainage area)
6. Located beyond immediate area of regional waterway and/or problem occurs on a local waterway

2.3 Watershed Analysis Data

2.3.1 Monitoring Data

2.3.1.1 USGS Gage Data

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) owns and maintains a nationwide network of stream gages used to record real-time measurements of the monitored stream's water surface elevations. Rating curves developed through periodic paired stage and flow measurements are used to develop rating curves for the stream, relating estimated flow to measured stage.

There are five primary USGS stream gages that were used for stage and flow calibration and verification. The West Fork gage at Dundee Road (05535500), Middle Fork gage at Lake-Cook Road (05534500), and Skokie River gage at Clavey Road (05535070) were used to hydrologically calibrate the flows entering the Cook County portion of the watershed from Lake County. Stage and flow comparisons were made at the Mainstem of the North Branch gages at Touhy Avenue (05536000) and Albany Avenue (05536105) for the calibration and verification events to ensure that they met District criteria for flow, volume, and stage.

For the NSC and Mainstem downstream of the North Branch Dam, the USACE used a number of USGS and MWRD elevation gages to calibrate and verify the CAWS model. More detail on this gage data usage can be found within the USACE report entitled, "Chicago Downtown Flooding Study Final Report."

TABLE 2.3.1
USGS Gage Data in the NBCR Watershed

Description	Stream Gage Site Data		Stream Gage Site Data	
USGS GAGE #	05534500		05535500	
Location	North Branch Chicago River at Deerfield, IL		WF of NB Chicago River at Northbrook, IL	
Latitude	42°09'10"		42°08'18"	
Longitude	87°49'07" NAD83		87°50'05" NAD83	
	Lake County, Hydrologic Unit 07120003		Cook County, Hydrologic Unit 07120003	
Contributing drainage area:	19.7 square miles		11.5 square miles	
Datum of gauge:	638.88 ft above sea level NGVD29		637.98 ft above sea level NGVD29	
Data Type	Begin Date	End Date	Begin Date	End Date
Real-time	This is a real-time site.		This is a real-time site.	
Peak stream flow	03/15/1953	12/27/2008	03/14/1953	03/08/2009
<u>Daily Data</u>				
Discharge, ft ³ /sec	08/01/1952	Current	08/08/1952	Current
Gage height, ft	11/30/1993	Current	04/14/1994	Current
<u>Daily Statistics</u>				
Discharge, ft ³ /sec	08/01/1952	09/30/2009	08/08/1952	09/30/2009
Gage height, ft	11/30/1993	09/30/2009	04/14/1994	09/30/2009

Monthly Statistics

Discharge, ft ³ /sec	08/1952	09/2009	08/1952	09/2009
Gage height, ft	11/1993	09/2009	09/1994	09/2009

Annual Statistics

Discharge, ft ³ /sec	1952	2009	1952	2009
Gage height, ft	1994	2009	1994	2009
Field/lab water quality samples	10/02/1974	04/29/1997	10/02/1974	08/09/1983

TABLE 2.3.1
USGS Gage Data in the NBCR Watershed

Description	Stream Gage Site Data		Stream Gage Site Data	
USGS GAGE #	05536000		05536105	
Location	North Branch Chicago River at Niles, IL		NB Chicago River at Albany Avenue at Chicago, IL	
Latitude	42°00'44"		41°58'27"	
Longitude	87°47'45" NAD83		87°42'21" NAD83	
	Cook County, Hydrologic Unit 07120003		Cook County, Hydrologic Unit 07120003	
Contributing drainage area:	100 square miles		113 square miles	
Datum of gauge:	601.99 ft above sea level NGVD29		580.67 ft above sea level NGVD29	
Data Type	Begin Date	End Date	Begin Date	End Date
Real-time	This is a real-time site.		This is a real-time site.	
Peak stream flow	05/11/1951	06/19/2009	05/10/1990	06/19/2009
<u>Daily Data</u>				
Discharge, ft ³ /sec	10/01/1950	Current	10/01/1989	Current
Gage height, ft	10/01/1991	Current	10/01/1993	Current
<u>Daily Statistics</u>				
Discharge, ft ³ /sec	10/01/1950	09/30/2009	10/01/1989	09/30/2009
Gage height, ft	10/02/1991	09/30/2009	10/01/1993	09/30/2009
<u>Monthly Statistics</u>				
Discharge, ft ³ /sec	10/1950	09/2009	10/1989	09/2009
Gage height, ft	10/1991	09/2009	10/1993	09/2009
<u>Annual Statistics</u>				
Discharge, ft ³ /sec	1951	2009	1990	2009
Gage height, ft	1992	2009	1994	2009
Field/lab water quality samples	10/03/1974	04/29/1997	none	none

TABLE 2.3.1
USGS Gage Data in the NBCR Watershed

Description	Stream Gage Site Data	
USGS GAGE #	05535070	
Location	Skokie River near Highland Park, IL	
Latitude	42°09'35"	
Longitude	87°47'53" NAD83	
	Lake County, Hydrologic Unit 07120003	
Contributing drainage area:	21.1 square miles	
Datum of gauge:	622.83 ft above sea level NGVD29	
Data Type	Begin Date	End Date
Real-time	This is a real-time site.	
Peak stream flow	06/10/1967	12/27/2008
<u>Daily Data</u>		
Discharge, ft ³ /sec	08/21/1967	Current
Gage height, ft	10/01/1993	Current
<u>Daily Statistics</u>		
Discharge, ft ³ /sec	08/21/1967	09/30/2009
Gage height, ft	10/01/1993	09/30/2009
<u>Monthly Statistics</u>		
Discharge, ft ³ /sec	08/1967	09/2009
Gage height, ft	10/1993	09/2009
<u>Annual Statistics</u>		
Discharge, ft ³ /sec	1967	2009
Gage height, ft	1994	2009
Field/lab water quality samples	10/01/1974	08/08/1983

2.3.1.2 Rainfall Data

Numerous sources of rain gage data were evaluated in order to build a gage network that would allow for complete coverage of the NBCR and LM watersheds. The final gage network consisted of four Cook County Precipitation Network (CCPN) gages and one Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (LCSMC) gage. The CCPN is a series of six mile grid spaced gages recorded at a 10-minute interval; the LCSMC gage network is a series of five mile grid spaced gages recorded at a 5-minute interval. Figure 2.3.1 shows locations where rainfall gage data was available to support the DWP. The subbasins for all four main reaches are shown on Figure 2.3.1 color-coded to indicate which subbasins were associated with which rainfall gages during the calibration process, which is discussed in detail in Section 3.

Information on the precipitation data used to calibrate the USACE CAWS model can be found in the report referenced in section 2.3.1.1.

2.3.1.3 Stage Data

No additional stage data, outside of the USGS gage data was used to calibrate the NBCR models or LM models. Information on the stage data used to calibrate the USACE CAWS model can be found in the report referenced in section 2.3.1.1.

2.3.2 Subwatershed Delineation

The NBCR watershed and LM watershed was divided into subwatersheds representing areas tributary to the waterways in the study area. Elevation data provided by Cook County, described further in Section 2.3.4, was the principal data source used for subwatershed delineation. Drainage divides were established based upon consideration of the direction of steepest descent from local elevation maxima. Occasionally, Cook County elevation data contains constructed structures that do not represent surface hydrology, for instance, raised roadways that do not restrict overland flow. The delineation in these areas was modified to best represent surface hydrology. The storm-sewer network was also considered in the delineation of some areas, particularly in the low gradient areas of the lower Mainstem of the NBCR where ground slope was slight or inconclusive. Finally, reference of previous studies and consultation with community representatives helped resolve subwatershed boundaries in areas of question.

Following the definition of subwatersheds, tributaries studied in detail were divided into smaller subbasins, represented in the hydrologic model as having a unified response to rainfall. The size of subbasins varied based upon the drainage network density and proximity to the hydraulically modeled waterway. Subbasin boundaries were modified to generally encompass areas with similar development patterns. Boundaries were defined to most accurately represent the actual area tributary to specific modeled elements, such as constrictions caused by crossings, and reservoirs.

Figure 2.3.2 shows the subwatersheds and subbasins developed for the DWP. Subbasins were not defined for areas that were not modeled in detail. Subbasins in the NSC and Mainstem downstream of the North Branch Dam watersheds are part of the USACE CAWS model, and are not included in Figure 2.3.2. The subbasin delineations for these reaches can be found in the USACE report referenced in section 2.3.1.1.

2.3.3 Drainage Network

The principal waterways of the NBCR watershed and LM watershed were defined during Phase A of the watershed study. Initial identification of the stream centerline was made using planimetry data obtained from Cook County. Stream centerlines were reviewed against aerial photography and Cook County contour data at a 1:500 scale, and modified to best represent existing conditions. These streamlines were included in the topographic model of the NBCR watershed and LM watershed (see Section 2.3.4), and collect runoff from upland drainage areas. Secondary drainage ways that were not modeled were identified based upon review of contour data. In flat, heavily sewered areas, consultation of sewer atlases and discussion with community representatives helped to identify significant drainage paths. Secondary drainage ways were used to help define flow paths in the hydrologic models for individual tributaries.

Figure 2.3.3 shows the major drainage ways within the NBCR watershed and LM watershed superimposed upon an elevation map of the watershed.

2.3.4 Topography and Benchmarks

The NBCR watershed is generally defined by areas of high relief at the tributary headwaters in Lake County, and areas of very low relief as the NBCR combines with the North Shore Channel. The areas of low relief primarily occur in the City of Chicago, which is a heavily storm-sewered municipality.

Topographic data for the NBCR and LM watersheds were developed from Cook County light detection and ranging (LiDAR) data generated from a 2003 LiDAR mission (Cook County, 2003). The LiDAR data was obtained along with break lines from Cook County. A digital elevation model (DEM) was developed for the NBCR and LM watersheds based upon a subset of filtered elevation points. Figure 2.3.3 shows elevations within the watershed.

Stream channel cross section and stream crossing structure (such as bridge and culvert) topographic data was collected during field survey work conducted primarily between November 2008 and June 2009 to support the DWP. Additional field survey was performed in February 2010 and June 2010.

The reference benchmarks created during the Cook County aerial mapping project completed in 2003 were used to establish first-order control for field survey work. One hundred thirty-five control points were established during the mapping project. Of those, 25 are National Geodetic Survey (NGS)/High Accuracy Reference Network (HARN) control stations within Cook County and environs. The remaining points were either existing or new points identified as photo control specifically for the mapping project. 71 NGS monuments within the region surrounding the NBCR and LM watersheds were observed, referenced to HARN, and used to establish first-order control, meeting the horizontal and vertical accuracy standards specified in FEMA's *Guidelines and Specifications for Flood Hazard Mapping, "Guidance for Aerial Mapping"* (FEMA 2003). The horizontal ground control was established by GPS technology, and horizontal positioning accuracy meets the specifications of the Federal Geodetic Control Subcommittee (FGCS) Second Order Class One.

2.3.5 Soil Classifications

NRCS soil data representative of 2002 conditions was obtained for Cook County. The NRCS soil data includes hydrologic soil group, representing the minimum infiltration rate of the soil after wetting. Table 2.3.2 summarizes the hydrologic soil groups. The NRCS provides two types of soil datasets for the area. One type is the Soil Survey Geographic, or SSURGO, dataset¹. The SSURGO dataset is available for select areas and is a detailed soil survey. The City of Chicago is not included in the SSURGO dataset, although portions of the North Branch upper basin are included.

A second type of soils dataset developed by the NRCS is the U.S. General Soil Map (formerly the State Soil Geographic dataset), also known as STATSGO or STATSGO². STATSGO is more general than SSURGO and is based on a wide range of available soil literature. The City of

¹ <http://soils.usda.gov/survey/geography/ssurgo/>

² <http://soils.usda.gov/survey/geography/statsgo/>

Chicago and portions of the North Branch lower basin are mapped in the STATSGO dataset. The SSURGO dataset areas in the upper basin (the Skokie River, Upper North Branch, and a portion of the West Fork) are at a smaller, more refined scale than STATSGO. While SSURGO is the preferred dataset, the additional use of STATSGO in the lower basin shows soils with HSG ranging from “A” (low runoff potential) to “C” (moderately high runoff potential). The STATSGO soil dataset will be used to supplement SSURGO data, rather than assuming a uniform soil type. The STATSGO and SSURGO datasets can both be classified under the A-D hydrologic soil groups shown in Table 2.3.2.

TABLE 2.3.2
Hydrologic Soil Groups

Hydrologic Soil Group	Description	Texture	Infiltration Rates (in./hr)
A	Low runoff potential and high infiltration rates even when wetted	Sand, loamy sand, or sandy loam	> 0.30
B	Moderate infiltration rates when wetted	Silt loam or loam	0.15–0.30
C	Low infiltration rates when wetted	Sandy clay loam	0.05–0.15
D	High runoff potential and very low infiltration when wetted	Clay loam, silty clay loam, sandy clay, silty clay, or clay	0–0.05

All data from *Technical Release 55, Urban Hydrology for Small Watersheds*, NRCS, June 1986

Soil groups with drainage characteristics affected by a high water table are indicated with a “/D” designation, where the letter preceding the slash indicates the hydrologic group of the soil under drained conditions. Thus, an “A/D” indicates that the soil has characteristics of the A soil group if drained but the D group if not. Because of the difficulty of establishing the extent of drainage of these soils for each mapped soil polygon, it was assumed that 50 percent (by area) of the soil types are drained. Table 2.3.3 summarizes the distribution of hydrologic soil type throughout the NBCR and LM watersheds. Figure 2.3.4 shows the distribution of soil types throughout the watersheds.

TABLE 2.3.3
Hydrologic Soil Group Distribution

Hydrologic Soil Group	% of NBCR & LM Watershed
Unmapped	0.5
A/B	17.8
B	0.8
B/C	57.7
B/D	1.6
C	19.4
D	2.2

2.3.6 Land Use

Land use has a significant effect on basin hydrology, affecting the volume of runoff produced by a given area and the speed of runoff delivered to the receiving system. Impervious areas restrict infiltration and produce more runoff, which is often delivered to receiving systems more rapidly through storm sewer networks. Land use was one of two principal inputs into the calculation of CN for the NBCR and LM watersheds, detailed more extensively in Section 1.3.2.

A 2001 land use inventory for the Chicago metropolitan area was received from CMAP in GIS format. The data was used to characterize existing conditions land use within the NBCR and LM watersheds. The data include 49 land use classifications, grouped into seven general categories for summarizing land use within the DWP. Table 2.3.4 summarizes the land use distribution within the NBCR and LM watersheds. Figure 2.3.5 shows the distribution of general land use categories throughout the watersheds.

TABLE 2.3.4
Land Use Distribution within the NBCR & LM Watersheds

Land Use Type	Area (mi ²)	Area (%)
Residential	82.2	58.4
Forest/Open Land	21.5	15.3
Commercial/Industrial	24.8	17.6
Water/Wetland	1.3	1
Agricultural	0.3	0.2
Transportation/Utility	3.7	2.6
Institutional	6.9	4.9

2.3.7 Anticipated Development and Future Conditions

Anticipated development within the NBCR and LM Watershed was analyzed using population projection data. Projected future conditions land use data for the NBCR and LM watersheds are unavailable from CMAP or other regional agencies. Projected 2030 population data for Cook County was obtained from CMAP. Population data was overlaid upon subwatershed boundaries to identify the potential for increases in subwatershed populations. Table 2.3.5 shows subwatersheds with a projected population increase from the year 2000 population. Projected increases in population along with current subwatershed land use conditions make it likely that there will also be a corresponding increase in impervious surface area. This potential change in impervious surface area could contribute to higher flow rates and volumes of stormwater runoff drained by those tributaries.

TABLE 2.3.5
Projected Population Increase by Subwatershed

Name	2000 Population	2030 Population	Population Change	% Increase
West Fork	101,441	112,691	11,250	11
Middle Fork	50,747	57,273	6,526	13
Skokie River	131,887	135,499	3,612	3
Mainstem	205,077	218,931	13,854	7
Lake Michigan	441,175	486,120	44,945	10

Management of future development may be regulated through both local ordinances and the Cook County Watershed Management Ordinance (WMO) as described below in Section 2.3.9. This regulation would be an effort to prevent an increase in peak flows, via the construction of site-specific stormwater controls. The impact of the modified hydrologic and hydraulic characteristics of the subwatersheds due to changing land use over time may require the recommended projects to be re-evaluated under the conditions at the time of implementation to refine the details of the final design. To accomplish this, it is recommended that at the time projects are implemented, if updated land use and topographic information is available, the H&H models be rerun incorporating this new data.

2.3.8 Wetland and Riparian Areas

Wetland areas within the NBCR and LM Watershed were identified using National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) mapping. NWI data includes approximately 2.6 square miles of wetland areas in the NBCR and LM Watershed. Riparian areas are defined as vegetated areas between aquatic and upland ecosystems adjacent to a waterway or body of water that provide flood management, habitat, and water quality enhancement. Identified riparian areas defined as part of the DWP offer potential opportunities for restoration. Figures 2.3.6 and 2.3.7 contain mapping of wetland and riparian areas in the NBCR and LM Watershed, respectively.

2.3.9 Management of Future Conditions through the Regulations of Site Stormwater Management

The District regulates the discharge of stormwater runoff from development projects located within separate sewer areas within the District's corporate boundaries through its Sewer Permit Ordinance. Currently, development projects meeting certain thresholds must provide stormwater detention in an effort to restrict the post-development flow rate to the pre-development flow rate. A number of communities enforce standards beyond the District's currently required standards and thresholds. This DWP supports the continued regulation of future development through countywide stormwater management.

The Cook County WMO is under development and is proposed to provide uniform minimum countywide standards for site stormwater runoff for events up to and including the 100-year event that are appropriate for Cook County. This effort seeks to prevent post-development flows from exceeding pre-development conditions. The WMO is proposed to be a comprehensive ordinance addressing site runoff, floodplains, floodways, wetlands, soil erosion and sedimentation, water quality, and riparian environments.

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