

River Characteristic: Sand Banks



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Description

Banks are the ground bordering a channel above the streambed and below the level of rooted vegetation that often has a gradient steeper than 45° and exhibits a distinct break in slope from the stream bottom; the portion of the channel cross section that restricts lateral movement of water during normal streamflow. Sand banks are predominantly composed of particles between 0.062 and 2 mm (0.00003-0.01 in) in diameter.

General Condition of Feature

No data available.

Associated Species of Greatest Conservation Need

In the literature examined for species habitat information, sand banks were not mentioned.

Associated Threats

- No data available

Conservation Actions Needed (Threats addressed)

- No data available

Research and Survey Needs

- Determine the species that require this habitat (e.g., amphibians and reptiles, snails, crayfish)
- Determine the importance, location, and conditions of sand banks in Lake Michigan watersheds
- Inventory the threats to sand banks
- Develop conservation actions to address the threats
- Develop a list research studies that need to be addressed
- Develop a list of monitoring studies that need to be addressed

Monitoring

- Riparian modification
- Sand and gravel mining
- Species that require sand bank habitat