Panhandle Sedimentation Study

Background

The Yellow River is one of 3 large rivers that flows into Pensacola Bay. Sedimentation that occurs within this watershed can be caused by urbanization, agriculture and silviculture, road construction, channelization, removal of riparian vegetation, unpaved road crossings, improper culverts, and poor vegetation buffers. The effects of sedimentation can be far reaching and include loss of habitat quality and heterogeneity, bank, stream, and road destabilization and erosion, and alteration of stream flow patterns, among others.

Yellow River Watershed Impacts

The *Inventory and Prioritization of Impaired Sites in the Yellow River Watershed in Alabama and Florida* prepared by Steven J. Herrington, Kasie Collins, and MaryAnn Siple for The Nature Conservancy identified areas contributing to habitat degradation and impairment in the Yellow River basin. The assessment of the Yellow River watershed identified 140 impaired river corridor sites, and moderate or high degrees of sedimentation risk at 339 unpaved road crossings.

The assessment was used to develop a prioritized basin restoration plan for federal, state, and local agencies for implementing conservation efforts in the basin.

Sedimentation Application

The Sedimentation application presents the results of the *Inventory and Prioritization of Impaired Sites in the Yellow River Watershed in Alabama and Florida*, which spatially represents the impacts of sedimentation within the Yellow River basin. The data can be examined in context with other relevant data layers and base maps.