1. **Problems that reflect the concerns on which the group has chosen to focus.**

**Problems** can be thought of as a condition that exists because of the concerns. In a figure, show the concerns and the problems related to them. One problem can relate to several similar concerns. Some concerns may already be phrased as a problem and in these instances may be copied verbatim in the ‘Problem’ column of your figure (see example).

*Example:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Concern(s)** | **Problem** |
| -Erosion control practices don’t appear to be used properly  -Livestock have access to streams at multiple points | Area streams are very cloudy and turbid |
| -The public doesn’t know who to contact about watershed related concerns  -Several different groups and agencies are giving conflicting information about the streams and rivers | A unified group for the entire watershed does not currently exist |
| -Livestock have access to streams at multiple points  -CSOs discharge with every .5 inch rain  - Some farms lack manure management BMPs  -The public lacks education about fertilizer use | Area streams have nutrient levels exceeding the target set by this project |
| -CSOs discharge with every .5 inch rain  -Water contact is unhealthy  -Some farms lack manure management BMPs | Area streams are impaired for recreational contact by IDEM’s 303(d) list (high E. coli) |
| -Watershed restoration is underfunded | Watershed restoration is underfunded |

1. **The potential cause(s) for each identified problem.**

Include a figure showing the problems and their relationship to the potential **causes**. Causes of water quality problems must be defined as a specific pollutant parameter, but secondary causes may also be identified. It is appropriate that some problems and causes will be identical.

*Consider the underlying cause(s) for the problems identified. Causes may include specific pollutants, social behaviors, etc. If you cannot identify a problem’s potential cause, it may be that your problem is too broad, and you should try to narrow it.*

*Example:*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Problem** | **Potential Cause(s)** |
| Area streams are very cloudy and turbid | - Suspended Sediment Concentration (SSC) levels exceed the target set by this project |
| A unified group for the entire watershed does not exist | -Lack of public awareness of watershed issues  -Lack of unified government strategy about watershed management |
| Area streams have nutrient levels exceeding the target set by this project | - Nutrient levels exceed the target set by this project  -Targeted nutrient reduction education does not exist |
| Areas streams are impaired by IDEM for recreational contact | -E.coli levels exceed the water quality standard |
| Watershed restoration is underfunded | -No effort to educate local officials, foundations, and other funding sources on the importance of watershed protection |