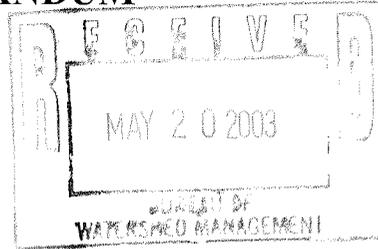


CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM



DATE: May 16, 2003

TO: Pat Oldenburg - WCR

FROM: Cindy Koperski - La Crosse

SUBJECT: Stream Classification for Ocean Spray Cranberries - Tomah, WI WPDES #0056057

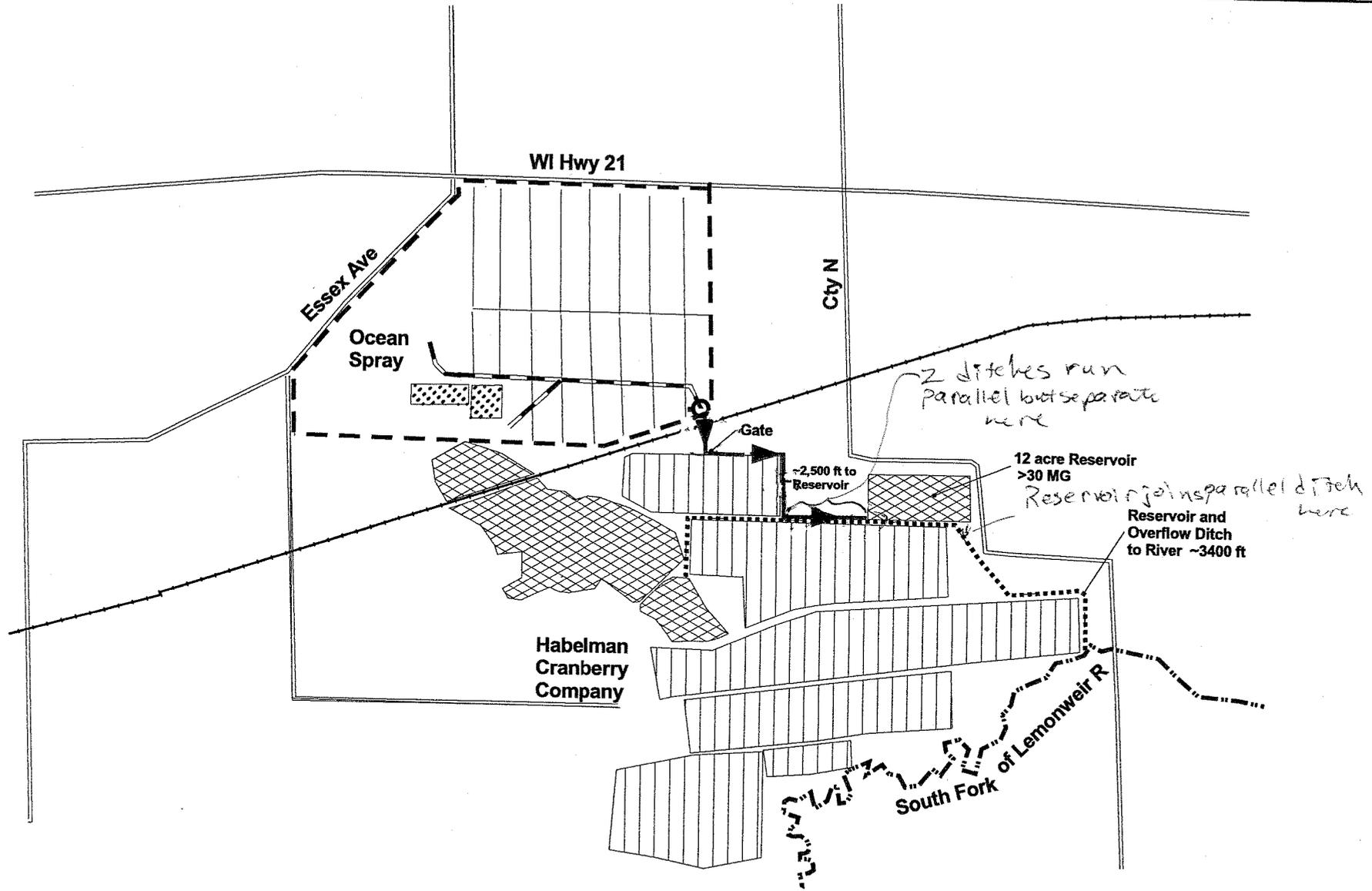
I visited the Ocean Spray Cranberries facility on May 6, 2003. Present at the site visit was James Peterson of Ocean Spray, Peter Huettl of Applied Science, Inc, and Ray J. Habelman, the neighboring property owner. Ocean Spray Cranberries is proposing to discharge spray irrigation drain field effluent into a concrete box on the Ocean Spray property on the north side of the railroad tracks in T18N R1E S19 SWNE. This box is connected to a culvert that extends under the railroad tracks to a ditch on the neighboring property currently owned by Habelman Brothers Company (see attached map). Presently the concrete box receives flow from tile lines originating on neighboring properties to the north and east. The receiving ditch on Habelman's property currently contains 100% tile line drainage. The flow in this ditch will be augmented with the Ocean Spray Cranberries irrigation drain field effluent once the tile drains are installed.

The receiving ditch on Habelman's property begins on the south side of the railroad tracks and travels south for 350 feet then under a road. It then turns east and travels for 570 feet then under a road, and then it turns south again and travels for 350 feet. Finally the ditch turns east and travels for 640 feet before it reaches a 12 acre reservoir used by the Habelman's for frost protection of their cranberry beds. With the exception of the culvert under the railroad bed, each culvert contains flow regulating apparatus, including where the ditch enters the reservoir. With the exception of the first 350 feet between the railroad tracks culvert and the first road culvert, the ditch has stable, vegetated banks that are on average 3 feet in height. Approximately one inch of rain fell on the area the previous day. Mr. Huettl described the flow in the concrete box as higher than normal because of the recent rain. Mr. Habelman concurred that the flow in the ditch was higher than normal on the day of my visit. The water level in the ditch was no more than an inch or two deep for the majority of its length and downstream movement of flow was apparent. The 350 foot section of ditch immediately downstream of the railroad tracks exhibited signs of iron bacteria (see photos 1 and 2). Some deeper areas (no more than 12 inches) were observed in the ditch. The substrate consisted of sand with some filamentous algae present.

From the bank, I observed forage fish in the 12 acre reservoir. Discharge from the reservoir meets another ditch on the Habelman property, which eventually reaches the South Fork of the Lemonweir River downstream. On the day of my visit, the reservoir was not discharging to the downstream ditch. I did not assess the aquatic life use below the reservoir.

Since the general area of this facility has been drastically altered from it's original natural state, I searched out aerial photos to determine if the receiving ditch was at one time a natural stream. Review of photos from 1939, 1950, 1957, 1978, 1994, and 2001 did not conclusively determine the existence of a defined bed and bank in the area of the existing 2,000 foot long ditch. Therefore, the ditch that begins on the south side of the railroad tracks in T18N R1E S19 NWSE extending to the 12 acre reservoir shall be classified as an effluent channel. From the reservoir downstream, default fish and aquatic life should be assumed.

Cc Pete Pfefferkorn-Wisconsin Rapids
Paul La Liberte-WCR
Laura Bub-WT/2
Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc.



- Main Drainage
- Travel Lanes
- Creek
- Drainage Way
- Reservoir
- Manhole Station and Valve

- Cranberry Beds
- Field Border
- Road
- Rail Road
- Tile Line

Yellow Highlight - Effluent Ditch w/ Arrows



Applied Science, Inc.		SITE LOCATION MAP		
		OCEAN SPRAY CRANBERRIES TOMAH, WISCONSIN		
DRAWN	CHECKED	APPROVED	DATE	DRAWING NUMBER
RCW	PJH	RCW	4/6/03	C02103-01r1

FIGURE
1

Photo 1. Standing on railroad tracks culvert looking south (first 350' of effluent ditch). May 6, 2003



Photo 2. Standing on railroad track culvert looking down where water enters ditch. May 6, 2003

