

REGIONAL PLANNING NEWS

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2024 Review and Update Initiated

VISION 2050 is Southeastern Wisconsin's plan for the future. Through the plan, the Commission recommends a long-range vision for land use and transportation in the seven-county Southeastern Wisconsin Region. Included in the plan are recommendations to local and State government that shape and guide land use development and transportation improvement to the year 2050.



2024 REVIEW & UPDATE OF VISION 2050

The Commission has initiated the second interim review and update of VISION 2050! We expect to complete and adopt the update in mid-2024. The 2024 Review and Update will keep the plan current and address federal requirements. Follow the process for a review of: progress in implementing VISION 2050 recommendations, transportation system performance, year 2050 forecasts underlying the plan, and changes in recent years that impact the plan. This information is available now on the VISION 2050 website: www.vision2050sewis.org.

In the coming months, we will update analyses of funding for the recommended transportation system and how the recommended plan may impact disadvantaged populations in the Region. We will also review performance targets established for the plan and identify any necessary or desirable changes to the plan. We'll host a formal comment period and public meetings in early 2024, and continue to welcome your input throughout the 2024 Update process.



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Environmental Corridor Training Workshop

Preserving natural resources such as lakes, streams, woodlands, wetlands, and prairies is critical to our quality of life. Environmental corridors are linear areas in the landscape that contain concentrations of these significant natural resource features and are a fundamental component of planning at the municipal, watershed, and county levels. The Commission inventories the extent of these corridors across Southeastern Wisconsin and recommends that State, county, and local governments take steps to preserve and protect these areas. We also regularly conduct field inspections of environmental corridors and review corridor inspections conducted by external parties.

The Commission held an environmental corridor training workshop at the Retzer Nature Center on September 7th, 2023. There, we provided presentations on environmental corridors, including their history, applications, and how they are delineated, and led an afternoon field training on delineating corridors. Staff from Waukesha and Kenosha Counties, several Southeastern Wisconsin municipalities, and environmental consulting and restoration firms attended this workshop.

Joel Dietl, Chief Land Use Planner, discussed the history of environmental corridors in Southeastern Wisconsin from their original conception in 1906 to their current definition and applications. He also reviewed how environmental corridors are scored using size criteria, natural resources features, and special considerations. Christopher Jors, Principal Biologist, reviewed how to prepare for and conduct an environmental corridor delineation, including both desktop analysis and field methods. His presentation covered how to request a delineation, determining whether the site is within a sewer service area, reviewing current and previous delineations, and evaluating site characteristics. Recordings of these presentations can be found at the following links: Joel Dietl (youtu.be/V9iyEoUDYvQ) and Christopher Jors (youtu.be/27OkV75a0kM).

Read more about environmental corridors on our website at www.sewrpc.org/envcorridors.



September 7, 2023 Commission-Hosted Workshop at Retzer Nature Center



Regional Chloride Impact Study Update

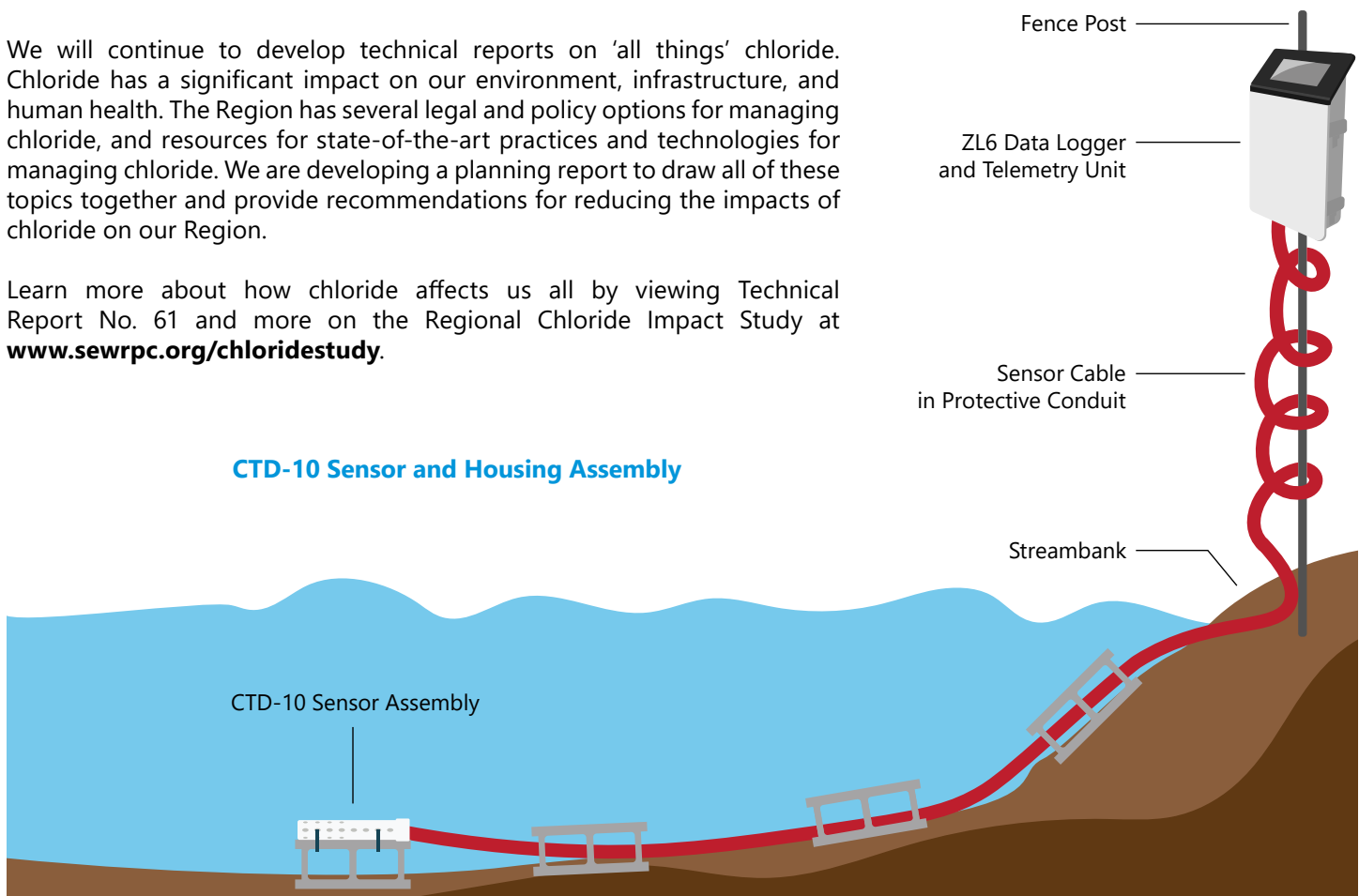
We are excited to announce our completion of Technical Report No. 61, *Field Monitoring and Data Collection for the Chloride Impact Study*. This is the first in a series of seven technical reports that will document the findings of research conducted as part of the Regional Chloride Impact Study.

To conduct a comprehensive assessment of current chloride conditions and trends in the water resources of Southeastern Wisconsin, we supplemented existing water quality data collected by other agencies. Technical Report No. 61 describes the methods and procedures used for the collection of water quality data and includes:

- The approaches used to select stream and lake water quality monitoring sites throughout the Region
- Characterization of the areas draining to the water quality monitoring sites
- A description of the equipment used for continuous water quality monitoring and processes used for installation and maintenance
- A description of the equipment and methods used for collecting water quality grab samples at stream and lake monitoring sites
- Procedures used to assure that the Study produced high quality data

We will continue to develop technical reports on 'all things' chloride. Chloride has a significant impact on our environment, infrastructure, and human health. The Region has several legal and policy options for managing chloride, and resources for state-of-the-art practices and technologies for managing chloride. We are developing a planning report to draw all of these topics together and provide recommendations for reducing the impacts of chloride on our Region.

Learn more about how chloride affects us all by viewing Technical Report No. 61 and more on the Regional Chloride Impact Study at www.sewrpc.org/chloridestudy.



Source: SEWRPC, 9/2023

New Interactive Web Mapping Application

The Commission is excited to introduce its new and improved Interactive Web Mapping Application. This application allows access to the Commission's regionwide Land Use, Environmental Corridors, Wetlands, and Orthoimagery inventories as well as NRCS Soils data. The easy-to-use web mapping format allows you to:

- View Commission map layers with a variety of base maps
- Zoom in and out and pan to areas of interest
- Search for locations by address or place name
- Display historical mapping data dating back to 1963
- View additional information about specific map features
- Measure the length and area of map features

Using this interactive tool, our goal is to offer valuable resources that empower researchers, planners, and the community to make well-informed decisions.

Explore the Commission's new Interactive Mapping Application at www.sewrpc.org/regionalmapping.

