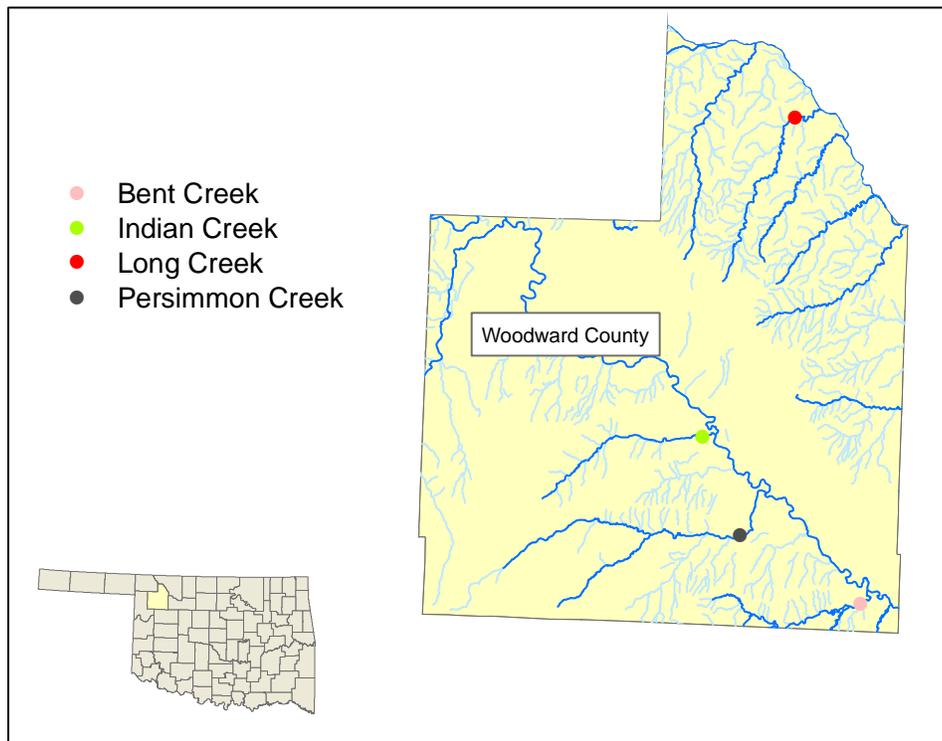




Know Your Stream: Rotating Basin Site Summary **Woodward County, Central Great Plains Level 3 Ecoregion**

The Oklahoma Conservation Commission (OCC) has the statutory responsibility of monitoring streams across the state in order to identify healthy streams as well as those which may be impacted by non-point source (NPS) pollution. NPS pollution is pollution which runs off the land from diffuse sources rather than being discharged from a specific source. If a stream is found to be impaired by NPS pollution, the OCC may be able to implement a voluntary cost-share program to address the identified problems; however, streams must be monitored in order to select best management practices necessary for improvement. The OCC's "Rotating Basin Monitoring Program" provides the tools to assess and then restore water quality in Oklahoma.

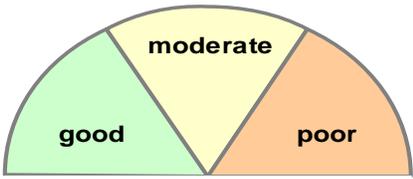
This leaflet gives a brief summary of the assessment results for the second 2-year cycle of the monitoring program for streams in Woodward County. The full report can be accessed online at: http://www.ok.gov/okcc/Agency_Divisions/Water_Quality_Division/WQ_Reports/WQ_Assessment_Reports or by calling (405) 522-4500 and requesting a copy of the "Rotating Basin Group 2, Cycle 2 Final Report."



OCC Rotating Basin monitoring sites within Woodward County.

Through the Rotating Basin Program, four streams in Woodward County were sampled approximately every five weeks from June 2007-May 2009. Eighteen water quality parameters were measured or analyzed at each site visit. In addition, OCC staff conducted one fish and habitat assessment and up to four macroinvertebrate collections. Summer samples were also analyzed for *E. coli* and *Enterococcus* bacteria. Each site was compared to "high quality" streams in the ecoregion, streams known to have high quality fish populations, benthic macroinvertebrate populations, instream and riparian habitat, and water quality. All of the data collected has been distilled into a few key components in order to produce an index score of general, overall stream health, shown on the next page.

Summary of general stream health as determined by comparison to high quality streams in the Central Great Plains ecoregion and by assessment using Oklahoma State Water Quality Standards†.

	<i>Good</i>		<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Poor</i>
	Indian Creek	Persimmon Creek	Long Creek	Bent Creek
				
Overall Stream Health	45	45	43	25
Phosphorus	5	5	5	5
Nitrogen	5	5	5	5
Ammonia	5	5	5	5
Dissolved Oxygen	5	5	5	5
pH	5	5	5	5
Turbidity	5	5	5	5
Salts (chloride, sulfate, TDS)	5	5	5	-5
Fish	-5	5	5	-5
Macroinvertebrates	5	5	3	5
Instream/Riparian Habitat	5	5	5	5
Bacteria	5	-5	-5	-5
<i>Scale of 1-5 with 5 being the best</i>				
<p>KEY: 1=significantly worse than high quality sites 3=not as good as high quality sites but not impaired 5=equal to or better than high quality sites -5=impaired by state standards</p>				

Note: Most streams in Oklahoma are impaired by at least one type of bacteria.

Indian Creek (OK720500-01-0020D): This stream is comparable to high quality streams in the ecoregion for all parameters except the fish community which is listed as impaired by state standards.

Persimmon Creek (OK720500-01-0150G): This stream is listed as impaired by state standards for bacteria levels. All other parameters are comparable to high quality streams.

Long Creek (OK620920-02-0080D): This stream is listed as impaired by state standards for bacteria levels. All other parameters are comparable to high quality streams except the macroinvertebrate community which was of slightly poorer quality.

Bent Creek (OK720500-01-0070D): This stream is listed as impaired by state standards for elevated salts and bacteria levels and poor fish community. All other parameters are comparable to high quality streams in the ecoregion.

† The use of Oklahoma Water Quality Standards to assess streams and the 2010 results are described in the DEQ's 2010 Integrated Report, accessible online at:

http://www.deq.state.ok.us/wqdnew/305b_303d/2010_integrated_report_entire_document.pdf

