Stream Classification Report



PINE CREEK TRIBUTARIES

WBIC: 5016902; 5016903; 5016871
Pierce County
Category 4 Trout Fishing Regulation
Class I Trout Stream





STREAM DESCRIPTION FOR UNNAMED CREEK 23-13C (WBIC 5016902):

Length: 389m (0.24 miles) Mean Stream Width: 1.63m Stream Character: Cold water

Stream Order: 1

Ecoregion: Driftless Area

STREAM DESCRIPTION FOR UNNAMED CREEK 23-13D (WBIC 5016871):

Length: 441m (0.27 miles) Mean Stream Width: 2.89m Stream Character: Cold water

Stream Order: 1

Ecoregion: Driftless Area

STREAM DESCRIPTION FOR UNNAMED CREEK 24-11 (WBIC 5016903):

Length: 304m (0.19 miles) Mean Stream Width: 2.56m Stream Character: Cold water

Stream Order: 1

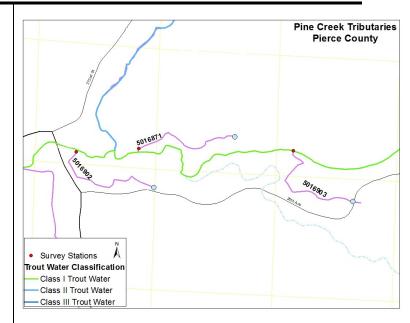
Ecoregion: Driftless Area

STOCKING RECORDS:

Pine Creek and its tributaries are not stocked.

PINE CREEK is a small, spring-fed stream that originates from a series of large springs in southern Pierce County a short distance upstream of Lake Pepin. Pine Creek consists of 2.6 miles of Class I trout stream. However, the tributary springs were never classified as trout water. The watershed consists primarily of wetlands while the majority of Lake Pepin's sub-watersheds lie in heavily forested coulees. Habitat restoration was conducted on more than a mile of Pine Creek and its tributaries between the summers of 2007, 2008, and 2009. 170 feet on unnamed Creek 23-13C and 850 feet on unnamed Creek 23-13 D were improved during late summer of 2008. Lunker structures, boulders, and rootwads were placed in the stream to improve fish cover. The eroded stream bank was sloped and rip-rapped. Riffle and run complexes were stabilized and enhanced to increase the overall aerated spawning areas for trout.

Brown trout were removed from the streams over the summers of 2007 and 2008. The brown trout population in the unnamed tributaries is relatively small as a result and unlikely to have a significant effect on brook trout numbers at this time.



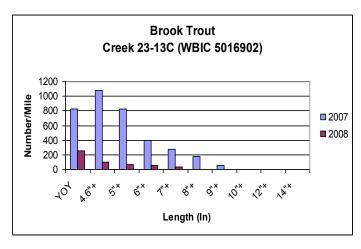


Figure 1. Length distribution of brook trout in Creek 23-13C in 2007 and 2008.

FISHERY:

Brook trout remain the predominate species in Pine Creek and its tributaries, which consist of naturally reproducing fish. In 2007 and 2008, reproduction appeared to be strong in all three unnamed creeks (Figures 1-3). Multiple year classes of fish were also present in these streams. Brook trout over 10 inches were absent from all tributaries in both years. These streams are considered nursery streams.

FUTURE MANAGEMENT:

Pine Creek is classified as a Class I trout stream. Brook trout reproduction and adult densities in all three unnamed tributaries supports Class I designation, therefore it is recommended that Creek 23-13C, Creek 23-13D, and Creek 24-11 be classified as Class I trout water.

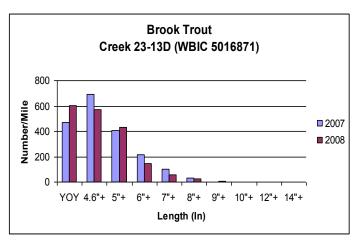


Figure 2. Length distribution of brook trout in Creek 23-13D in 2007 and 2008.

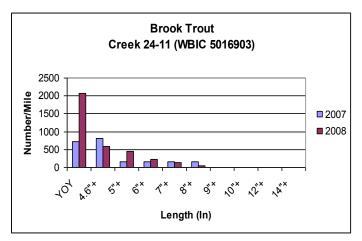


Figure 3. Length distribution of brook trout in Creek 24-11 in 2007 and 2008.

Table 1. Abundance of brook trout (number per mile) in three Pine Creek tributaries in 2007.

Stream	Cr. 23-13D	Cr. 23-13C	Cr. 24-11
YOY	468	826	710
4.6"+	690	1084	815
5"+	409	826	160
6"+	213	396	160
7"+	102	275	160
8"+	34	172	160
9"+	0	52	0
10"+	0	0	0
12"+	0	0	0

Table 2. Abundance of brook trout (number per mile) in three Pine Creek tributaries in 2008.

Stream	Cr. 23- 13D	Cr. 23-13C	Cr. 24-11
YOY	605	258	2080
4.6"+	571	103	585
5"+	434	69	450
6"+	145	52	220
7"+	60	34	135
8"+	26	0	45
9"+	9	0	10
10"+	0	0	0
12"+	0	0	0

For more information on Pine Creek, you can contact the following persons:

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