

July 10, 1979

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Joe Kurz

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Bassett Creek Stream Classification, Twin Lakes STP

Twin Lakes discharges wastewater to a tributary of Bassett Creek in the Town of Randall in Kenosha County (see Figure 1). The tributary originates at the wastewater plant site and flows for approximately 0.7 miles before joining up with Bassett Creek. The STP lagoons discharge to the tributary 0.1 miles above the confluence.

Bassett Creek originates in the Town of Randall, Kenosha County. Its headwaters consist of three intermittent tributaries. The main stem of the creek flows for approximately 4.5 miles before entering the Fox River. The wastewater plant tributary joins up with Bassett Creek 2.9 miles from the mouth of the creek.

Land use in the Bassett Creek watershed is primarily agricultural with scattered wetlands. Wetland areas adjoin the stream for most of its length. The $Q_{7,10}$ of the stream at CTH "F" in Bassett is 0.10 c.f.s. During the field survey on July 5, 1979, the flow was estimated at 2-3 c.f.s. No water was present in the headwater streams of the creek.

A survey of the biota in Bassett Creek shows a somewhat limited biotic community at Legion Drive (Site 1). Few invertebrates are present, primarily Asellus intermedius. Forage fish are present at this site. The stream is very narrow (1-2') and the adjoining land is pastured by cattle with stream access.

At Site 2, CTH "F" in Bassett, numerous Amphipods, Isopods, Trichoptera and Ephemeroptera are reported. The stream is slightly wider (4-6 ft.). No fish are reported during the survey; however, in a 1975 survey by SED staff the following fish were found: brown bullhead, mudminnow, white sucker, fathead minnow, green sunfish, creek chub and spotfin shiner.

At CTH "JI" (Site 3) the macroinvertebrate community is slightly limited but several genera of Trichoptera and Ephemeroptera are abundant. Forage fish are present at the site.

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Bassett Creek is managed primarily for forage fish. Some smallmouth bass may migrate into the stream from the Fox River and northern pike use the adjacent wetlands for spawning.

It is the recommendation of this Department to classify the stream as follows:

- 1.) The tributary to Bassett Creek is a noncontinuous, marginal fish and aquatic life stream.
- 2.) Bassett Creek downstream to the pond in SE1/4 Sec. 22, T1N, R19E, is noncontinuous, marginal fish and aquatic life.
- 3.) Bassett Creek from the pond downstream to the Fox River confluence is continuous, fish and aquatic life.

JK:av

cc: ~~Steve Skavroneck~~ - 11
Mike Luba

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