

2.5 Floodplains

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps¹⁵ for Cook and DuPage counties show 673 acres of 100-year floodplain (including Zone A floodplain) proximate to the project improvements. Table 2-18 lists watersheds containing 100-year floodplain near the proposed improvements. Some waterways have regulatory floodways.¹⁶ Exhibit 2-9 shows the 100-year floodplain from the FEMA rate maps.

TABLE 2-18
Summary of Floodplain Areas Located near Proposed Improvements

Watershed	Floodplain (acres)	Contributing Floodplains
Addison Creek	96	Addison Creek and Addison Creek Tributary 2.
Des Plaines River	215	Bensenville Ditch, Crystal Creek, Crystal Creek Tributary, Industrial Tributary, Motel Tributary, Sexton Ditch, and Silver Creek.
Salt Creek	192	Devon Avenue Tributary, Meacham Creek, and Salt Creek.
West Branch DuPage River	16	West Branch DuPage River.
Willow Creek	154	Higgins Creek, Higgins Creek Tributaries A and B, Willow Creek, Willow Creek South Tributary, and Willow Creek North Tributary.

Sources: CBBEL, 2006; FEMA, 2004a; FEMA, 2008a.

¹⁵ The FEMA FIRMs used for the portions of the proposed study area located in Cook County became effective on August 19, 2008 while the FIRMs for DuPage County were effective December 16, 2004. The floodplain of the Willow Creek North Tributary and Willow Creek South Tributary were refined based on the *DuPage County Countywide Stormwater and Flood Plain Ordinance Stormwater Management Report for the Willow Creek Tributaries Improvements, Bensenville, DuPage County, Illinois* (CBBEL, 2006).

¹⁶ The floodway is defined as the channel of a waterway and its adjacent land areas that must be preserved to discharge the base flood (the 100-year flood) without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than a designated height.