Sextonville Sanitary District Richland County

January 18, 1977

<u>Willow Creek</u> - Surface Acres = 44.6 Miles, Miles = 18.4, Gradient = 15 feet per mile.

A spring and drainage fed stream originating in northeast Richland and west central Sauk Counties, and flowing southwest through Lloyd, Neptune, and Ithaca to enter the Pine River near Sextonville. Little Willow Creek is the only major tributary. Willow Creek flows through a fairly narrow valley where picturesque rock outcroppings topped with hemlock and white pine add to its aesthetic value. Willow Creek is considered the best trout stream in Richland County and one of the top ten in the southern district. Approximately 12.5 miles of stream are managed as trout water. From Lloyd upstream to its headwaters the stream is considered Class II. From Lloyd down to Ithaca the stream is considered Class I. Below Ithaca, forage and rough species dominate the fishery although smallmouth bass and a few northern pike are present. An occasional walleye or channel catfish may migrate from the Pine River.

Recommendations

From the Sextonville discharge and for the remainder of Willow Creek the classification should be continuous fish and aquatic life.

The above recommendations represent a concurrence of opinion of the stream classification team who are as follows:

George Osipoff - District Engineer Gene Van Dyck - Area Fish Manager Tom Bainbridge - District Biologist Roger Schlesser - Natural Resources Technician

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Bainbridge

Stream Classification Coordinator

RS:js

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