



RIVANNA RIVER STEWARD REPORT

River Stewards: Dan Triman Date: 08-26-18

Starting Location and Time: Rio Mills Rd Below the Dam (9:45 AM)

Ending Location and Time: Free Bridge (1:15 PM)

Weather: Some Clouds Recent Precipitation: No rain past few days

USGS Gauges: Earlysville 2.08 ft (131 cfs), Palmyra 3.25 ft (450 cfs)

Water Color: Clear Water Odor: None Air Temp: 75° F

DO: 6 ppm PH: 7 Turbidity: 0 JTU Water Temp: 26° C

Water Testing Location: 38°02.0'N 78°27.6'W RRC Boat Dock River Right

Land Use:

Starts at 29 corridor as commercial use, then residential use along Polo Grounds Rd, next is open space, and then Penn Park & Darden Towe Park.

Wildlife Sightings and Plant Life:

Turtles, Smaller Fish, 1 Eagle, Geese, 3 Osprey, 2 Kingfishers, 1 Blue Heron, 1 River Otter, Crow. Many downed trees still, but none were major safety concerns, as the majority of them were off to the side or just hanging out into the river. Some underwater vegetation growing near the 29 bridge, and a dense patch of bamboo just below Darden Towe Park at river right. A few brightly colored flowering plants also along the banks.

People Interactions:

I was joined on the paddle today by Willy Kjellstrom and Chris Stanek from Albemarle County Public Schools, whom I have been working with on education programs related to their students building and deploying stream and river sensors for the Rivanna Watershed. Rivanna River Company provided us with the kayaks and shuttle for today's paddle. There were numerous people out in the river today fishing, kayaking, canoeing, swimming, or tubing. Several people on the trails along the river as well, and several dogs cooling off in the river.



Litter and Pollution:

Collected 1 large bag of smaller trash, a tire, an inflatable raft, 2 soccer balls, and a kayak paddle today from the river. There were several larger objects found as well, including tires, lawn furniture, 2 recycling bin lids, a large sheet metal object, a large metal object buried in one of the beaches at Darden Towe, a long pipe, broken pieces of concrete, and the same railroad bridge debris mentioned in previous reports.

Overall Summary:

We lucked out with the weather and water levels today that made for a great paddle. The water was as clear as I have seen it in months, and there was a lot of great wildlife out today. Good to see so many people out enjoying the Rivanna River in various ways. There are still a lot of debris piles, downed trees, and eroded banks due to recent floods. We ended the paddle at the Rivanna River Company boat dock.

Actions Needed – level of priority (1 highest/5 lowest):

3 – Remove larger items (railroad scrap, sheet metal, buried metal object at Darden beach, furniture, pipe, concrete)



Figure 1: View of the Dam with Osprey flying overhead



Figure 2: Large foam piece of trash along the bank



Figure 3: Pile of broken concrete pieces



Figure 4: Long pipe laying along the bank



Figure 5: Boy fishing with a kayak



Figure 6: Turtles sunning on the bank



Figure 7: Example of eroded bank



Figure 8: 2 men in a canoe fishing



Figure 9: View of the Confluence of North and South Forks



Figure 10: One of the larger trees down in the river



Figure 11: Willy with the tire we removed from the river



Figure 12: Geese enjoying the water



Figure 13: Group of paddlers and tubers



Figure 14: Green Heron sitting on a log



Figure 15: Chris enjoying a beautiful day on the river



Figure 16: Trash removed from the river today