

Richland Center Sewage Treatment Plant  
Richland County

January 20, 1977

Pine River (Yuba Branch) - Surface Acres = 174.6 Miles, Miles = 36.0,  
Gradient = 7 feet per mile.

The Pine River originates from springs in southern Vernon County, enters Richland County north of Yuba, then flows south through Rockbridge and Richland Center to enter the Wisconsin River near Gotham. It is the largest tributary to the Wisconsin River in Richland County. The stream has been impounded in at least three locations in past years. The Yuba Dam and Bowen's Mill Dam above Richland Center have been removed. The Richland Center Dam, creating the Richland Center Mill Pond, is maintained for recreation but can still generate electrical power. The Pine River is managed as a Class II trout stream from the Vernon County line to the junction of Buck Creek, a distance of 14 miles. Below this point, rough and forage species dominate the fishery. Walleyes, smallmouth bass, northern pike, and channel catfish provide some fishing from Richland Center to the mouth. Channel catfish were stocked above Richland Center in 1954, but migrated downstream. The trout water receives heavy fishing pressure which prevents a large holdover population from developing.

Recommendations

From the Richland Center outfall and for the remainder of the Pine River 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 Schlessler - Natural Resources Technician

Respectfully submitted,

  
Thomas Bainbridge  
Stream Classification Coordinator

RS:js

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Frequent and severe flooding of valley bottom lands is the principal problem in the Pine River Watershed. Flood waters have destroyed crops, washed out roads, bridges and fences, damaged buildings and deposited debris on crop and pasture land. The City of Richland Center and several small villages located in the floodplain suffer frequent flood water damage. An organized P.L. 566 watershed project has been active for about 6 years. Water and soil erosion control structures are planned for all parts of the watershed which will decrease flood damage and enhance the existing trout and warm-water fishery habitat. Pollution of the trout stream portion is a potential hazard from the Yuba Cheese Factory, Yuba sewage disposal plant, and Rockbridge Cheese Factory. The Richland Center dump, which is located on the floodplain, and sewage disposal plant are potential threats to the lower reaches.

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MUSCODA 5 MI. PLATTEVILLE 54 MI. 25' (MUSCODA) R. I. E. 20' SCALE 1:62500 4 MILES 18000 21000 FEET

INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515. NS-T. R. 2 E. 90  
 GOTHAM 2 MI. MADISON 53 MI. MR 0641 722000m.E.

ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
 Heavy-duty Medium-duty