

ROGERSVILLE CHEESE FACTORY - FOND DU LAC COUNTY

Unnamed Tributary

An unnamed tributary flows NE through Rogersville. It originally flowed for about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of CTH C before the stream channel disappeared into a wetland. Aerial photos from 1978 indicate that the stream is now connected to Seven Mile Cr. by 2 miles of ditching through the wetland. The 1980 USGS topographic map shows this stream to be intermittent. Rogersville Cheese Factory operates a ridge and furrow system for treatment of wastewater from its dairy operation. This system is generally overloaded and inundated, but no discharge to the stream has been observed. Rogersville C.F. is looking into the feasibility of a point discharge to the stream.

The stream was evaluated on 7/16/81 by observations made at County Trunk Highways T and C in Section 19 of the Town of Lamartine, Fond du Lac County. Observations were not made further downstream because of a lack of access. The watershed is primarily agricultural with some wetlands. Bank erosion is not a serious problem in the vicinity of the cheese factory as a heavy canopy grass growth provides good stabilization. The stream bottom is still heavily silted and provides poor habitat for fish and macroinvertebrates. The average width is about 6 feet, the average depth is less than 1 foot and the Q_{7.2} is not available. However, it is shown as an intermittent stream, so the flow does reach zero at times. Flow on the day of the survey was estimated at 1/3 to 1/2 cfs. This was within a week of some fairly heavy rains. The stream has a poor pool/riffle ratio as it has been ditched. At CTH T the temperature, dissolved oxygen and pH were 18.5°C, 7.6 mg/l and 7.4, respectively, at 11:00. Shortly after at the CTH C bridge they were 18°C, 2.7 mg/l and 7.6. At the footbridge just above CTH C the measurements were 18°C, 1.3 mg/l and 7.6. The stream was completed choked with Potamogeton interruptus at CTH C and the footbridge, except for shaded areas under the bridges. Fathead minnows (Pimephelus promelas) were found under the CTH C bridge. Macroinvertebrates were collected and 93 Coenagrionidae (Enallagma), 3 Chironomidae, 1 Tabanidae and 3 Tubificidae were identified. This is a moderately tolerant macroinvertebrate community. Stickleback and fathead minnows were found at CTH T. Macroinvertebrates were collected, but few were found because of a lack of attachment sites. 1 Stenacron, 1 Hemipteran, 6 Planarians, 5 Tubificidae and 4 Chironomidae were gathered. This is a small sample but indicates a tolerant community.

Recommendations

The unnamed tributary, as it flows through Rogersville, should be classified as noncontinuous intermediate aquatic life.

The above recommendation represents a concurrent of opinion of the following:

Tom Bainbridge - Water Quality Management Unit Leader
Keith Hutchison - Area Water Quality Management Biologist

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