Illinois River Watershed Geospatial Information System: Illinois River Watershed Partnership Announces Availability

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The Illinois River Watershed Partnership ("IRWP") has announced the release of a Geospatial Information System ("GIS") to:

…help partners prioritize where to make investments.

IRWP notes:

…Deciding where to focus work to improve water quality is complex.

A GIS might be defined as an information system that allows for digital representation of spatial data. Users are allowed to access and interact with data in an interactive and clickable web-based mapping environment.

The IRWP states that the GIS portal will allow the public to directly access interactive maps and data sets that often live in technical reports and file archives. Users may:

- Explore streamflow gages, water quality monitoring stations, wetlands, and land use changes across Arkansas and Oklahoma portions of the watershed by selecting Water Quality.
- See where existing recreational access and assets are located on the Illinois River and its tributaries in Arkansas and Oklahoma by selecting Recreation.
- Overlay areas of ecological significance, prioritize subwatersheds for non-point source nutrient reduction projects, and identify open space priorities for planning purposes by selecting Priority Subwatersheds.

The IRWP describes itself as a non-profit that works to improve the integrity of the Illinois River Watershed through public education, outreach, and implementation of conservation and restoration practices throughout the watershed.

A link to the IRWP newsletter announcing the GIS portal can be found here.