

STUDY PERFORMANCE REPORT

State: Michigan

Project No.: F-81-R-6

Study No.: 230679

Title: Ecological river classification as a basis for management of coldwater streams

Period Covered: October 1, 2004 to September 30, 2005

Study Objectives:

- 1) To complete the classification of Lower Peninsula rivers by including the remaining, smaller coastal rivers (most Lower Peninsula rivers were classified by Seelbach et al. 1997).
- 2) To review the classification boundaries and codings of all Lower Peninsula stream segments, in light of available data and experiences of field personnel. This revision will add major in-channel lakes, coding of individual tributary streams, current trout stocking prescriptions, and current stream classifications.
- 3) To develop criteria for classification of coldwater streams, and to then classify all stream segments as appropriate. Segment classifications will be compared with previous Fisheries Division Stream Classifications and changes will be recommended, if needed. Finally, a process for revision of classifications will be developed.
- 4) To develop stream criteria for trout stocking, and to then classify all stream segments as to their suitability for stocking to meet specific management objectives.

Summary: Analyses of the relationships between stream temperatures and trout distribution and abundance have been summarized and a manuscript will be submitted for publication by December 2005. An amendment was written for fiscal year 2005-06 detailing changes in the work schedule.

Findings: Job 8 was scheduled for 2004-05, and progress is reported below.

Job 8. Title: Publish reports.—Submission of a manuscript for publication was scheduled for December 2004; however, progress was delayed due to assignment of Kevin Wehrly to other duties. A manuscript documenting the relationships between stream temperatures and trout population characteristics will be submitted for publication as a Fisheries Research Report by December 2005. Publication will be completed and a final report submitted in December 2006. This annual progress report was prepared as scheduled.

Prepared by: Kevin E. Wehrly

Date: September 30, 2005