

HURLEY, IRON COUNTY

Wastewater Receiving Stream Classification

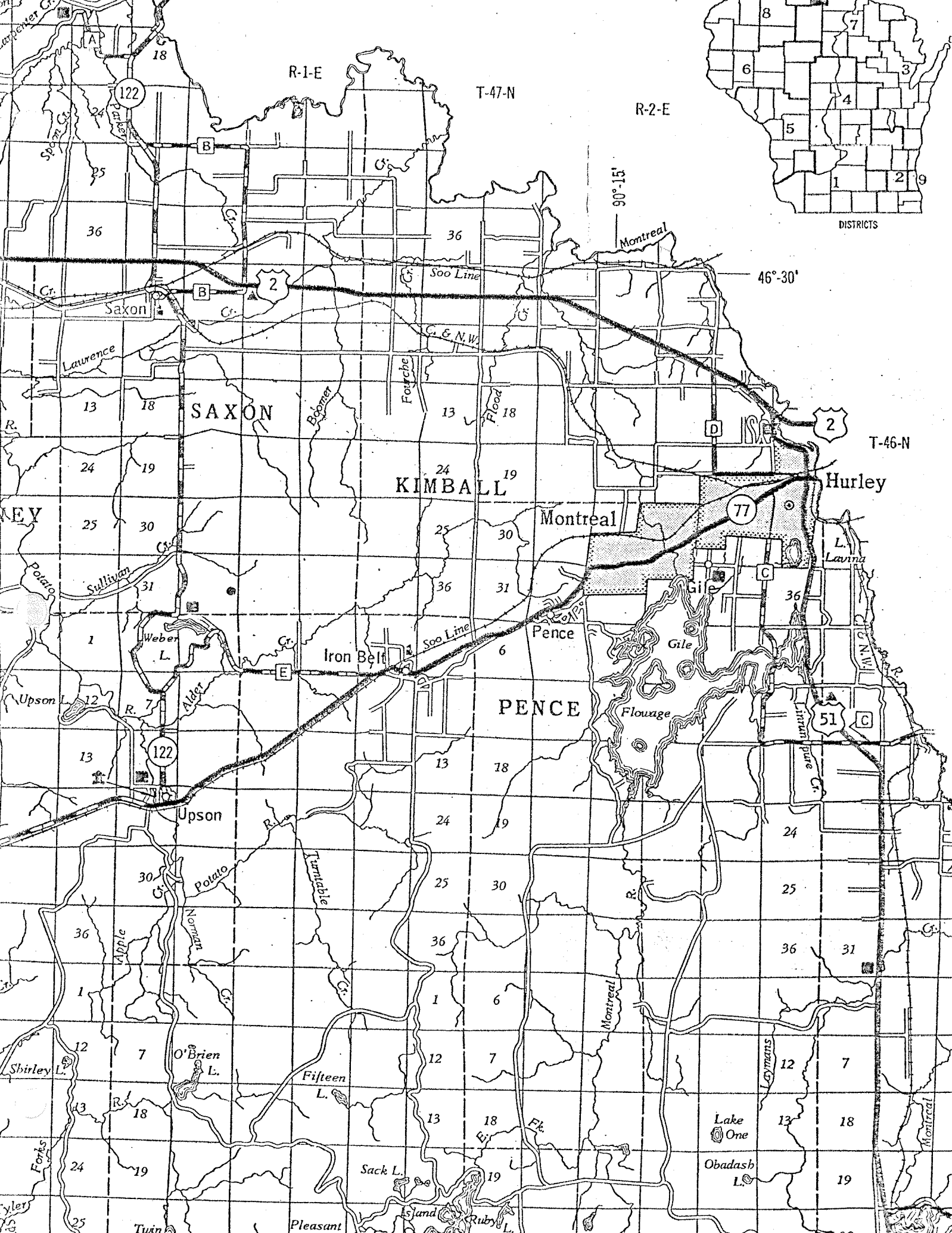
The City of Hurley discharges treated wastewater to the East Fork, Montreal River. This river, which forms the Wisconsin-Michigan border for some distance of its length, has a projected $7Q_{10}$ of 2.2 cfs near the Hurley sewage treatment plant. An actual measurement during August, 1975 revealed an extreme low flow of approximately 1.9 cfs.

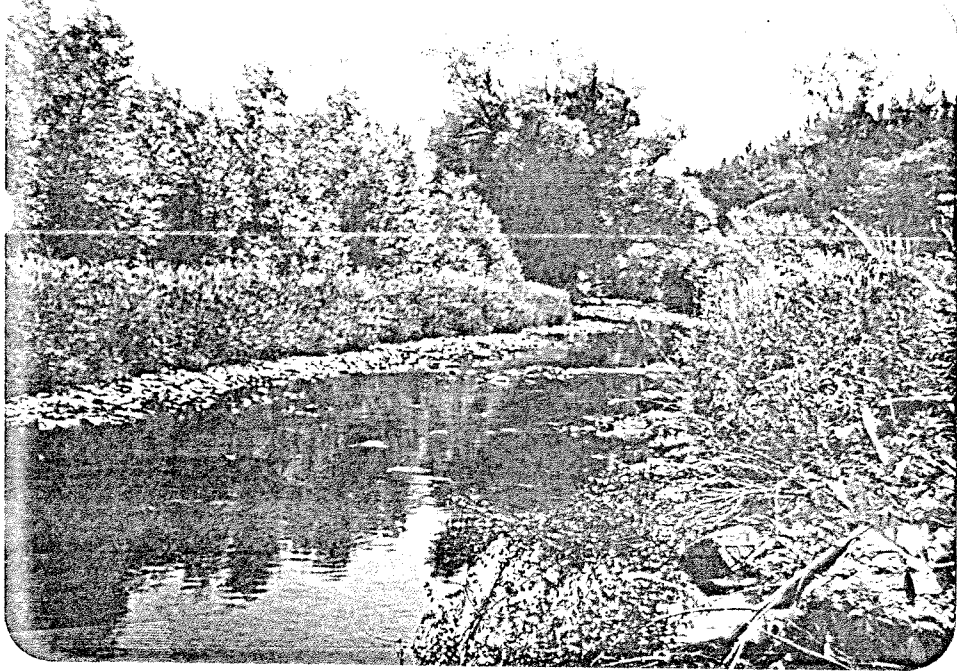
From Pine Lake north to the Silver Street Bridge in Hurley-Ironwood, the East Fork, Montreal River is considered Class II trout water. Below Silver Street downstream to the junction with the West Fork, the stream is considered a Class III trout stream. The extreme fluctuations of flow in this river create an environmental hazard to the resident fish population. In addition, certain sections are subjected to high water temperatures near the upper tolerance limits for trout. However, a fish management investigation in 1973 revealed a brown trout population in the area upstream from the Silver Street Bridge. This population included trout planted during 1973 as well as a significant number of natural or carryover trout.

A short distance downstream from Hurley the Ironwood, Michigan sewage treatment plant also discharges treated wastewater to the East Fork, Montreal River. A low flow waste assimilation study conducted during August, 1975 revealed severe dissolved oxygen depletions occurring below Hurley and again below Ironwood. Approximately one-half mile below Hurley-Ironwood the river enters a high gradient waterfall section and recovery starts.

Recommendation:

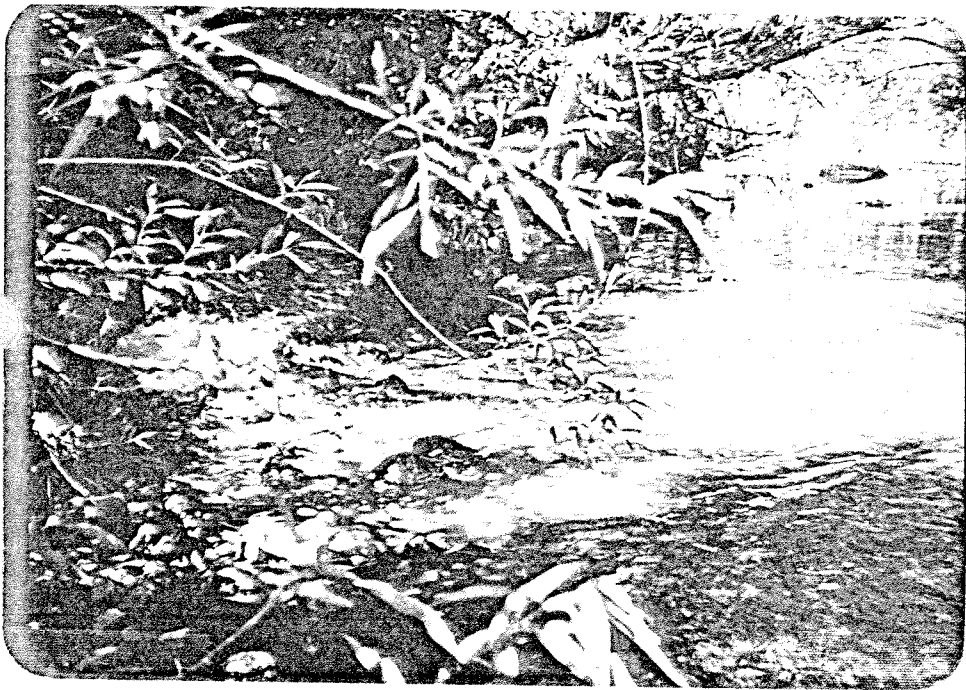
The East Fork, Montreal River, shall be classified as a continuous stream with a subcategory of "fish and aquatic life". Effluent limitations for the Hurley sewage treatment plant shall be based on a wasteload assimilation study to achieve "fish and aquatic life" water quality standards.





HURLEY

East Fork, Montreal Riv
Just above Hurley
STP Outfall



HURLEY

STP Outfall



HURLEY

East Fork, Montreal
River - Below
Hurley-Ironwood in
D.O. sag area, Aug. 1977.