

Region WCK County Clare Date 9/14/89 Classification LAL

Water Body: East Fork Popple River, wetland trib

Discharger: Curtiss POTW

If classified as Limited Forage Fish (LFF) or Limited Aquatic Life (LAL), check any of the following Use Attainability Analysis factors that apply:

☐ Naturally occurring pollutant concentrations prevent the attainment of use

☒ Natural, ephemeral, intermittent or low flow conditions or water levels prevent the attainment of the use, unless these conditions may be compensated for by the discharge of sufficient volume of effluent discharges without violating State water conservation requirements to enable uses to be met

☐ Human caused conditions or sources of pollution prevent the attainment of the use and cannot be remedied or would cause more environmental damage to correct than to leave in place

☐ Dams, diversions or other types of hydrologic modifications preclude the attainment of the use, and it is not feasible to restore the water body to its original condition or operate such modification in a way that would result in the attainment of the use

☐ Physical conditions related to the natural features of the water body, such as the lack of a proper substrate, cover, flow, depth, pools, riffles, and the like, unrelated to water quality, preclude attainment of aquatic life protection uses

☐ Controls more stringent than those required by sections 301(b) and 306 of the Act would result in substantial and widespread economic and social impact

Supporting Evidence included

☐ Biological Data (fish/invert)

☐ Chemical Data (temp, D.O., etc.)

☐ Physical Data (flow, depth, etc.)

☐ Habitat Description

☒ Site Description/Map

☐ Other:

- low flow?

Comments:

- wetland trib = LAL (default)

- it looks like low flow is main reason for LAL class'n. Are there other factors?

- check w/ Region on this class'n.

9/14/89 - Paul LaLiberte

9/11/89 - Linda Talbot

9/11/89 - Tom Mee et al

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Date: September 14, 1989

File Ref: 3200

To: Duane Schuettelpelz - WR/2

From: Paul LaLiberte *Paul*

Subject: Water Quality Standards Review for Curtiss POTW

The Village of Curtiss POTW discharges to a wetland tributary to the East Fork Popple River in Clark County. Since the last water quality standards review in 1985, the POTW has experienced substantial increases in influent flow and has increased the duration of discharges from their fill and draw operation. The increased flow came as a result of expansion at a contributing industry, Abbeland Processing. The POTW is completing facility planning to address effluent limit violations. The current flow (.021 mgd) is close to the new design flow (.029 mgd). Since the discharge rate is controlled by effluent pumps, it will remain the same while the duration of discharges could conceivably increase an additional 28 percent over what it is now.

In 1985, it was determined that there is no hydrologic connection between the POTW and the East Fork Popple River. A farm road just north of Hwy. 29 effectively blocks flow under low flow conditions. I talked with Fred Schindler, owner of the property, on 9/12/89. He has not noticed any changes in flow regime over the last few years. During normal, low flow conditions, there is little or no flow through the culverts in the farm road.

It is therefore recommended that the classification of the receiving water for the Curtiss POTW remain unchanged. Continued application of effluent limitations for a marginal (use class E) classification, NR 104.02(3)(b), Wisconsin Administrative Code, is recommended for the expanded discharge to .029 mgd. Since no effect on downstream water bodies is anticipated, no further evaluation to meet the provisions of NR 207, Wisconsin Administrative Code, should be needed.

c: M. Blodgett
WR/PL025.sz

Review of the Classification of and Standards
for a Drainage Area Tributary to East Fork
Popple River, Clark County, Black River Basin
(Curtiss Wastewater Stabilization Ponds)

Evaluation Date: September 11, 1985

By Linda Talbot

A drainage area tributary to East Fork Popple River (Sec. 32, T29N, R1E) was evaluated and classified to determine if the wetland variance classification in NR 104, Wisconsin Administrative Code is correct. The Curtiss wastewater stabilization ponds discharge to the upper portion of a willow (Salix sp.)/alder (Alnus rugosa) wetland (SENW, Sec. 32, T29N, R1E) (Figure 1). The Wisconsin Wetlands Inventory classified most of the area as a scrub/shrub, broad-leaved deciduous, wet soil (S3K). The rest of the wetland area is classified as emergent/wet meadow, vegetation persistent year to year, wet soil (E1K); forested, broad-leaved deciduous, wet soil (T3K); emergent/wet meadow, vegetation persistent, standing water (E1H); and open water, unknown substrate, standing water (W0H) (Figure 2).

Field investigation of the review involved ground truthing by walking through the area. The entire wetland covers about 200 acres and has a watershed of about 600 acres. Approximately 60% of the watershed is cropland, 30% wooded and 10% open pasture.

Water appeared to be standing in the wetland. No flow was obvious until a number of small channels breached an old railroad grade about 500 feet southeast of the stabilization ponds. Waters south of the grade again diffused through the wetland for approximately 1/4 mile to a point 500 feet north of state highway 29. There an earthen farm road is largely a barrier to flow and has caused the formation of a large pond. An old culvert at the east end of the ponded area allows water passage during high water conditions. There is seepage through the rest of the road. Flow beyond the earthen farm road is an intermittent channel for approximately 1.5 miles based upon the adjacent landowner report, the previous stream classification (1975), and the USGS topographic map.

The earthen farm road also serves as a barrier to upstream/downstream fish movement. The adjacent landowner reported the presence of bullheads in the pond. Minnows were observed in the flowing water/riffles at the railroad grade. Filamentous iron bacteria were present along the railroad grade.

The wetland vegetation was predominantly willows (Salix sp.), followed by alder (Alnus rugosa) and lowland softwoods. Cattails (Typha), canary grass (Phalaris) and thick mats of duckweed (Lemna) covered the more open wet areas.

Due to the expanse of the wetland receiving the Curtiss WWSP effluent, the low total volume of the discharge, and the earthen farm road preventing water passage, the WWSP influence on the reach downstream from the farm road is judged to be negligible.

Linda Talbot - October 8, 1985

JAN 23 1986

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Recommendations:

The classification of the drainage area tributary to the East Fork Popple River should remain as a wetland capable of supporting marginal aquatic life (use class E). Effluent limits should conform to NR 104.02 (3)(b), Wisconsin Administrative Code.

cc: Jon Bugenhagen

→ Duane Schuettpelz WRM-2

Darrell Solberg

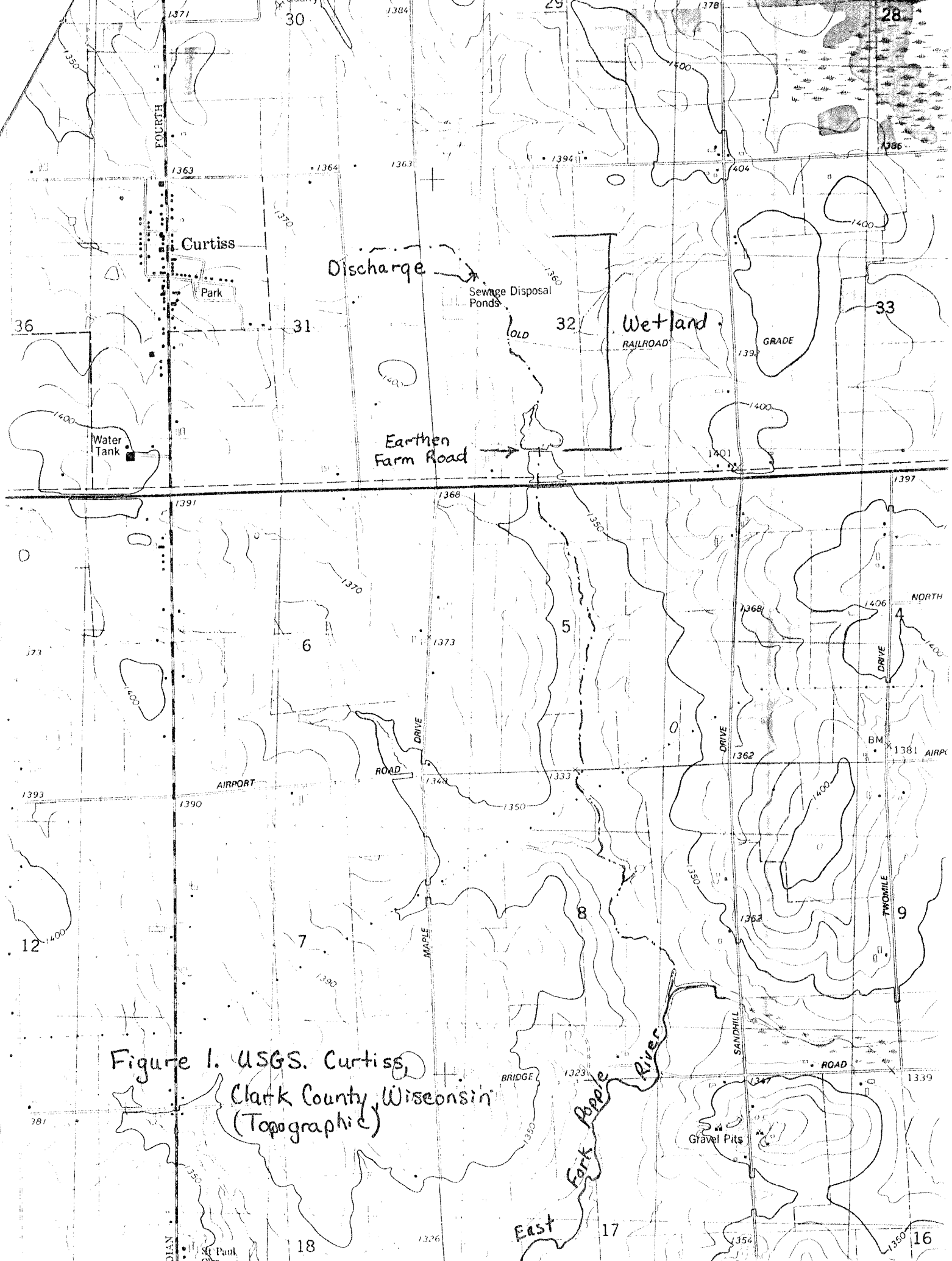


Figure 1. USGS. Curtiss,
Clark County, Wisconsin
(Topographic)

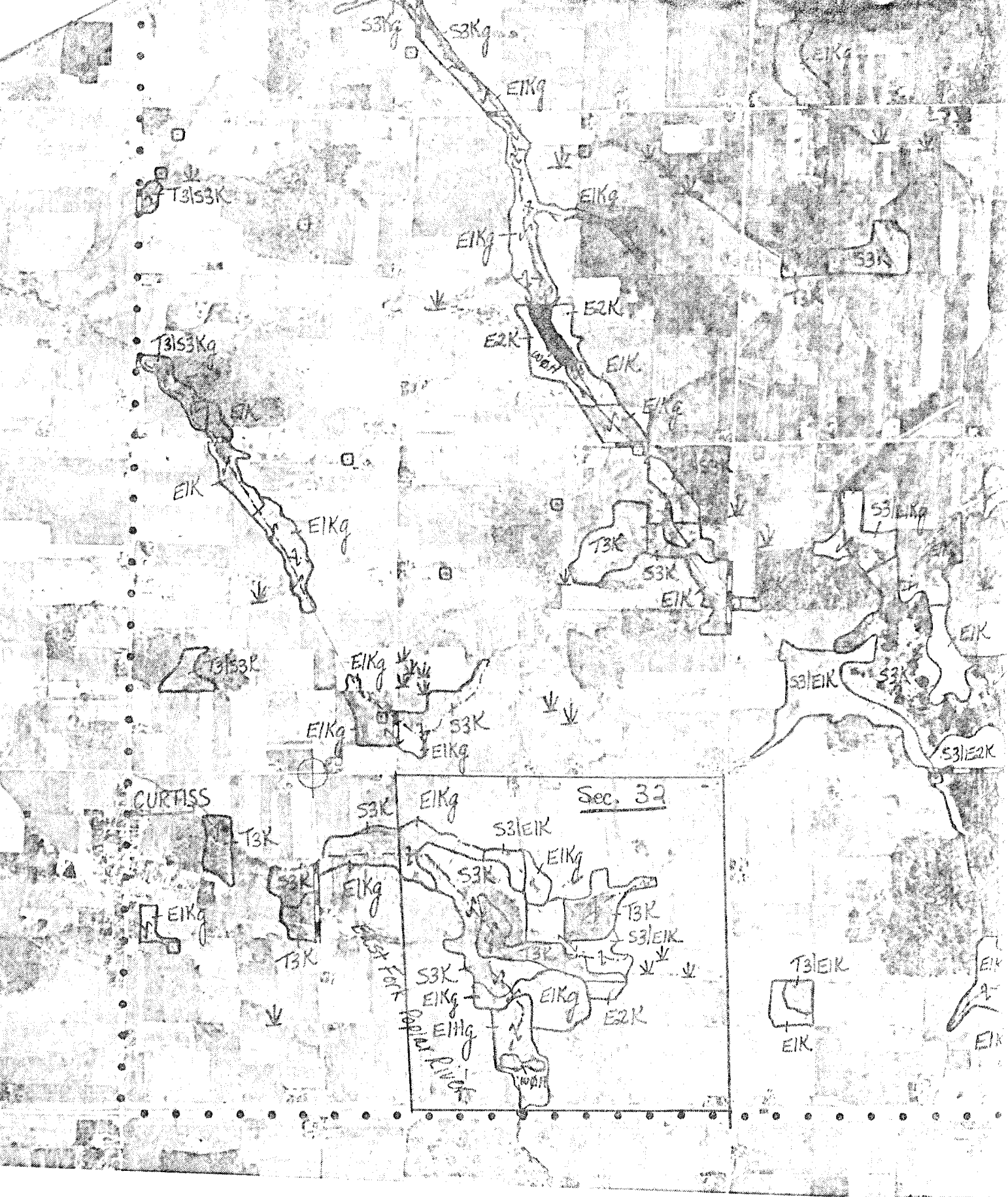


Figure 2. Wisconsin Wetlands Inventory

CURTISS, CLARK COUNTY

WASTEWATER RECEIVING STREAM CLASSIFICATION

Receiving stream - Drainage area tributary to East Fork Poplar River.

Discharge from the Curtiss WWSP will be to a tag alder swamp. Standing water is present in the swamp with no observable flow until a railroad grade crossing 300 feet to the south. Wetland continues to a point 500 feet north of STH 29. From this point to 500 feet south of STH 29 agricultural pastured hammocks exist.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The tag alder swamp receiving the Curtiss WWSP discharge shall be classified a wetland. The tributary 500 feet north and 500 feet south of STH 29 is noncontinuous, marginal surface water. Noncontinuous intermediate aquatic life shall be the classification for the next 1.5 miles into section 8, T28N, R1E.

EVALUATION DATE: November 4, 1975

RE-EVALUATION DATE: October 11, 1976

PERSONNEL:

Terry A. Moe - Water Pollution Biologist - WCD (11/4/75 and 10/11/76)
Stuart Durkee - Environmental Engineer - WCD (11/4/75)
Alan Lulloff - District Engineer - WCD (10/11/76)

