

Region SCR County Sauk Date 1-20-77 Classification FAL

Water Body: Wisconsin River

Discharger: Lake Delton STP

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:

Comments:

FAL

Lake Delton Sewage Treatment Plant
Sauk County

January 20, 1977

Wisconsin River - Surface Acres = 7,045 Miles, Miles = 43.05, Gradient = 2.56 feet per mile.

Sauk County lies entirely within the Wisconsin River basin, and the Wisconsin River forms the southern, and most of the eastern border of the county. The Baraboo River which flows through Sauk County is one of its major tributaries. The Wisconsin River begins as a spring fed stream in the Lac Vieux Desert on the northern edge of Vilas County. From its source it flows generally southward more than 300 miles until deflected eastward near Wisconsin Dells by the Baraboo quartzite ridges. Near the mouth of the Baraboo River at Portage it is deflected by sandstone bluffs and turns sharply westward flowing through the Driftless Area to the Mississippi River near Prairie du Chien. The flow of the upper Wisconsin River is interrupted by 26 hydroelectric dams, two of which are the Kilbourn Dam and the Prairie du Sac Dam bordering eastern Sauk County. From the Prairie du Sac dam to its mouth the river is commonly referred to as the "lower Wisconsin". The lower Wisconsin forms the southern border of the county while the upper Wisconsin designates the northeastern border and a small portion of the 9,000-acre Lake Wisconsin forms the southeastern border.

The Wisconsin River has a tremendous fishery potential, from the river itself and its oxbow lakes and sloughs, but is utilized by comparatively few people. The channel catfish is the most abundant sport species and is the most sought after. Other species which are commonly caught include smallmouth bass, walleye, sauger, and flathead catfish. Northern pike, largemouth bass, bluegills, crappies, and shovelnose sturgeon are occasionally taken. Forage and rough fish are also abundant. Fish of special interest because of their limited distribution in the river are hackleback (shovelnose) and rock (lake) sturgeon, paddlefish (spoonbill catfish), and blue suckers.


Recommendations

The Wisconsin River in Sauk County in its entirety should be classified 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 Schlessler - Natural Resources Technician

Respectfully submitted,


Thomas Bainbridge
Stream Classification Coordinator

RS:js

