

DESCRIPTION of the Chemung Subbasin

The Chemung Subbasin is an interstate subbasin that drains approximately 2,604 square miles of southwestern New York and northcentral Pennsylvania. Four major river watersheds, the Cohocton River, Canisteo River, Cowanesque River, and Tioga River, combine to form the mainstem of the Chemung River. The primary counties in this subbasin are Chemung, Steuben, Allegany, and Schuyler Counties in New York, and Tioga and Bradford Counties in Pennsylvania (Figure 2). The major population centers include Hornell, Canisteo, Bath, Corning, Horseheads, and Elmira in New York, and Elkland, Mansfield, Blossburg, and Sayre in Pennsylvania. Ecoregions that fall within the Chemung Subbasin are (Figure 2):

- Northern Appalachian Plateau (Ecoregion 60)
- Northern Central Appalachians (Ecoregion 62)

Ecoregion 60 is a combination of agriculture and forestland. It is a transition ecoregion between the more agricultural and urban ecoregions to the north and west and the more mountainous and forested ecoregions to the south and east. The agricultural lands in Ecoregion 60 are mostly used as pastures and to cultivate hay and grain to feed dairy cattle, and the wooded areas are comprised of mostly oaks and northern hardwoods. Ecoregion 62 is more densely forested, and land use is tied largely to recreation or logging and gas and mineral extraction. The geology of this largely rugged area consists mostly of sandstone, shale, siltstone, conglomerates, and coal. Most of the Chemung Subbasin is within Ecoregion 60 with only a small portion in the southern part of the basin in Ecoregion 62.

Land use in the Chemung Subbasin is depicted in Figure 3. The primary land uses are natural vegetated areas and cultivated land. The largest urban center is the Horseheads/Elmira area. Some abandoned mine lands are found in the headwaters of the Tioga River Watershed that correspond to Ecoregion 62.

Numerous watershed organizations are working in the Chemung Subbasin to educate and involve local citizens and to restore and protect watersheds. Table 1 provides the names and contact information for some of those watershed groups. Many other local entities, such as county conservation districts and land conservation groups, protect and conserve land and water resources in the subbasin. Also, in Pennsylvania, there is a group for active senior citizens interested in protecting and improving watersheds called the Pennsylvania Senior Environment Corps. The website for this organization is <http://www.easi.org>.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation will be sampling water chemistry in the Chemung basin during 2007 and 2008 as part of the agency's Rotating Integrated Basin Studies. More details on the program are available at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/30951.html>. Lakes/reservoirs and groundwater also will be sampled as part of this program. The information gathered in this sampling program will be used to update NYSDEC's Waterbody Inventory/Priority Waterbodies List (WI/PWL).

SRBC has additional monitoring and protection activities in the Chemung Subbasin. One of the programs is the enhanced monitoring program, which involves monthly sampling of nutrients and sediment on the Cohocton and Chemung Rivers at Campbell, N.Y., and Chemung, N.Y., respectively. Data at these sites have been collected since October 2004 in the Chemung River and October 2005 in the Cohocton River, and are used to calculate nutrient and sediment loads and trends and to calibrate watershed models. The data

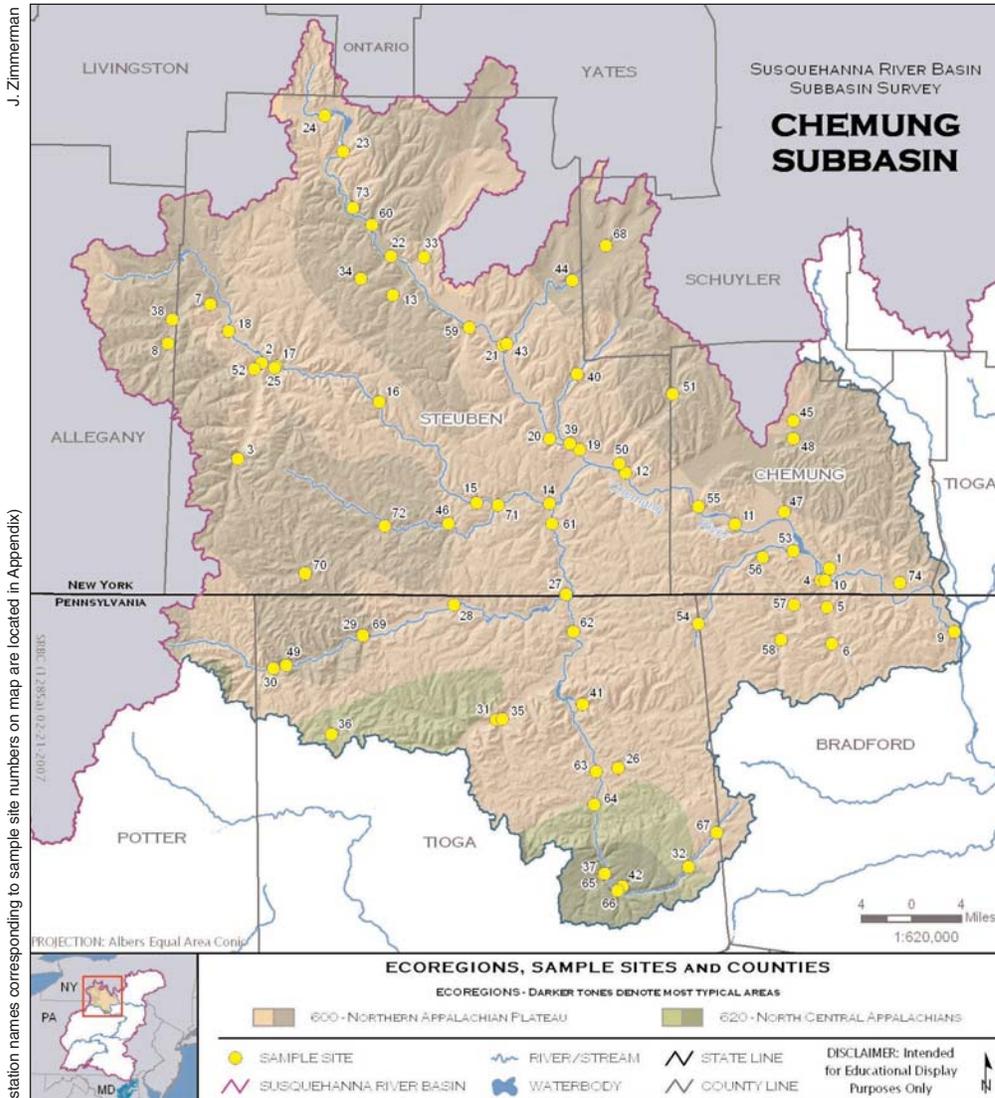
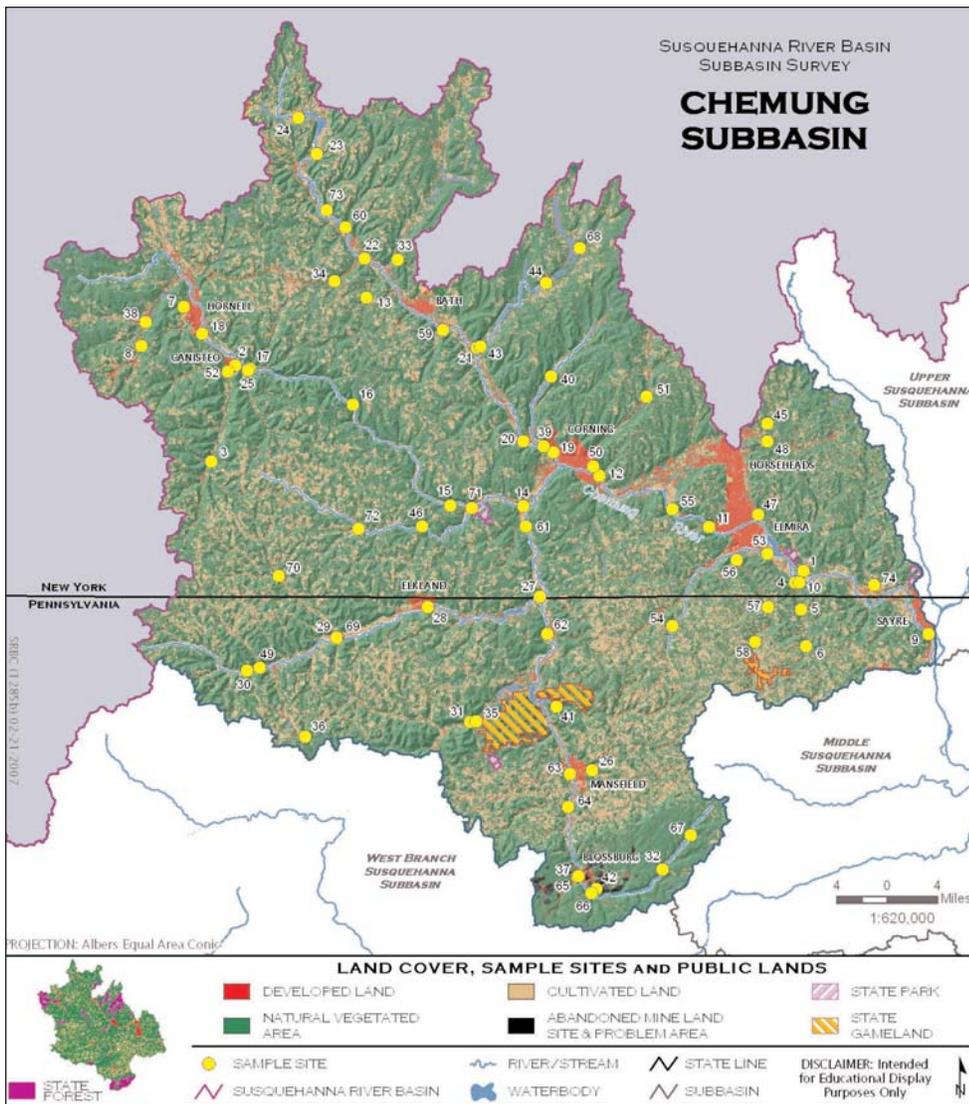


Figure 2. Ecoregions, Sample Sites, and Counties in the Chemung Subbasin.

and more information on the project can be found on SRBC's website at <http://www.srbc.net/programs/CBP/nutrientprogram.htm>.

SRBC also is working on developing an Early Warning System (EWS) program throughout the Susquehanna River Basin to protect public drinking water supplies. This program allows for early detection of spills or threats to public water supply and alerts water intake facilities. SRBC has implemented the EWS program in Pennsylvania and currently is working with Binghamton and Elmira, N.Y., water suppliers to create this same monitoring and communication network in New York State. SRBC has been gathering additional data on the water quality and travel times of the Chemung River for the EWS program in recent months. The data collected from the Chemung Subbasin Survey Year-1 and Year-2 studies will be used to establish the EWS network. More information on the EWS program is available on SRBC's website at [http://www.srbc.net/programs/docs/EWSGeneral\(2_07\).pdf](http://www.srbc.net/programs/docs/EWSGeneral(2_07).pdf).

Figure 3.
Land Cover, Sample Sites, and Public Lands in the Chemung Subbasin.



J. Zimmerman
(station names corresponding to sample site numbers on map are located in Appendix)

Organization Name	County	Contact	Address	Phone	Email or Website
Chemung Basin River Trail Partnership	All	Jennifer Fais, Co-Chair Linda Couchon, Co-Chair	STCRPDB 8 Denison Parkway East, Suite 310, Corning, New York 14830 (Jennifer) Cornell Extension of Chemung County (Linda)	(607) 962-5092 (Jennifer) (607) 734-4453 (Linda)	http://www.chemungrivertrail.com email: jfais@stny.rr.com (Jennifer) email: LWC4@cornell.edu (Linda)
Corey Creek Watershed Association	Tioga	Jim Hufnagle	18475 Route 6 Mansfield, PA 16933	(570) 662-3360	http://www.tiogacountypa.us/tioga/cwp/view.asp?A=928&Q=435165
Cowanesque Valley Watershed Association	Tioga	Karl Kroeck, President	RD 1 Box 990 Knoxville, PA 16928	(814) 326-4308	hrybear@pa.net
Crooked Creek Coalition	Tioga	Harland Hilborn, President	R.R. 2, Box 34 Wellsboro, PA 16901	(570) 724-8042	http://www.tiogacountypa.us/tioga/cwp/view.asp?A=928&Q=435165
Ellen Run Watershed Projects	Tioga	Chester Bailey	413 Valley Road Mansfield, PA 16933	(570) 662-3152	http://www.tiogacountypa.us/tioga/cwp/view.asp?A=928&Q=435165
Lake Demmon Association	Steuben	Michael Mooney, President	6074 Independence Way, Ontario, NY 14519	(315) 524-8029	http://www.lamokawaneta.com/
Lamoka Waneta Lakes Association	Schuyler/ Steuben	Gordon Shafer, President	P.O. Box 55, Tyrone, NY 14887	(607) 292-6276	http://www.lamokawaneta.com/
Loon Lake Association	Steuben	Helen Sick	2968 Laf-A-Lot Rd, Wayland, NY 14572	(585) 728-5108	helened@frontiernet.net
Loucks Pond Association	Steuben				
Meads Creek Watershed Association	Steuben	Pat Darcangelo	4575 Meads Creek Road, Painted Post, NY 14870	(607) 936-4703	Pdarcangelo@stny.rr.com website: http://www.tiogacountypa.us/tioga/cwp/view.asp?A=928&Q=435165
Mill Cove Inc	Tioga	Tom Freeman (Blue Ridge Cable) Charlie Fox	43 Academy Street, Mansfield, PA 16933 (Tom) RD 3 Box 445 Troy, PA 16947 (Charlie)	(570) 662-2935 (Tom) (570) 297-4642 (Charlie)	email: eef@epix.net (Charlie) website: http://www.ridgeburytownship.com/cwatershed.html email: rbury@npacc.net
Penn-York Bentley Creek Watershed Association	Chemung, Bradford	Wilber Brown, Chairman	13278 Berwick Turnpike, Gillett, PA 16925	(570) 596-2394	website: http://www.ridgeburytownship.com/cwatershed.html email: rbury@npacc.net
Smith Pond Sportsmen's Association	Steuben	Polly Nelson	8020 Smith Pond Road, Avoca, NY 14809	(607) 566-2870	maryderek@aol.com
Tanglewood Lake Association	Steuben	Mary Woollatt	47 Tanglewood Trail, Campbell, NY 14821	(607) 527-8630	website: http://tcccc-inc.org/ email: tcccc@tcccc-inc.org
Tioga County Concerned Citizens Committee	Tioga	Charles Andrews, President	P.O. Box 124 Blossburg, PA 16912		http://www.tiogacountypa.us/tioga/cwp/view.asp?A=928&Q=435165 mtnbooks@epix.net
Tioga River Watershed Reclamation Projects	Tioga	Victor Otruba, President	19 Richmond Dr. Mansfield, PA 16933	(570) 404-0548	http://www.tiogacountypa.us/tioga/cwp/view.asp?A=928&Q=435165 mtnbooks@epix.net
Town of Southport Drainage Committee	Chemung	Bill Baker, Chair	1139 Pennsylvania Avenue Southport, NY 14871	(607) 734-1548	http://www.townofsouthport.com/
Upper Susquehanna Coalition	All	James Curatolo, Coordinator	4729 State Route 414 Burdett, NY 14818	(607) 546-2528	http://www.u-s-c.org/html
Upper Susquehanna River Keeper	All	Paul Otruba	763 South Main Street Mansfield, PA 16933	(570) 404 0548	http://envirooneers.net/ mtnbooks@quik.com

Table 1. Contact Information for Watershed Organizations in the Chemung Subbasin