

Sycamore Creek D4685

Ottawa County
Section A27N-25E

N 36°48'28.2"
W 94°38' 41.58"

WBID#:OK121600-03-05105

Blue Thumb Volunteer Data Review
9/27/10

Written by
Jordan Shope
Melissa Shope

Location of Sycamore Creek and Monitoring Site:

Sycamore Creek begins in Newton County, Missouri between Crow Road and Hottel Springs Road, slightly south of MO Hwy DD near Seneca, MO. It is joined by Mason Springs branch, then flows through Ottawa County and into Grand Lake.

The monitoring site lies in the Mason Springs Valley area, just south of the Hwy 60 & South 690 RD intersection in Ottawa County, OK. This area, which is just east of Wyandotte, OK, is mostly used for agriculture and livestock.

Stream Condition/ Habitat:

Sycamore Creek has good instream cover, canopy, riffles, streamside cover, and bank stability. It also has moderate pool bottom, substrate variability, flow, and bank vegetation stability. Sycamore receives a low score in channel alteration and sinuosity. Sycamore has improved greatly between 2000 and 2009, increasing its habitat assessment score from 109 to 124.36 when compared to an ideal Ozarks Highland Reference.

Fish Collection:

A total of 400 fish were collected on 6/30/08, including 11 intolerant species. When compared with the Ozark Highlands Reference, Sycamore Creek scored slightly better than the reference, receiving an "A."

Macroinvertebrate Collections:

Macroinvertebrate Collections have taken place winter and summer since 2000, with the exception of summer 2007. Overall, Sycamore Creek scored better in the summer than in the winter. In nine winter samplings, 6 of the samples were given an "A" and 3 of them were given "B" in comparison to the Ozark Highland Reference. In summer samplings, Sycamore Creek consistently scored an "A" in comparison to the Ozark Highland Reference.

Bacteria Monitoring:

Sycamore Creek was monitored through the summer months of 2006 and 2008. Based on the results, Sycamore Creek scores in the low range for E. coli.

Chemical Monitoring:

Sycamore Creek has been monitored over 85 times since July 2001. Overall, Sycamore is normal in the Dissolved Oxygen , Orthophosphate, Phosphorus, Chloride, and Ph. Soluble Nitrogen falls in the caution to poor range.

Summary:

Overall, Sycamore Creek is a good quality stream in spite of the flow and habitat alteration that has taken place in recent years due to storms, flooding, bridge replacement, and grading done by the county maintenance. A good place for swimming and wading on a hot summer afternoon!