

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Coal Creek
Affected Facility: Pleasantville (233)
Dates: Field assessment - 10/31/06

Public Comments:

Three surveys were returned for Coal Creek. One survey submitted by the Marion County Conservation Board stated that there are no known recreational uses taking place in Coal Creek.

One survey submitted by a Red Rock Unit employee pertained to Coal Creek within the Red Rock Wildlife Management Area. The survey stated that there are no known recreational uses taking place in Coal Creek within the management area.

The third survey was submitted by a Warren County Conservation Board employee. The survey stated that swimming, children's play, and canoeing occur approximately 12 times a year when water levels are higher than normal flow conditions. The survey stated that during normal flow conditions these activities are unlikely to occur due to a lack of water level and flow. Fishing was noted to occur on a weekly basis in the summer months at various locations throughout Coal Creek within Warren County.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Coal Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

The recreational use protocol encourages field assessments for Use Assessments and UAA's are conducted during base flow periods. Base flow is the portion of a stream's flow contributed by sources of water other than precipitation runoff. During the Coal Creek assessment, the creek appeared to be at or near base flow conditions. While recreational activities were noted by the Warren County Conservation Board, the activities were dependent upon elevated flow conditions. During normal flow conditions many of these activities are unlikely to occur if at all.

Evidence of recreational uses was also found during the field assessment as noted in the Coal Creek UAA. The evidence of recreational uses consisted of graffiti under the bridge at site (233-c). At site (233-b) animal traps and graffiti were found under the bridge along with footpaths leading to the creek.

While children's play has been noted in comments as occurring in Unnamed Creek, the absence of evidence in the field combined with the unknown frequency of use do not suggest that a Class A3 Children's Recreational Use designation is warranted at this time.

It should be noted that the Department continually updates the water quality standards for Iowa. This can include follow-up studies regarding Use Attainability Analyses to incorporate latest and any new information to ensure the uses of Iowa's waters are reflected appropriately in the Water Quality Standards.

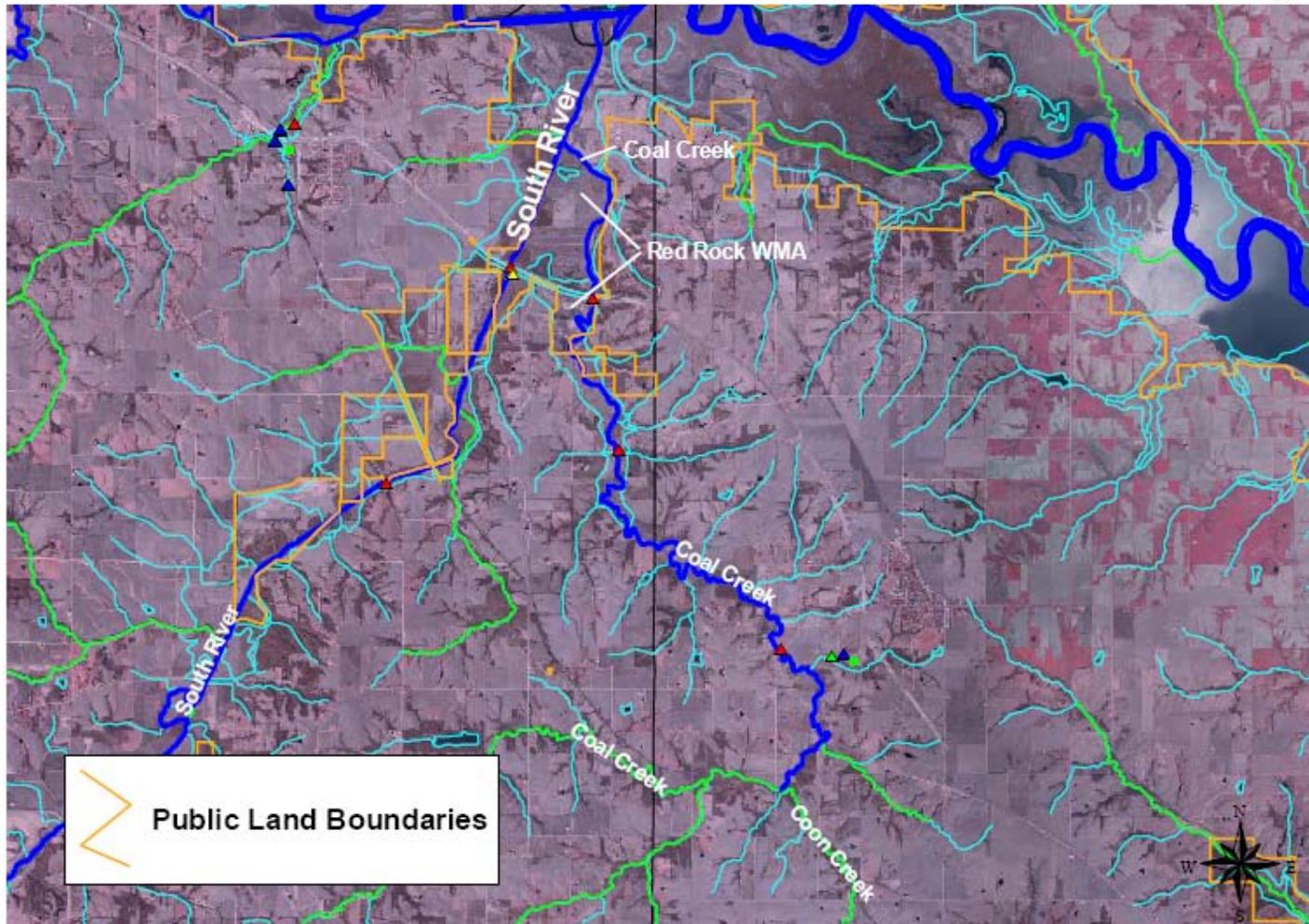


233-a Upstream recreational assessment site, looking downstream

The comments received for Coal Creek did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Coal Creek will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the mouth (SE ¼, S14, T77N, R22W, Warren County) to the confluence with Unnamed Creek (S20, T76N, R21W, Marion County).*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Lands Map for Coal Creek



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Competine Creek
Affected Facility: Knoxville (479)
Dates: Field assessment - 8/24/06 & 10/30/06

Public Comments:

One survey was returned for Competine Creek from the Marion County Conservation Board. The survey stated that trapping and seining may be possible but haven't been observed. No other recreational uses were noted.

Analysis:

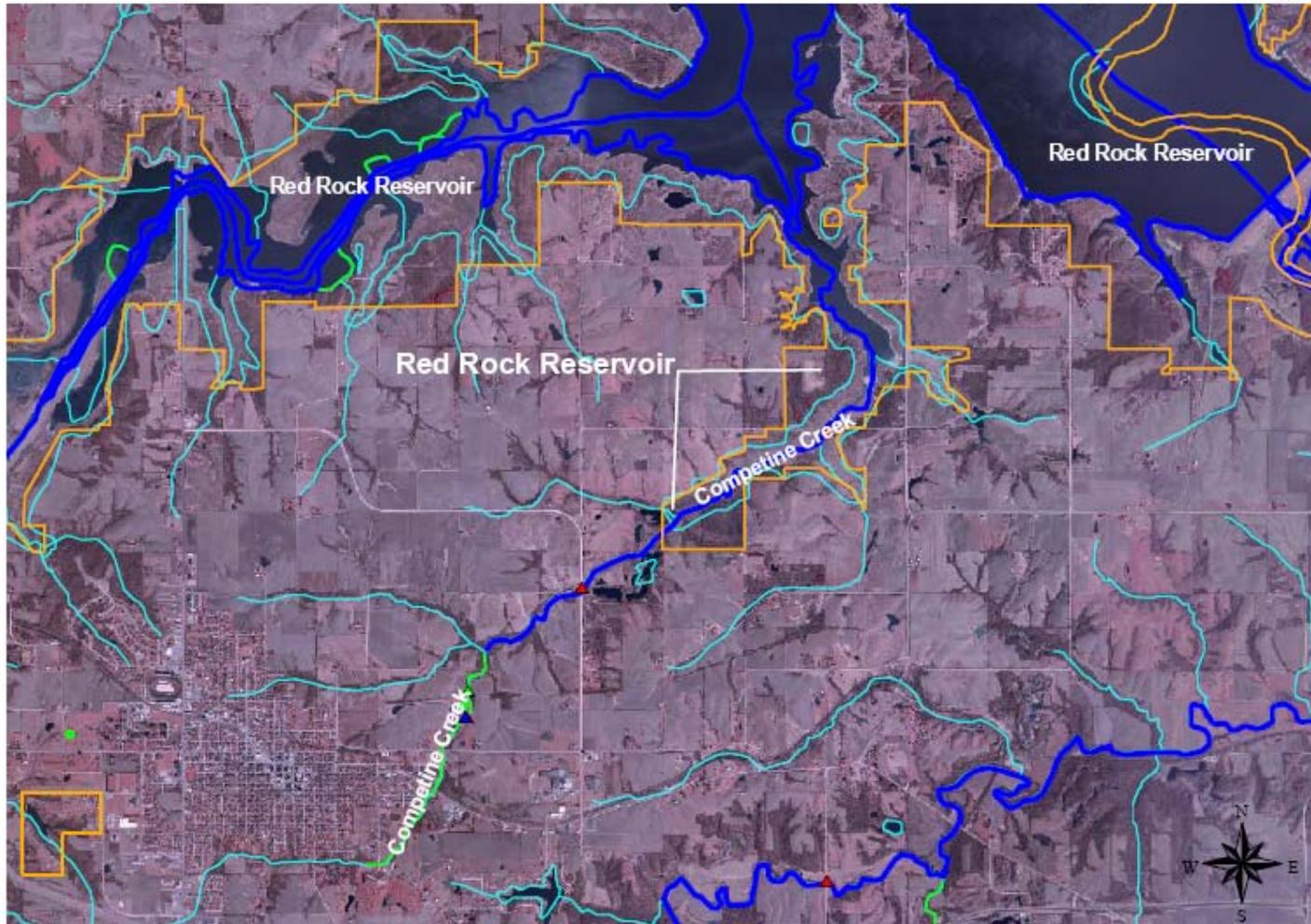
The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Competine Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

Competine Creek's location to the Red Rock Reservoir may increase the potential of recreational uses to occur. During elevated lake levels, the lake does possess the potential to back up into Competine Creek and possibly create new recreational activities in Competine Creek. During normal flow conditions and normal lake levels, Competine Creek does not possess the potential to support Class A1 type uses.

The comments received for Competine Creek did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Competine Creek will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the mouth (S27, T76N, R19W, Marion County) to the Pleasant Road Bridge crossing (S. Line, S5, T75N, R19W, Marion County).*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Lands Map for Competine Creek



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Competine Creek
Affected Facility: Packwood (802)
Dates: Field assessment - 11/3/06, Survey(s)/Interview(s) – 1/08

Public Comments:

Email

One comment was received from a streamside landowner emailed the department concerning recreational uses on Competine Creek. The landowner indicated that hunting, trapping, kids playing, fishing, wading, and canoeing are recreational uses of Competine Creek (frequency was not noted).

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Competine Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

One public comment indicated that recreational uses potentially consistent with primary contact recreation, secondary contact recreation and children's recreation take place on the creek. The commenter indicated that they own land next to site 802-A, it is assumed that this is the area of the creek to which the survey pertained.

Three average depth measurements found during the assessment were considered adequate for primary contact recreation based on the guidelines used to help determine the attainability of primary contact recreation. Site 802-A had average depths of 25 and 26 inches. It is highly probable this area was affected by a beaver dam downstream of this location that was creating temporary environments that are not able to sustain permanent depths adequate for primary contact recreation, however this was not verified.

Site 802-B had one average depth of 20 inches. This location was affected by a low water crossing that created a small pool of very low flowing water. Due to the overall lack of evidence found in the initial assessment and sustainability of these areas, these areas are not expected to support activities consistent with primary contact recreation (see pictures)



802-A Bridge looking upstream



802-A Bridge looking downstream



802-B Upstream recreation site looking upstream (little water and woody debris)



802-B Upstream recreation site looking downstream (towards low water crossing)

During the initial assessment no recreational uses were found or observed at any site, including 802-A.

Since the depth measurements were on the absolute borderline and the source of pooling was not identified to determine the permanence of the depths at Site 802-A in addition to the public comment that stated the creek is used for several forms of recreation the department recommends pulling the original recommendation from the rule making until more data is gathered to verify the ability of Competine Creek to support average depths in this area consistent with department and ensure the permanence of the physical characteristics of this stream

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Cooper Creek
Affected Facility: Centerville – East (395) and West (394)
Dates: Field assessment – 3/29/06 and 10/9/06

Public Comments:

One email was received with comments about Cooper Creek. The email stated that “tubing” had occurred in Cooper Creek in the past. No specific location or frequency of the recreational activity was mentioned.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Cooper Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children’s Recreation (Class A3).

This was the only comment received regarding recreational activities on Cooper Creek. The activity of tubing is controversial in the sense that it could be considered consistent with either: Class A1, Class A2, or Class A3 type uses. Review of the current UAA recommendation and associated data collected in the field demonstrates that Cooper Creek is shallow throughout the assessed reach (between 6-16 inches) and no evidence of recreational uses were found at any site.

Therefore, the department’s original use designation recommendation for Cooper Creek will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the mouth (SE ¼ S21, T69N, R17W, Appanoose County) to the confluence with an Unnamed Creek (SE ¼ S9, T68N, R19W, Appanoose County). *

*See recommendation map for details

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Crow Creek
Affected Facility: Fairfield (102)
Dates: Field assessment – 4/5/06

Public Comments:

One phone interview was conducted with a City of Fairfield Parks Department employee. The survey stated that there were no known recreational uses taking place in Crow Creek within Lamson Woods State Preserve.

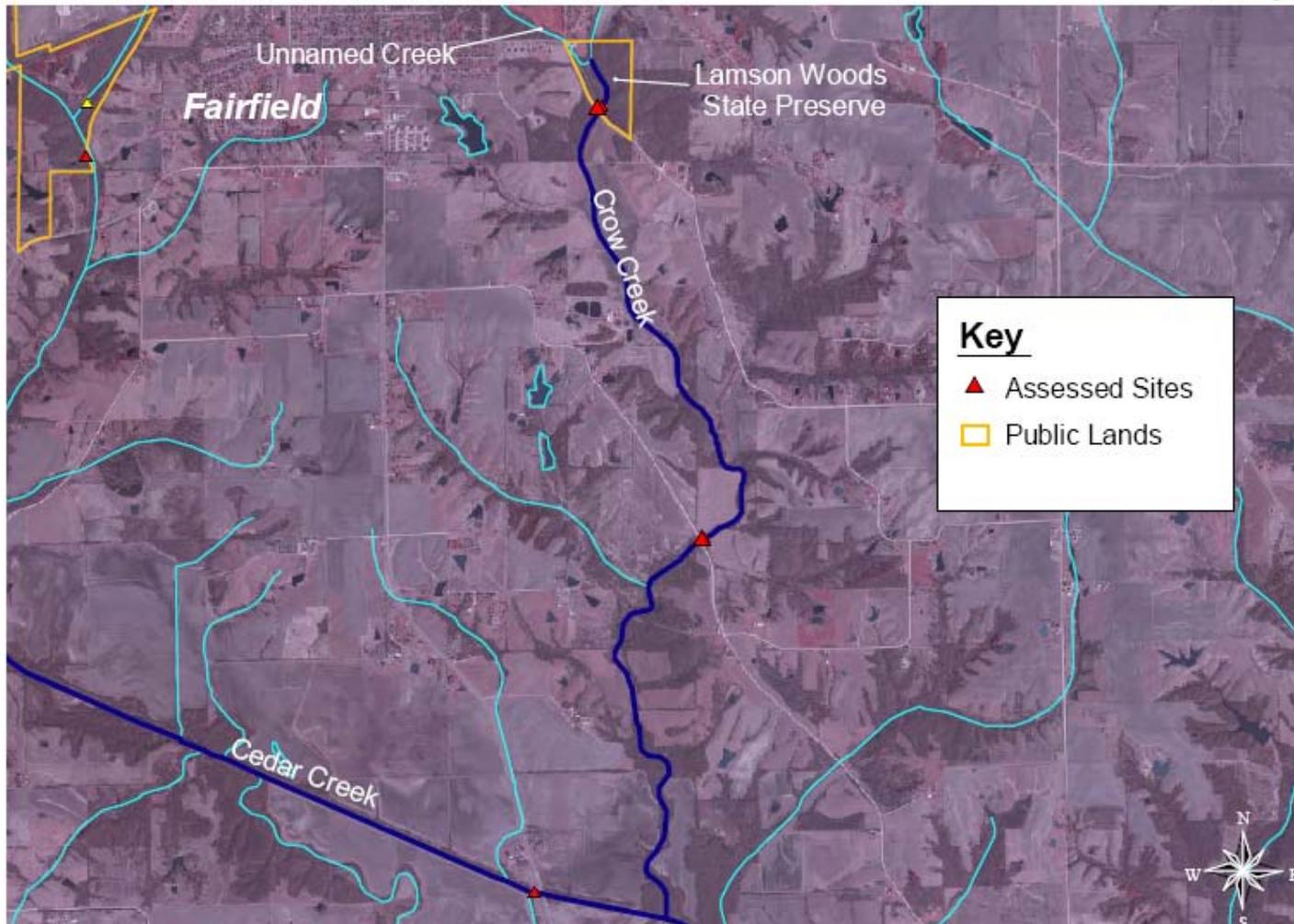
Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded a Secondary Contact Recreational use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Crow Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

The comments received for Crow Creek did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Crow Creek will remain Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the mouth (NE ¼, NW ¼, S19, T71N, R9W, Jefferson Co.) to the confluence with Unnamed Creek (NE ¼, SW ¼, S32, T72N, R9W, Jefferson Co.).*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Lands Map for Crow Creek



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Crow Creek
Affected Facility: Eldridge – South Slope (125)
Mount Joy Mobile Home Park (126)
Dates: Field assessment – 5/2/06 and 9/14/06

Public Comments:

One comment was received for Crow Creek from the Scott County Conservation Board employee. It stated that they had no personal knowledge of swimming, but wading and playing in the stream does take place. Children's play has been observed on numerous occasions in the area. It was also noted that portions of the stream are adjacent to high use parks or residential areas. People are in and around this stream throughout the year.

A phone interview was conducted with an employee of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources - Maquoketa Wildlife Management Unit regarding the Crow Creek Wildlife Management Area. It stated that canoeing, kayaking or tubing takes place during the summer about twice a week, and that fishing, seining, or trapping of minnows takes place several times per week.

A survey was returned for Crow Creek from the general public. The survey stated that preteens play in the stream near the 53rd Street in Bettendorf.

A survey was returned for Crow Creek from the general public. They survey stated that young neighbor kids play in the stream and that last summer 15 to 20 junior high and younger kids played in the stream with some of them doing belly flops. A location and frequency of these activities was not given.

A survey was returned for Crow Creek from the general public. The survey stated that their grandchildren and guests have played in or near the stream and that seining for minnows and trapping take place every year at 210th Street in Davenport.

A survey was returned for Crow Creek from the general public regarding the area near 180th Ave in Eldridge. The survey stated that they have observed children play in the stream near a trailer park approximately five times total. Four times the person has pulled brush and trash out of the stream. They use Crow Creek for trapping of muskrat and beaver and the person also knows of someone who has fished for chub three times within Crow Creek.

A survey was returned for Crow Creek from an employee of the Partners of Scott County Watersheds. The survey stated that the person and friends swim in the stream weekly during the summer and they float and sun bath in a swimming hole near Middle Road and Tanglewood Road in Bettendorf. It was noted that the neighborhood kids are in the stream often. The stream is also used for trapping bugs for educational purposes to use during talks with school children.

A survey was returned for Crow Creek from the general public. The survey stated that the person wades or swims across the stream on a daily basis when moving horses between pastures and children wade or swim and tube in the stream during family gatherings. The stream is also used for fishing or seining for minnows used as bait. These comments were pertaining to the portion of Crow Creek near Tanglewood Avenue.

A survey was returned for Crow Creek from the general public regarding the area near Tanglewood Road in Bettendorf. The survey stated that their children and their children's friends play in the water during the summer months. Tubing was also noted to take place on Crow Creek.

Comments were received from a Soil and Water District Commissioner. It was noted that educators use three streams in Scott County for environmental studies classes with elementary to college age students. It was noted that teenagers swim in five to six feet deep pools in two areas along Crow Creek. Golfers and workers of the Crow Valley Country Club were noted to be in the stream as well as some farmers who seine for minnows.

Comments from an Assistant District Commissioner for the Soil and Water District 7 were received regarding Crow Creek. It was noted that the stream traverses through many rural developed housing areas and is used for recreation by many of the local children as well as some adults who swim in some of the deeper pools.

Nine surveys were returned from employees of the Crow Valley Golf Club. The Superintendent stated that golfers often will be near or in Crow Creek and that children play in or along the stream periodically (15-20 per summer). He also stated that minimal fishing or seining (5 – 10 times per season) occurs and trapping occurs every year from fall into the winter months. One of the Assistant Superintendents stated that they have seen kids building dams as well as looking for golf balls. They also noted that fishing, seining and trapping for minnows as well as animal trapping have all be observed. Another Assistant Superintendent stated that the maintenance crew trims along the bank and have fallen or might fall in. Children were also noted to play, build dams, and walking in the shallow areas. Trapping for muskrats was noted to take place as well. A Horticulturalist noted that kids play in the water building dams and trying to catch minnows. Golfers also retrieve their balls out of the stream. A Greens Commission Chairman noted that people are in the stream looking for golf balls and that kids are playing in the stream all the time. Some fishing was also noted. The Turf Equipment Manager stated that they trim weeds along the stream bank and that kids retrieve golf balls. They also noted that people trap in and around the creek. A member of the Grounds Staff noted that while maintaining the banks they fall into the stream. Kids were also pick-up golf balls, build dams and fish during the summer. Another member of the Grounds Staff mentions that they trim near the stream as well as the kids looking for golf balls. Again, another member of the Grounds Staff noted trimming near the stream, kids looking for golf balls and members fishing.

An online survey was submitted stating that, in Bettendorf, swimming and children's play takes place a few times every summer during flooding. Also fishing takes place from spring till fall.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded a Secondary Contact Recreational use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Crow Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

A comment was received regarding Crow Creek near the City of Eldridge. It stated that children have been observed playing in the stream five times and trash and brush have been removed from the stream near the Mount Joy Mobile Home Park. Site 126-1 was performed at Mount Joy Mobile Home Park. During the field assessment there were adult sized footprints found along the stream bank as well as a large amount of trash found in the stream. There was no evidence of children recreating in the stream found. Although it has been stated that children may be recreating in the stream it is difficult to determine if the activities are taking place at a frequency that warrants a Class A3 Children's Recreational Use designation at this time.

It should be noted that the Department continually updates the water quality standards for Iowa. This can include follow-up studies regarding Use Attainability Analyses to incorporate latest and any new information to ensure the uses of Iowa's waters are reflected appropriately in the Water Quality Standards.

During the field assessment the 210th Street bridge crossing was used for an assessment site (Site 125-4), which was mentioned in one of the comments received from the general public. The comment stated that the person's grandchildren and their guests recreate in or near the stream and that Crow Creek is used for seining for minnows and trapping. The department did not find any sign of recreational uses in this portion of the stream segment during their assessment. Although it has been stated children may be recreating in or near the stream it is difficult to determine if the activities are taking place at a frequency that warrants a Class A3 Children's Recreational Use designation at this time.

Within Crow Creek Wildlife Management Area it was noted that canoeing, kayaking or tubing takes place approximately twice a week during the summer months. Upstream of the wildlife management area a short distance a field assessment was done (site 126-1). The average depth of the stream at this site ranged between five and seven inches. Due to the relatively low flow of the stream it is unlikely that these paddling activities are actually taking place on Crow Creek but possibly on the pond within the wildlife management area.



Site 126-1 Downstream Recreational Site Looking Upstream

Comments from the Soil and Water District Commissioner stated that educators use Crow Creek for educational purposes for all ages of children. A location, nature or frequency of these educational activities was not given.

The Commissioner also stated that children swim in Crow Creek at two separate locations. The location of these swimming areas was not given but due to the findings of the field assessment as well as other comments received from the general public, these swimming areas are believed to be located within the portion of Crow Creek that runs through the urban areas of Davenport and Bettendorf.

Within Crow Valley Golf Club it was stated that employees of the club have come in contact with the water during trimming of the banks. Contact with the water during bank trimming is accidental or incidental, consistent with the Department's original Class A2 recommendation for Crow Creek.

The golf course employees also stated that children are often seen wading, building dams and retrieving golf balls in Crow Creek. These activities appear to be taking place at a frequency that would warrant a Class A3 Children's Recreational Use designation.

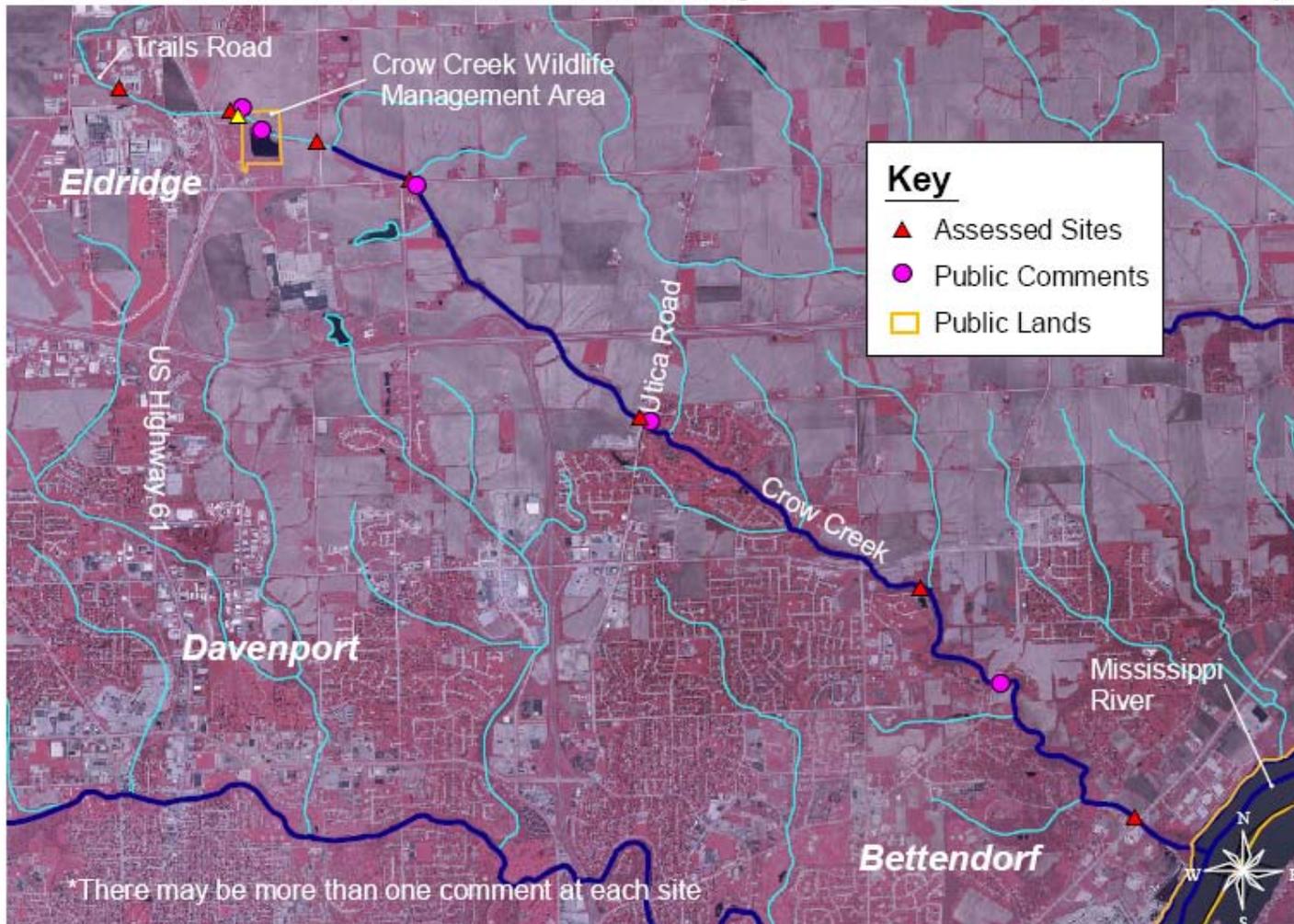
Several of the comments received stated that children, as well as adults, recreate in the Crow Creek at various locations throughout Bettendorf. During the field assessment there was no evidence of recreational uses at the sampling locations, but due to the urban area the activities could have taken place at locations that were not sampled. Comments from the Scott County Conservation Board supports the other comments received that children recreate in Crow Creek near parks and urban areas. The number of comments received provided ample evidence that children's recreation in the stream is a regular occurrence that will warrant a Children's Recreational Use designation (Class A3).

Due to the recent information received the Department is modifying its original recommendation for a portion of Crow Creek. The new recommendation for Crow Creek will be Children's Recreational Use Designation (Class A3) from the mouth (S24, T78N, R4E, Scott Co.) to Utica Road (NW ¼, SW ¼, S4, T78N, R4E, Scott Co.), and Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from Utica Road (NW ¼, SW ¼, S4, T78N, R4E, Scott Co.) to Trails Road Bridge Crossing (North Line SW ¼, NE ¼, S26, T79N, R3E, Scott Co.).*

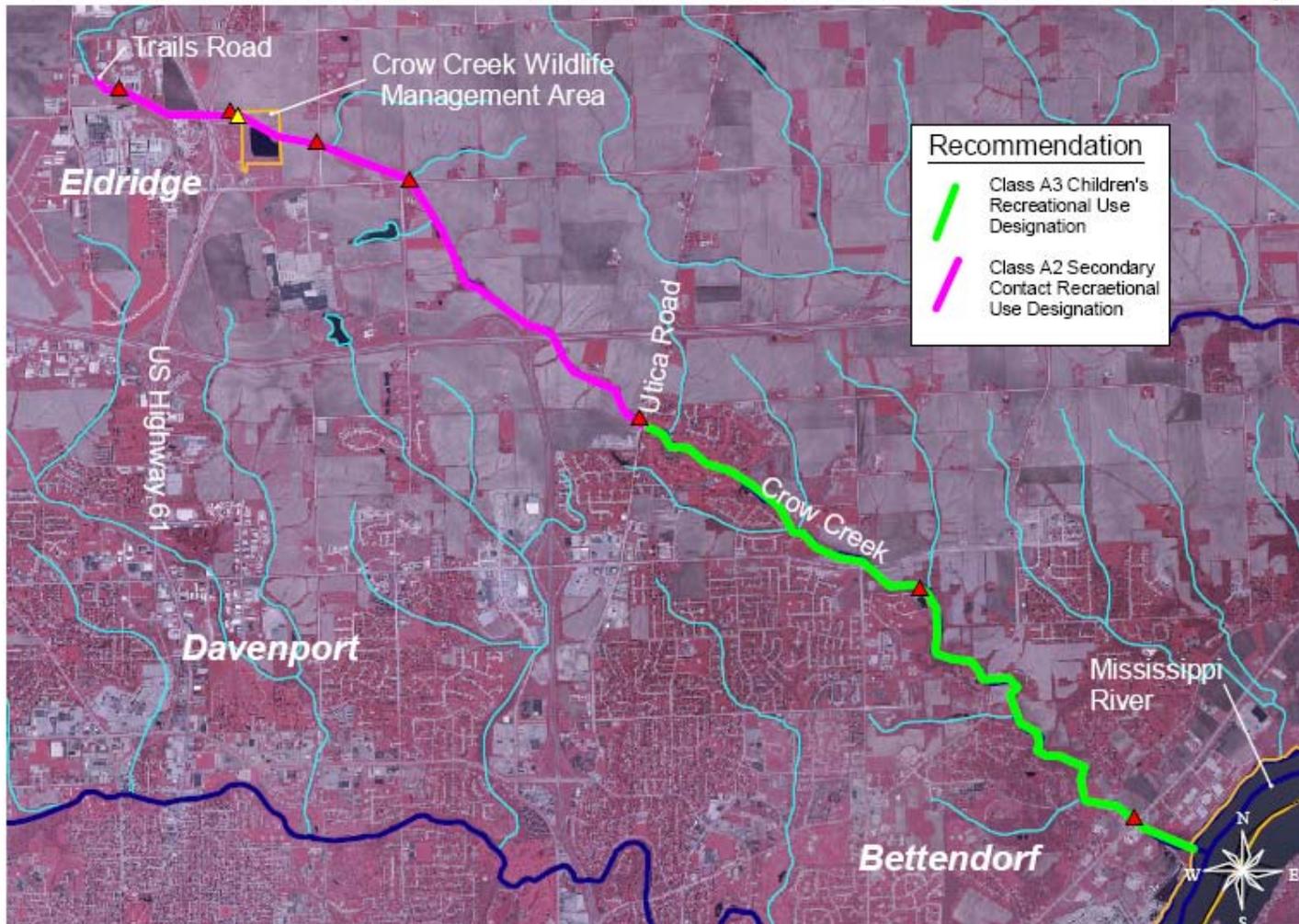
It should be noted that the Department continually updates the water quality standards for Iowa. This can include follow-up studies regarding Use Attainability Analyses to incorporate latest and any new information to ensure the uses of Iowa's waters are reflected appropriately in the Water Quality Standards.

*See recommendation map for details

Public Lands and Comments Map for Crow Creek



Recommendation for Recreational Use Designation for Crow Creek



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Deep Creek
Affected Facility: Preston (234)
Spragueville (447)
Dates: Field assessment - 10/25/06 and 10/26/06

Public Comments:

One survey was returned for Deep Creek from a Jackson County Conservation Board employee. The survey stated that the only known recreational uses for Deep Creek were near the mouth and along the bike trail.

One survey was returned from the public stating that people have been seen near the mouth of Deep Creek and that this person has canoed, fished and trapped for minnows along the stream.

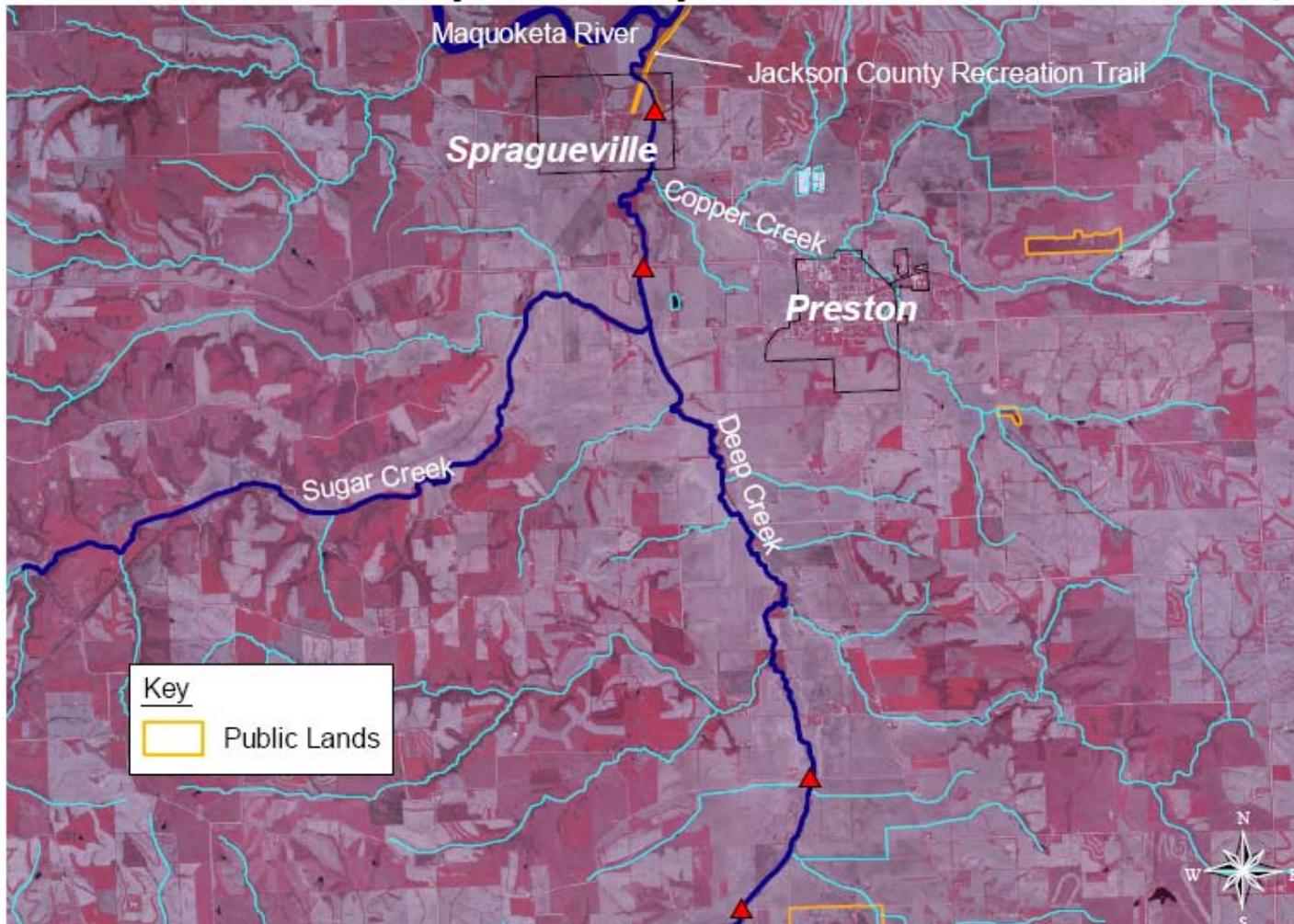
Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Primary Contact Recreational Use (Class A1) was appropriate for Deep Creek from the mouth to the confluence with Copper Creek due to the overall depth and the evidence of recreational uses found. Also Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Deep Creek from the confluence with Copper Creek to the confluence with Unnamed Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

The comments received for Deep Creek pertained to the recommended Class A1 segment and thus provided additional information that support the department's original recommendation based on the findings in our field assessments and will not result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Deep Creek will remain as Primary Contact Recreational Use (Class A1) from the mouth (NE ¼ of NW ¼ of S18, T84N, R5E, Jackson Co.) to the confluence with Copper Creek (SW ¼, NE ¼, S19, T84N, R5E, Jackson Co.) and Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the confluence of Copper Creek (SW ¼, NE ¼, S19, T84N, R5E, Jackson Co.) to the confluence with Unnamed Creek (SW ¼, SW ¼, S19, T83N, R5E, Clinton Co.).*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Lands Map for Deep Creek



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Deer Creek
Affected Facility: Toledo (29) and Garwin (1021)
Dates: Field assessment – 6/28/06 and 9/24/07, Phone interviews - Dec. 07/ Jan. 08

Public Comments:

The department contacted the Tama County Conservation Board to acquire information regarding the recreational activities that have occurred in Deer Creek. The Tama County Conservation Board employee stated that children's play occurs in Deer Creek near sites: 23-1, 23-2, and 23-3. It was also stated that an active ATV park is situated between the Iowa River and the City of Tama, with access to Deer Creek.

An email was also received from a citizen of Tama. The individual discussed taking their grandchildren to play in Deer Creek west of Cherry Lake near Tama. They also discussed the ATV park, and ATV's accessing Deer Creek.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Deer Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

The comments received from a Tama citizen and a local official have indicated that multiple recreational uses occur within the assessed reach of Deer Creek. Children's play was mentioned throughout the reach. During the field assessment in 2006 graffiti was noted under the bridge at site 23-3, upstream of the City of Toledo and footprints were found in the muddy stream bank at sites 23-2, approximately 200' upstream of site 23-2, and at site 23-3.

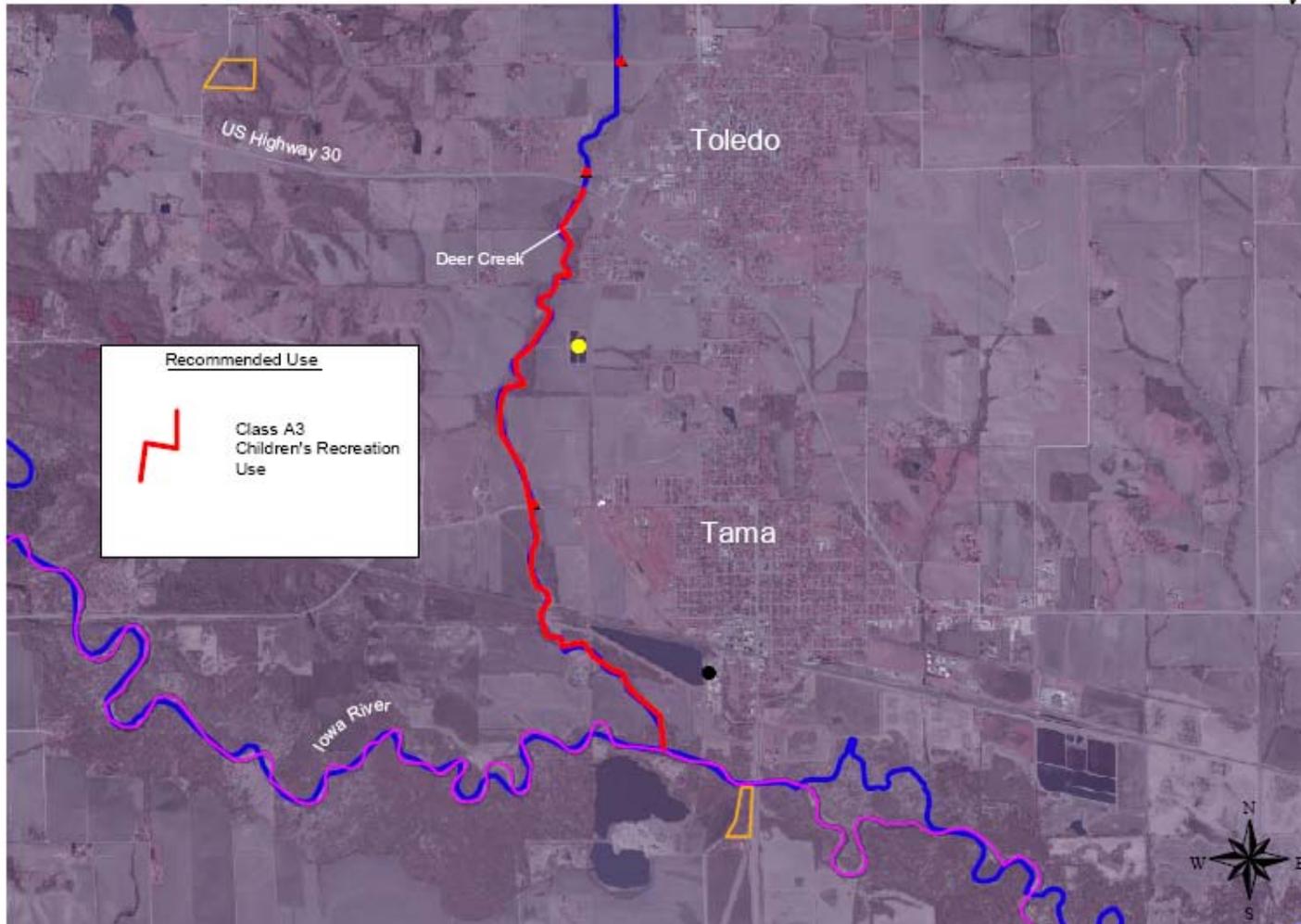
The assessed stream reach has two public parks along the creek. One is an ATV park and one is on the southwestern fringes of the City of Toledo urban area. The park does not have an established access to the creek, but there were no fences or signs to restrict access. The ATV park does have direct access to Deer Creek and ATV trails cross it in several areas. Deer Creek passes through moderately populated urban areas increasing the possibility or frequency of children's recreation. This use could be common and would fit the Class A3 Children's Recreational Use definition.

Due to recent information and the presence of two public parks the Department is modifying the original recommendations as detailed below.

- Class A3, Children's Recreation from its mouth (S34, T83N, R15W, Tama County) to the U.S. Highway 30 bridge (S21, T83N, R15W, Tama County). *

* See recommendation map

Recommended Recreational Use - Deer Creek



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Drainage Ditch 2
Affected Facility: Clarion (534)
Dates: Field assessment – 8/8/06

Public Comments:

Two surveys were returned for Drainage Ditch 2 from Wright County Conservation Board employees. Neither survey listed a specific location. Both surveys stated that there was no known swimming or canoeing occurring in Drainage Ditch 2. One survey stated that kids play in the creek during the summer months near the mouth of the creek, while the other survey stated that there was no known kids play occurring. Both surveys stated that people trap and seine for minnows and trap furbearers along the creek from November to January.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Drainage Ditch 2 due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

There were no activities consistent with Primary Contact Recreational uses mentioned to be occurring in Drainage Ditch 2 at the time of the original assessment. The surveys contradicted each other on the occurrence of Children's Recreation. Children's Recreation is not recommended at this time due to the lack of evidence to support that this type of recreation is a common occurrence in Drainage Ditch 2.

The comments received for Drainage Ditch 2 did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Drainage Ditch 2 will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the mouth (SE ¼, SE ¼, S16, T91N, R25W, Wright County) to the road crossing of Madison Avenue (E. line, S12, T91N, R25W, Wright County).*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Drainage Ditch 3
Affected Facility: City of Thor (764)
Dates: Field assessment – 10/04/06

Public Comments:

There were three surveys completed by County Conservation Board employees (Wright County). The surveys stated that they have observed people trapping in the fall and winter seasons. There were no other known recreational uses taking place in Drainage Ditch 3 in the assessed reach.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use Class A2 designation was appropriate for Drainage Ditch 3 due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation Class A3.

The comments received for Drainage Ditch 3 did not provide any information that would result in a change from the recommended Class A2 designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Drainage Ditch 3 will remain as Class A2 Secondary Contact Recreation from the mouth (S32, T91N, R26W, Wright Co.) to the Thor wastewater treatment plant outfall (NW1/4, S21, T91N, R27W, Humboldt Co.).

*See recommendation map for details

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Drainage Ditch 64
Affected Facility: Rake (751)
Dates: Field assessment – 10/12/06

Public Comments:

One survey was returned for Drainage Ditch 64 from a Winnebago County Conservation Board employee. The survey stated that there were no known recreational uses taking place in Drainage Ditch 64 in the assessed reach.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Drainage Ditch 64 due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

The comments received for Drainage Ditch 64 did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Drainage Ditch 64 will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the Iowa – Minnesota border (N. Line of S9, T100N, R26W, Winnebago County) to the confluence with Unnamed Creek (NE ¼ of S10, T100N, R26W, Winnebago County). *

*See recommendation map for details

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Drainage Ditch 94
Affected Facility: Eagle Grove (535)
Dates: Field assessment - 5/19/06 and 8/8/06

Public Comments:

Two surveys were returned for Drainage Ditch 94 from Wright County. The surveys stated that the only known uses of Drainage Ditch 94 was that school children do water testing two to three times during the months of September and October, minnow trapping and trapping of furbearing animals in November and December.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Drainage Ditch 94 due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

While it was noted that children do water testing two to three times per summer, it is not at a frequency that is considered common and does not warrant a Class A3 Children's Recreational Use. During the field assessment site 535-1a was conducted at the 290th Street bridge crossing. There was no evidence found of any recreational uses taking place at this bridge crossing.

Bridge Views of Site 535-1a



Looking Upstream



Looking Downstream

The comments received for Drainage Ditch 94 did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Drainage Ditch 94 will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the mouth (NE ¼, SE ¼, S9, T90N, R26W, Wright Co.) to the confluence with Unnamed Creek (NE ¼, SW ¼, S34, T91N, R26W, Wright Co.).*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Drainage Ditch 171
Affected Facility: City of Scranton (431)
Dates: Field assessment – 10/03/06

Public Comments:

There were two surveys completed by County Conservation Board employees (Blackhawk and Greene County). The surveys stated that there were no known areas for swimming, fishing, trapping, or any other types of known recreational activities along this stream.

A comment was submitted from the City of Scranton's lawyers stating that Drainage Ditch 171 is dry throughout the majority of the year and does not have adequate flow to support aquatic life.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Class A2 Secondary Contact Recreational Use designation was appropriate for Drainage Ditch 171 due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 Primary Contact Recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Class A3 Children's Recreation. The previous assessment also concluded that a Class B(WW-2) Warm Water Type 2 aquatic life designation was appropriate for Drainage Ditch 171. The creek's lack of flow and habitat prevents the attainment of the Class B(WW-1) Warm Water Type 1 designation.

During the initial assessment of the Drainage Ditch 171, the creek demonstrated adequate flow to be considered a perennial stream (see attached photos). The stream also displayed the ability to support aquatic life and the possibility of incidental contact with the stream. The 2006 aquatic assessment of the stream found that the stream supported aquatic life (non-game species).



Site 431-1 (bridge view)



Site 431-2 (bridge view)



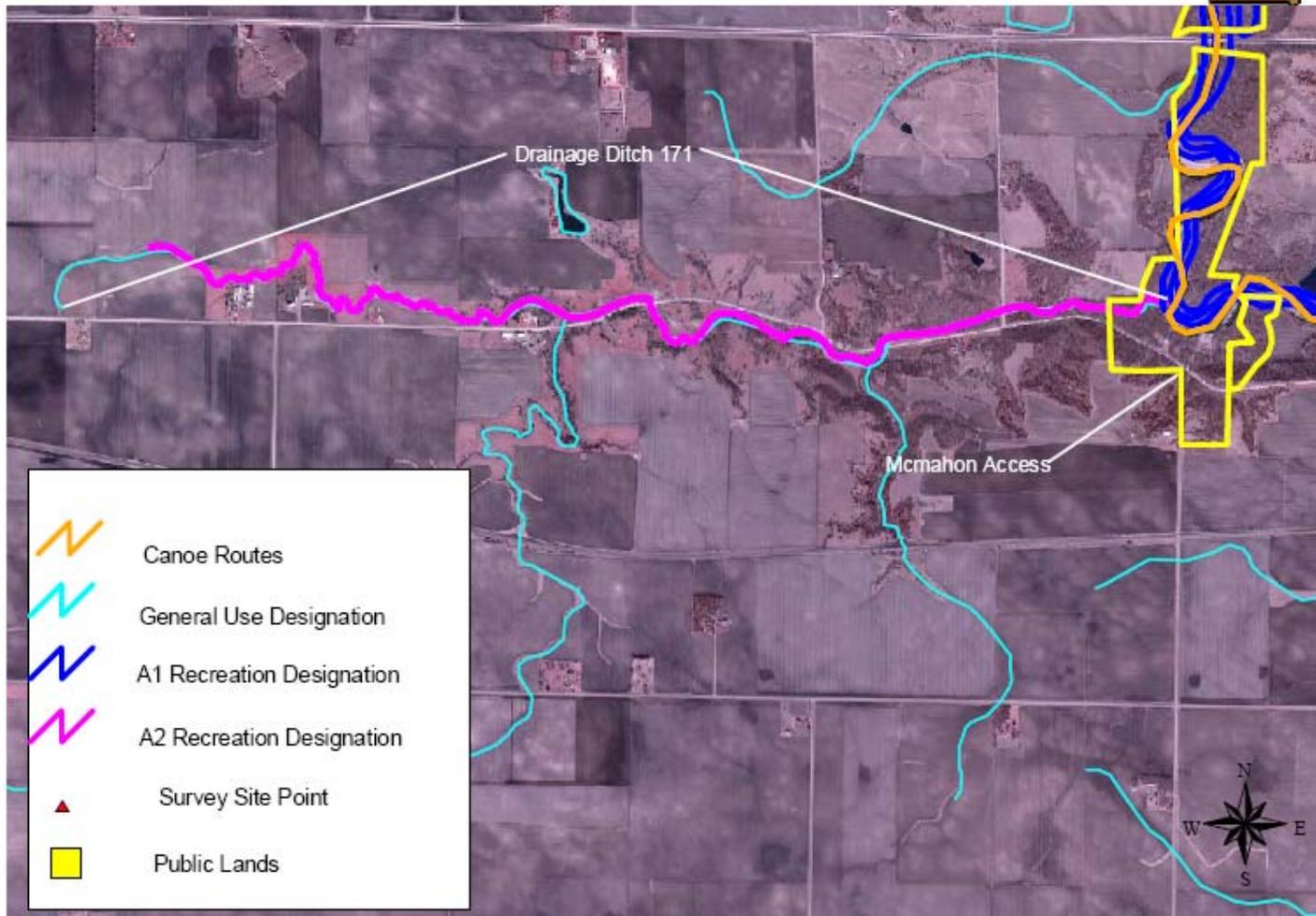
Site 431-3

The surveys from the conservation employees and the comment from the City of Scranton have not stated any recreational uses occurring in Drainage Ditch 171 and the department did not find any evidence of recreational uses. Regardless of this information, the potential for Class A2 Secondary Contact Recreation exists in Drainage Ditch 171 and should be protected for these activities.

The comments received for Drainage Ditch 171 did not provide any additional information that would result in a change from the recommended Class A2 designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Drainage Ditch 171 will remain as Class A2 Secondary Contact Recreational Use from the mouth (S5, T83N, R31W, Greene County) to the Scranton WWTP outfall (SW1/4, S1, T83N, R32W, Greene County).

*See recommendation map for details

Public Lands and Comments Map - Drainage Ditch 171



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Dry Run
Affected Facility: Iowa DOT Maintenance Garage – Decorah (625)
Dates: Field assessment - 10/10/06 and 11/13/06

Public Comments:

One survey was returned for Dry Run from a local user. The survey stated that the area near the mouth is used for sunbathing and other stream side activities.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Children's Recreation (Class A3) designation was appropriate for Dry Run from the mouth to Hwy 52 due to the evidence of frequent recreation, and Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate from at Hwy 52 to the West Line S36, T98N, R9W, Winneshiek Co. due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

The comment received for Dry Run was within the portion recommended as A3, therefore, did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. The department's original use designation recommendation for Dry Run will remain as Children's Recreational Use (Class A3) from the mouth (S17, T98N, R8W, Winneshiek Co.) to Hwy 52 (NW ¼, NE ¼, S20, T98N, R8W, Winneshiek Co.) and Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from Hwy 52 (NW ¼, NE ¼, S20, T98N, R8W, Winneshiek Co.) to West Line S36, T98N, R9W, Winneshiek Co.*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Duck Creek
Affected Facility: Flying "J" Travel Plaza (174)
Iowa DOT Maintenance Garage (613)
Lakewood Estates Mobile Home Park (507)
MidAmerican Energy Company (32)
West Kimberly Mobile Home Park (384)
Dates: Field assessment - 10/4/06

Public Comments:

A total of 9 public comments were received for Duck Creek.

One survey was returned for Duck Creek from a Scott County Conservation Board employee. The survey stated that swimming, children's play, canoeing/kayaking, or tubing, and fishing/seining, trapping of minnows all take place in Duck Creek.

One interview was conducted during the field assessment of a person whom stated that they had never seen anyone in the stream at Veterans Memorial Park.

Six additional comments were received that state that one or more of the following activities take place within the recommended Class A3 segment: swimming, children's recreation, canoeing, kayaking, tubing, fishing, seining, and/or trapping of minnows.

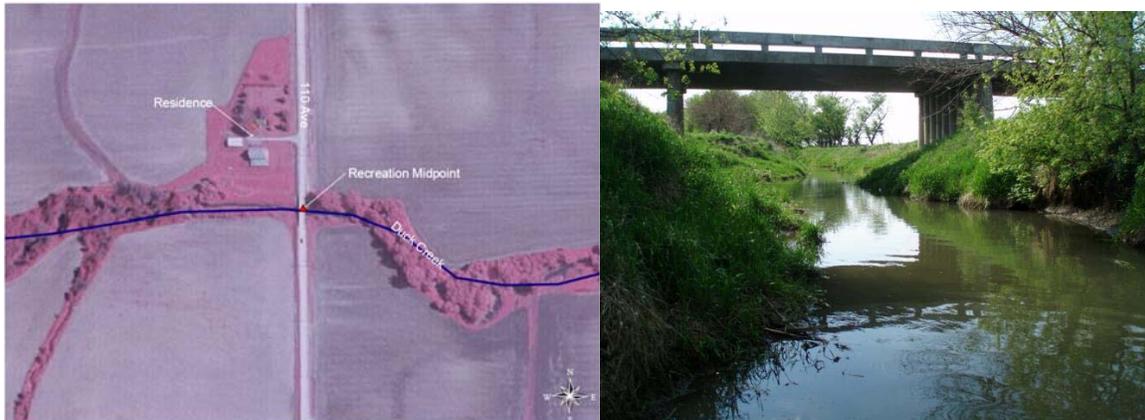
Two comments were received concerning the segment of Duck Creek upstream of Wisconsin Ave. Both comments stated this segment of the stream is used as a teaching lab for the area schools. One commenter included pictures of the activities. It was noted that these teaching sessions are conducted at least twice in the spring and twice in the fall of each year.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Children's Recreational Use (Class A3) was appropriate for Duck Creek from the mouth to the Wisconsin Ave. bridge crossing due to the urban location of the stream, the numerous parks and the potential for attracting children at an elevated frequency. A Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was also considered appropriate for Duck Creek from Wisconsin Ave to the confluence with Unnamed Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

Eight of the comments received support the recommended Children's Recreational Use (Class A3) for Duck Creek downstream of Wisconsin Ave.

The department conducted a field assessment of the stream at 110th Ave. that found no other evidence of recreational uses upstream or downstream of the bridge crossing. This site was outside of Davenport in an agricultural area.



Site Map for Site 32-5 and view of Duck Creek at 110th Ave looking upstream.

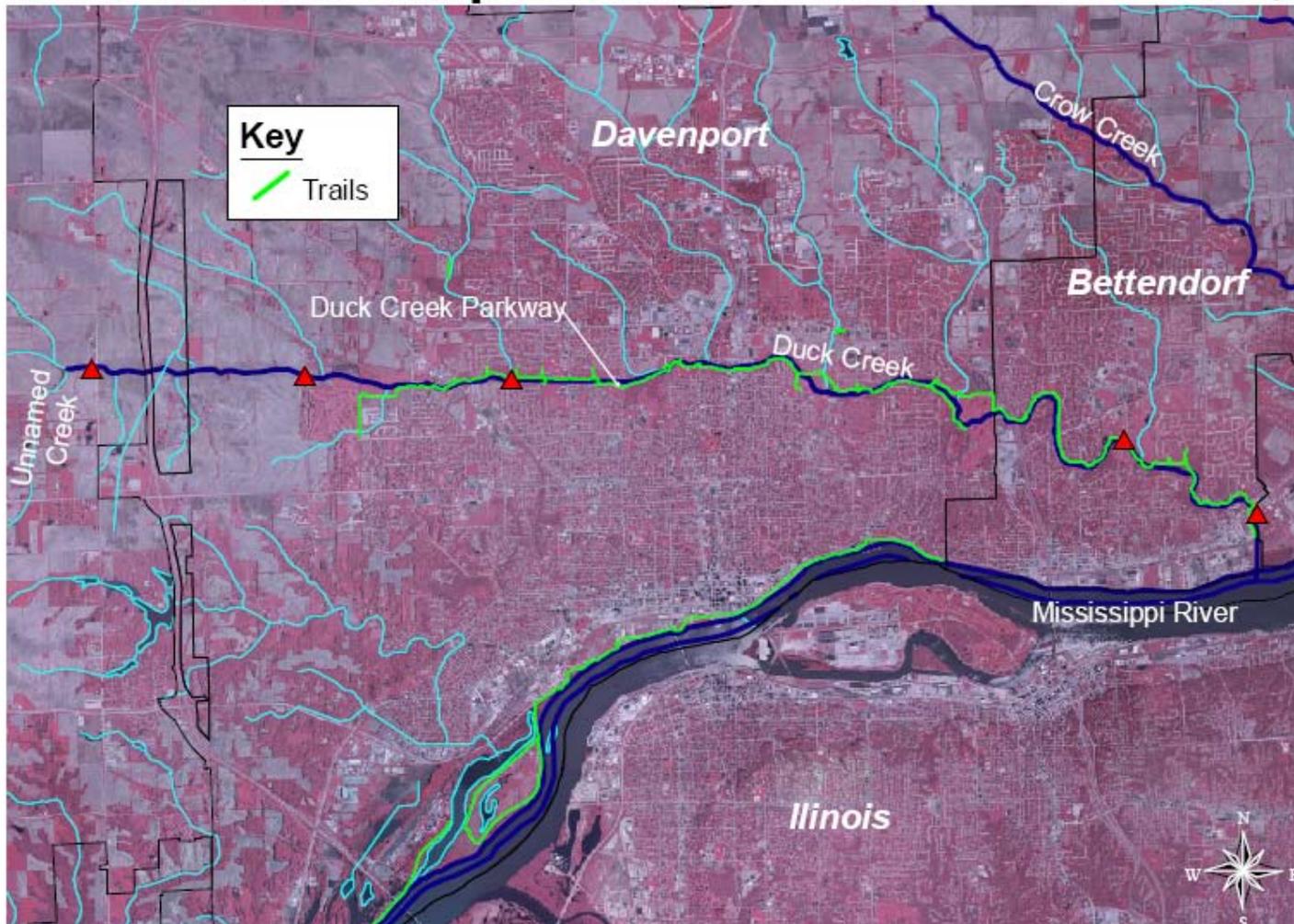
Information has been submitted regarding the use of the upper portion of Duck Creek at 110th Street as a teaching lab. The comment stated that students will be in the water twice in the spring and twice in the fall. Though children are in the water at these times, the Department feels that the low frequency of use relative to the summer recreational season does not warrant the designation of children's recreational use at this time.

It should be noted that the Department continually updates the water quality standards for Iowa. This can include follow-up studies regarding Use Attainability Analyses to incorporate latest and any new information to ensure the uses of Iowa's waters are reflected appropriately in the Water Quality Standards.

The comments received for Duck Creek did not provide additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Duck Creek will remain as Children's Recreational Use (Class A3) from the mouth S27, T78N, R4E, Scott Co.) to the bridge crossing at Wisconsin Ave (S17/S18, T78N, R3E, Scott Co.) and a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the bridge crossing of Wisconsin Ave (S17/S18, T78N, R3E, Scott Co.) to the confluence with Unnamed Creek (SW ¼, SE ¼, S14, T78N, R2E, Scott Co.).*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Lands Map for Duck Creek



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Dugout Creek
Affected Facility: IDOT – Malcom (600)
Dates: Field assessment – 10/12/06

Public Comments:

One survey was returned for Dugout Creek from a Poweshiek County Conservation Board employee. The survey stated that there were no known recreational uses taking place in Dugout Creek in the assessed reach.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Dugout creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

During the field assessment, one location was found to have adequate depth for Primary Contact Recreation (Class A1). A beaver dam created pool is the cause of the depths adequate for (Class A1) Primary Contact Recreation at site 600-1. In addition, fences, steep slopes, and active pastures deter and hinder recreation from occurring. Primary Contact Recreation is not considered attainable for this location because beaver dam created pools are considered temporary in nature and may only last until the next large rain event.

The comment received for Dugout Creek did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Dugout Creek will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the mouth of Dugout Creek (S15, T79N, R14W, Poweshiek County) to the confluence with Unnamed Creek (NE1/4, NW1/4, S12, T79N, R15W, Poweshiek County). *

*See recommendation map for details

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Durion Creek
Affected Facility: Worthington (29)
Dates: Field assessment – 6/15/06, Phone interviews - Dec. 07/ Jan. 08

Public Comments:

The department contacted the Dubuque County Conservation Board to acquire information regarding the recreational activities that have occurred in Durion Creek. The Dubuque County Conservation Board employee stated that fishing and minnow seining had occurred in Durion Creek. Children's play was witnessed, but frequency was not given.

A citizen was interview at the time of the field assessment on June 15, 2006. He stated, "didn't know if anybody uses it", referring to Durion Creek.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Durion Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

The comment received from a local official has indicated that multiple recreational uses occur within the assessed reach of Durion Creek. Even-though a specific location can not be pinpointed; the comment does describe activities consistent with Class A3 occurring in Durion Creek. During the field assessment in 2006 there were no people observed recreating in the water. Recreational evidence was found at site 29-5 and consisted of graffiti under the bridge and footpaths and/or footprints near the stream. One interview was conducted at this site where the local resident stated he "didn't know if people were using" Durion Creek.

Approximately 0.75 miles of the assessed reach passes thru the City of Worthington. Rural areas typically have nearby or even streamside residents. Site 29-5 was located near an urban area.

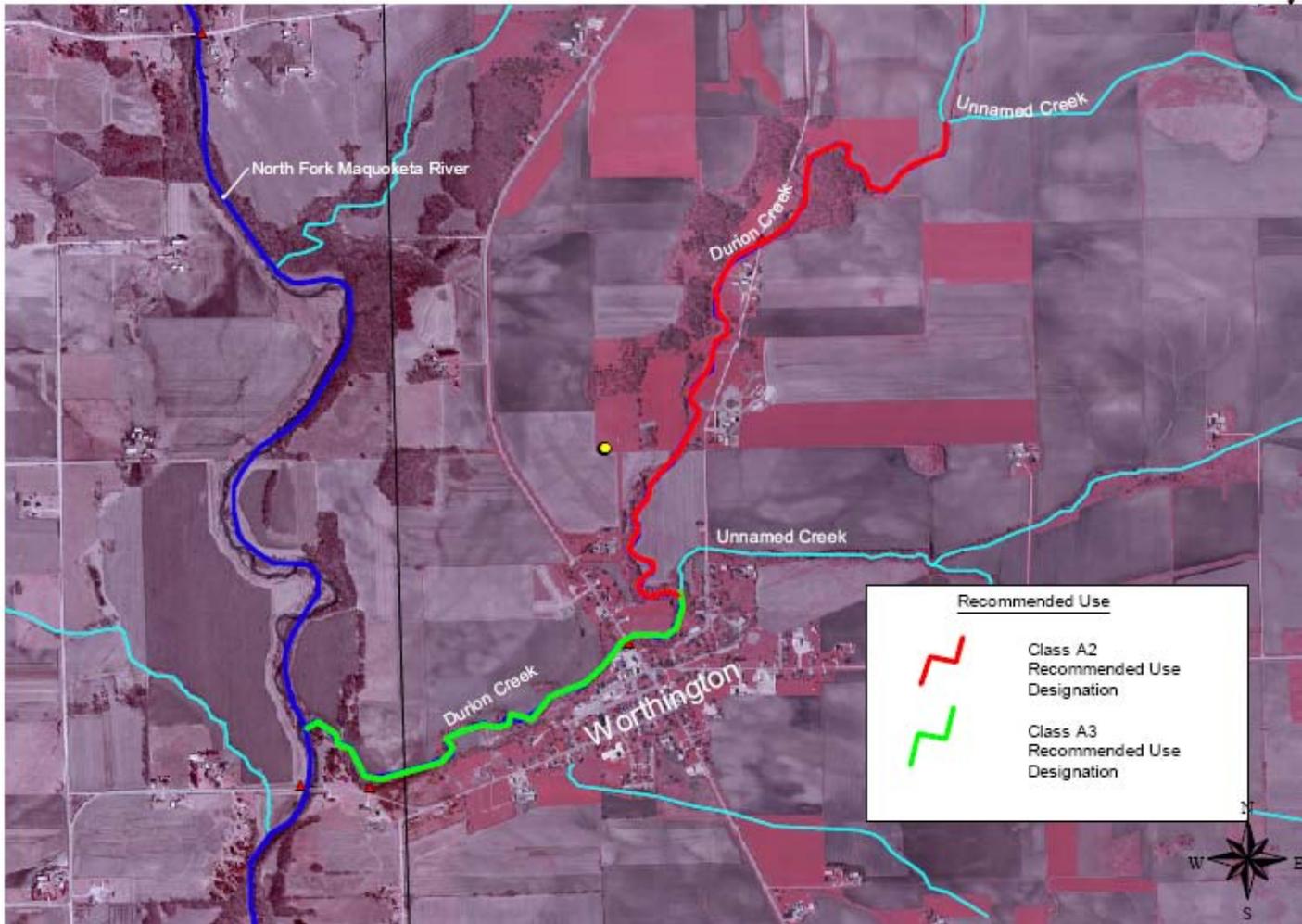
Due to recent information and Durion Creek's location, the Department is modifying the original recommendations as detailed below.

- Class A3, Children's Recreation from the mouth (NE ¼ S36, T88N, R3W, Delaware County) to the confluence with an Unnamed Creek (SE ¼ S30, T88N, R2W, Dubuque County).*

- Class A2, Secondary Contact Recreation from the confluence with an Unnamed Creek (SE ¼ S30, T88N, R2W, Dubuque County) to the confluence with Unnamed Creek (S20, T88N, R2W, Dubuque County). *

* See recommendation map

Recommended Recreational Use - Durion Creek



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Dutch Creek
Affected Facility: Keota (465)
Dates: Field assessment – 9/11/06

Public Comments:

One survey was returned for Dutch Creek from a Keokuk County Conservation Board employee. The survey stated that fishing takes place near the mouth of Dutch Creek when the Skunk River is high and the waters back up into Dutch Creek. There were no other known recreational uses taking place in Dutch Creek in the assessed reach.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Dutch Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

The comments received for Dutch Creek did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Dutch Creek will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the mouth (NW ¼, NE ¼, S8, T74N, R9W, Washington Co.) to the confluence with Unnamed Creek (NW ¼, SW ¼, S25, T76N, R10W, Keokuk Co.).*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Eagle Creek
Affected Facility: Clarion (534)
Dates: Field assessment – 11/1/06, Phone interviews - Dec. 07/ Jan. 08

Public Comments:

There were 3 comments received for the assessed segment of Eagle Creek from county conservation employees and 7 comments received from the general public for a total of 10 comments.

6 of the 7 comments from the public stated that swimming and child's play occurs at various bridge locations in the lower assessed reaches of Eagle Creek. 4 comments state that canoeing/kayaking/tubing occurs between the bridges on 290th Street downstream to 315th Street, and all 7 comments note fishing or minnow seining as uses of Eagle Creek. There were 2 comments received for both 290th and 315th Street bridges, and 1 comment received for 300th Street.

There was one comment from a Hamilton County Conservation employee that stated there had been no observed recreation in Eagle Creek within Hamilton County. Approximately 1 mile of Eagle Creek is present in Hamilton County from the mouth to the Hamilton and Wright county line.

Two comments were received from Wright County Conservation employees. They both stated that child's play and canoeing/kayaking/tubing occur in the river in the downstream portions of Eagle Creek where the widths and depths become greater. They also noted fishing, minnow seining, and trapping for furbearing animals occur throughout the entire assessed reach.

Analysis:

The initial department recommendation concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Eagle Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence and information to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3). (see previous recommendation map).

The depth criteria guidelines used by the department to help determine if Primary Contact Recreational use (Class A1) is attainable typically will exclude streams that are not able to support a Class A1 use due to the overall lack of flow needed to support activities that result in direct and prolonged contact with the water, involving considerable risk of ingesting appreciable quantities of water sufficient to pose a health hazard. While these guidelines are effective in most situations, there are cases where a stream demonstrates that it can support the Class A1 use despite the lack of flow that typically distinguishes a stream that can support Primary Contact Recreational uses.

The comments from the general public and local officials have indicated that multiple recreational uses occur within the lower reaches of Eagle Creek; although, the department did not observe any evidence of recreational use on Eagle Creek during the field assessment in 2006. The comments received describe the occurrence of activities consistent with all three of Iowa's recreational use designations.

The public comments were concentrated on the stream segment between the bridges on 290th Street downstream to 315th Street which was further supplemented by the Wright County Conservation comment stating that canoeing, child's play, and fishing occur in the lower reaches of Eagle Creek where depths and widths become greater. Despite the Wright County Conservation comment not being specific to actual locations, aerial photos from 2002 were examined in detail and verified that Eagle Creek does in fact widen and deepen from Woolstock to the mouth. The Hamilton County Conservation comment indicated no observed recreational uses in this stretch.

The department initial recommendation noted that site 534-b possessed adequate average depths to support the Class A1 use at that site, however those averages were not maintained over 50% of the assessed reach as a whole. While Eagle Creek did not meet the depth guidelines in full, the fact that this site meets the average depth requirement at this location work to validate the public comments received at this location.

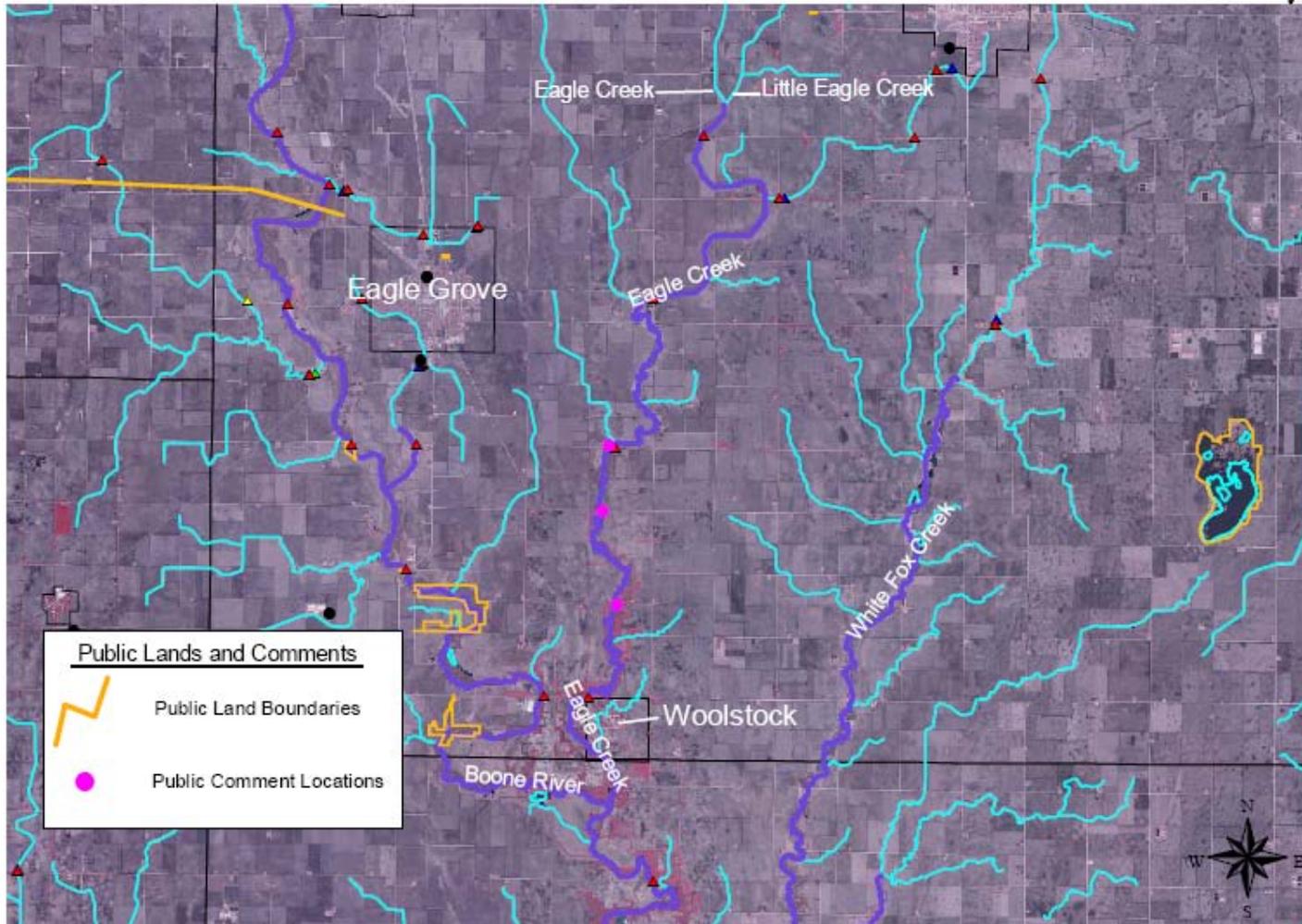
The comments received for Eagle Creek have described that the segment between 290th Street downstream to 315th Street does support Primary Contact Recreation despite low flows and it was concluded that the segment of Eagle Creek downstream of 315th Street would be able to sustain the same recreational activities as the segment between 290th Street and 315th Street based on comments received by local officials and analysis of aerial photography.

Due to recent information the Department is modifying the original recommendations as detailed below.

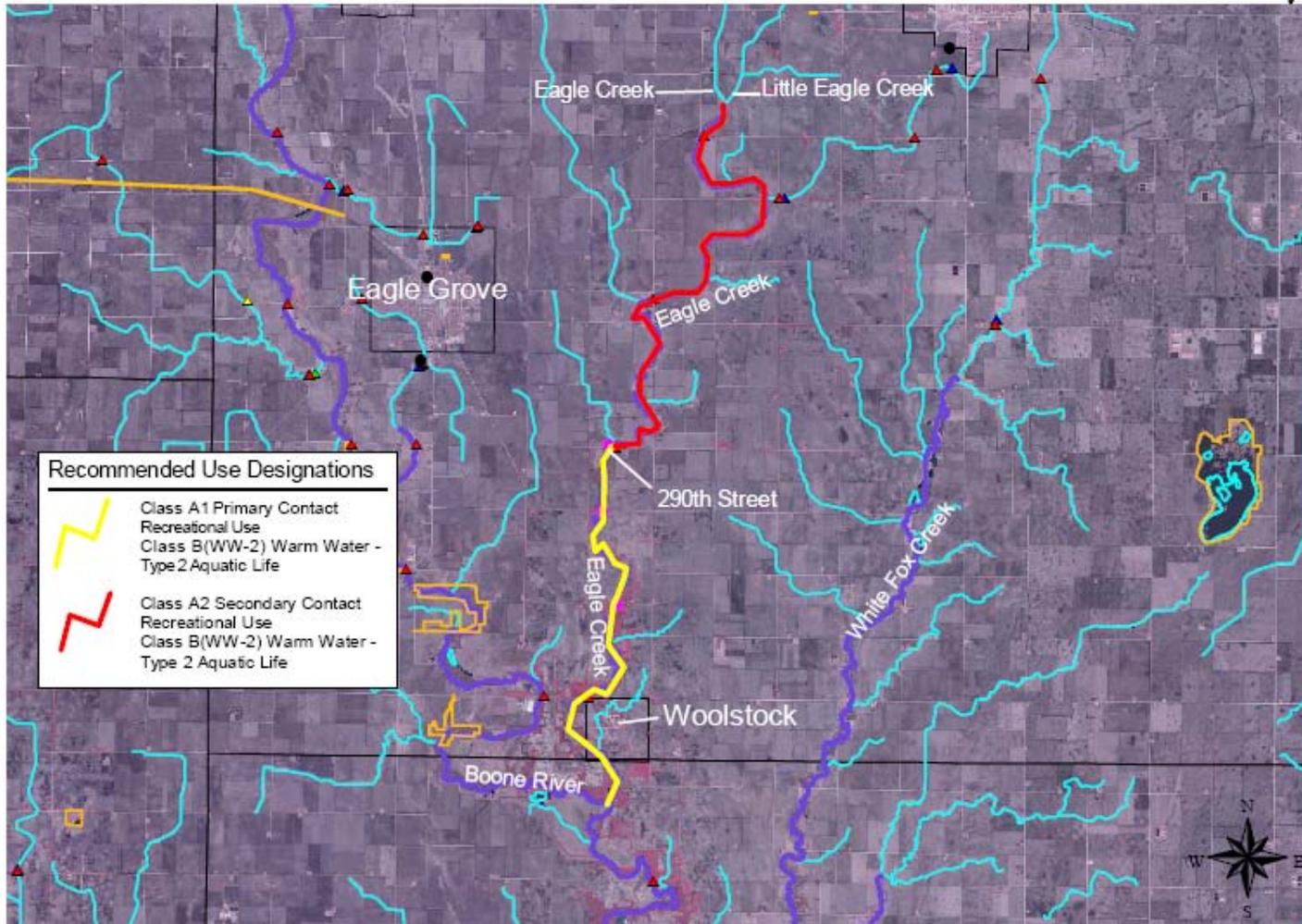
- Class A1, Primary Contact Recreation from the mouth of Eagle Creek (S6, T89N, R25W, Hamilton County) to 290th Street (N. Line, S7, T90N, R25W, Wright County).*
- Class A2, Secondary Contact Recreation from 290th Street (N. Line, S7, T90N, R25W, Wright County) to the confluence with Little Eagle Creek (S9, T91N, R25W, Wright County).*

* See recommendation map

Public Lands and Comments Map - Eagle Creek



Recommendation Map for Eagle Creek



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: East Beaver Creek
Affected Facility: Ogden (401)
Dates: Field assessment – 7/21/06 Interview – 7/21/06

Public Comments:

One survey was returned from the general public stating that the person and their family had waded in, floated in, and canoed in nine of Iowa's stream including East Beaver Creek.

An interview post card, left during our field assessment, was returned by a local resident along East Beaver Creek. The postcard stated that the only recreation the person knew of was fishing, seining, or trapping for minnows happening on occasion at site 401-4.

During the field assessment three kids were interviewed at site 401-2a. They had never been swimming in the stream nor had they ever seen anyone swimming there.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for East Beaver Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

One of the three comments received stated that East Beaver Creek is used for wading, floating and canoeing. During the field assessment there was no evidence of these activities taking place and, although these activities may be occurring, the frequency is not considered adequate to warrant a Children's Recreation Use (Class A3) and the depth and overall size of East Beaver Creek is not considered adequate to support Primary Contact Recreational Use (Class A1). (See Pictures)

Site 401-1a – First Bridge Crossing Upstream from the Mouth



Bridge View Looking Upstream



Bridge View Looking Downstream

The comments received for East Beaver Creek did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for East Beaver Creek will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the mouth (NE ¼ S21, T83N, R28W, Boone Co.) to 210th Street (North Line S31, T84N, R27W, Boone Co.).*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: East Boyer River
Affected Facility: Westside (672)
Dates: Field assessment – 11/6/06, Phone interviews - Dec. 07/ Jan. 08

Public Comments:

The department contacted the Crawford County Conservation Board to acquire information regarding the recreational activities that have occurred in the East Boyer River. A Crawford County Conservation Board employee stated that fishing and minnow seining had occurred in the East Boyer River. Swimming was also observed “off and on” over the years at the “old power dam site in Denison”, which is between Main Street and Donna Reed Road. This was the only comment received for the East Boyer River.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for the East Boyer River for the entire assessed reach, due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children’s Recreation (Class A3).

The comment received from a local official has indicated that swimming, fishing, and minnow seining occur within the assessed reach of the East Boyer River. The comment received describing swimming at the old power dam site in Denison is consistent with Primary Contact Recreation (Class A1). During the field assessment there were no sample sites in the area of the “old power dam site”, however new information from the Denison County Conservation Board suggests that depths adequate for Class A1 Primary Contact Recreational Use are present in this area.

Besides the adequate depth at the “old power dam site” there was one small isolated pool observed that demonstrated a depth adequate for Class A1 Primary Contact Recreational Use at site 672-c, but did not measure more than 10 to 20 ft in length. A low-head dam downstream from the bridge was the cause for the adequate depths. This was placed to stabilize flow for protection of the bridge pilings. The area was surrounded by steep slopes that were rip-rapped. Recreating near low-head dams is inherently dangerous. In addition the pool itself contained other hazards such as woody debris, rip-rap, and deep silt. These hazards would make it difficult to access or navigate the stream. Due to these factors, Primary Contact Recreation is not considered attainable for this small pool.

The depth criteria guidelines used by the department to help determine if Primary Contact Recreational Use (Class A1) is attainable and typically will exclude streams that are not able to support a Class A1 use due to the overall lack of flow needed to support activities that result in direct and prolonged contact with the water, involving considerable risk of

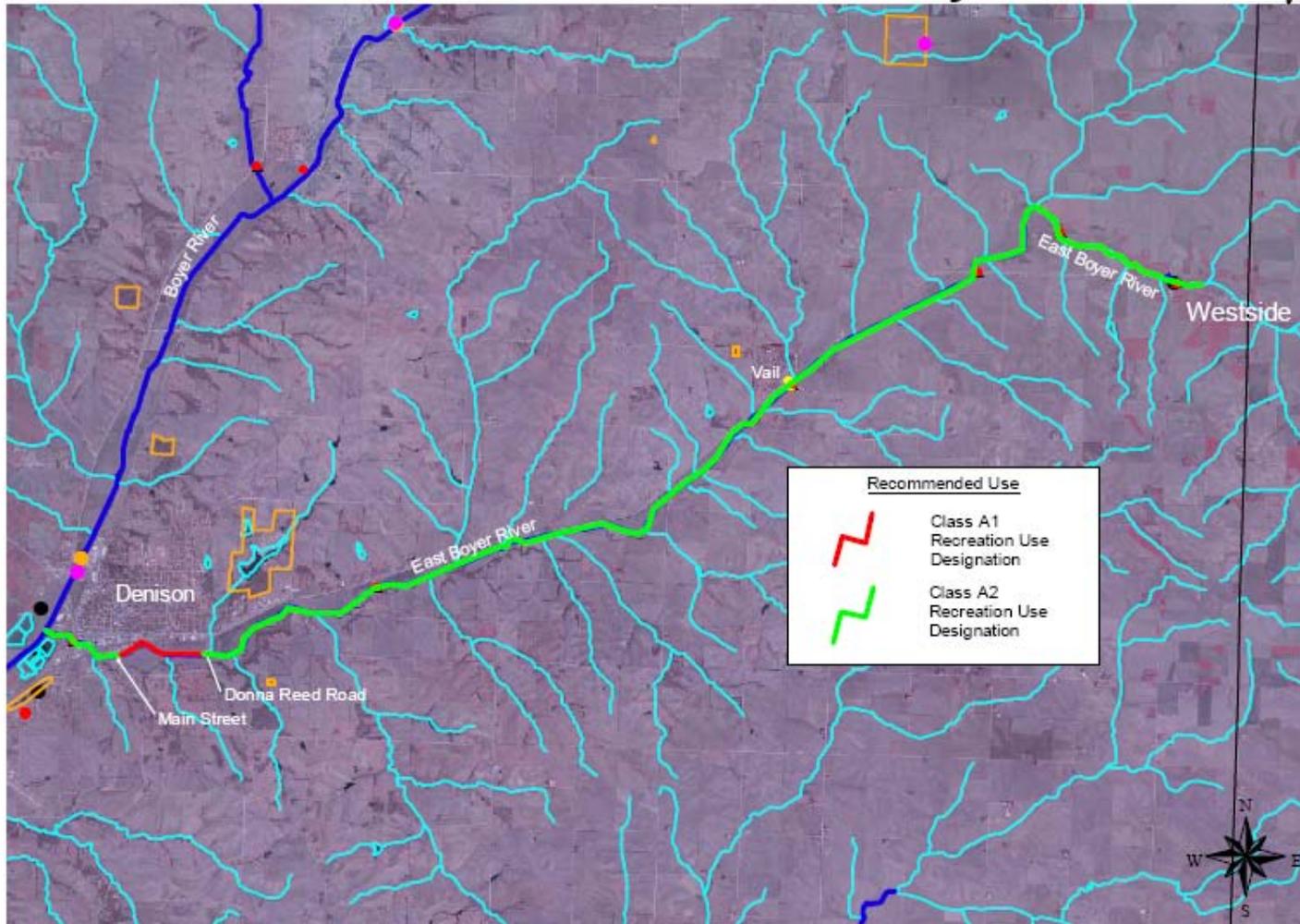
ingesting appreciable quantities of water sufficient to pose a health hazard. While these guidelines are effective in most situations, there are cases where a stream demonstrates that it can support the Class A1 use despite the lack of flow that typically distinguishes a stream that can support Primary Contact Recreational uses.

Due to recent information the Department is modifying the original recommendations as detailed below.

- Class A2, Secondary Contact Recreation from the mouth (SE ¼ S10, T83N, R39W, Crawford County) to Main Street (NW ¼ S14, T83N, R39W, Crawford County).
- Class A1, Primary Contact Recreation from Main Street (NW ¼ S14, T83N, R39W, Crawford County) to Donna Reed Road (N 1/3 S13, T83N, R39W, Crawford County).*
- Class A2, Secondary Contact Recreation from Donna Reed Road (N 1/3 S13, T83N, R39W, Crawford County) to the Railroad Tracks above the outfall pipe for Westside WWTP (NW ¼ S24, T84N, R37W, Crawford County).*

* See recommendation map

Recommended Recreational Use - East Boyer River



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: East Branch Iowa River
Affected Facility: Klemme (436), Garner (437), Northern Natural Gas-Ventura Station (326)
Dates: Field assessment – 10/27/06

Public Comments:

There were seventeen surveys completed by the general public and seven surveys completed by County Conservation Board employees (Wright and Hancock counties). The surveys stated that there were various areas through the entire stretch of the East Branch Iowa River that had canoeing, tubing, fishing, trapping, and ATV use.

The surveys from the County Conservation Board employees were filled out for Lau Wildlife Management area, Tusha Wildlife Management area, Goodell Wildlife Management area, and Sullivan Wildlife Management area. The majority of the surveys stated that swimming, children's play, canoeing, kayaking, and fishing have been observed throughout the previously mentioned recreational areas. In total, 3 of 7 surveys observed swimming, 3 of 7 observed children's play, 5 of 7 observed canoeing or kayaking, and fishing was observed in all 7 of the surveys. The surveys state that the river receives a tremendous amount of canoeing from Klemme to Belmond and some canoeing and tubing activity near Garner.

Of the 17 surveys completed by the general public, 12 of 17 have observed or participated in swimming, 14 of 17 have observed children playing in the creek, 12 of 17 have observed or participated in canoeing or kayaking, 7 of 17 have observed or participated in tubing, and 16 of 17 have fished or trapped on the East Branch Iowa River at various locations. There were several comments about general locations within the East Branch Iowa River and there were two sites that gave a specific location in which recreation was occurring (Highway 18 and C-20 Crossings). A majority of the comments made reference to the Belmond area as having most of the recreational activities such as canoeing and kayaking. One of the commenter's made reference to activities such as canoeing and kayaking at several locations along Highway 69, but did not specify an exact location. Two of the survey comments stated that a number of people also canoe the route between Klemme and Garner.

Analysis:

The initial department recommendation concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for 34 miles of the East Branch Iowa River due to the lack of flow from the mouth (S19, T93N, R23W, Wright Co.) to the confluence with Unnamed Creek (S27, T97N, R24W, Hancock Co.) throughout the segment which would completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3). (see previous recommendation map).

The depth criteria guidelines used by the department to help determine if Primary Contact Recreational use (Class A1) is attainable typically will exclude streams that are not able to support a Class A1 use due to the overall lack of flow needed to support activities that result in direct and prolonged contact with the water, involving considerable risk of ingesting appreciable quantities of water sufficient to pose a health hazard. While these guidelines are effective in most situations, there are cases where a stream demonstrates that it can support the Class A1 use despite the lack of flow that typically distinguishes a stream that can support Primary Contact Recreational uses.

The comments from the general public and local officials have indicated that multiple recreational uses occur within the East Branch Iowa River however some of the surveys returned gave a specific location in which recreation was occurring within the Class A2 proposed segment and some did not.

Of the surveys completed by County Conservation Board Employee's within the proposed Class A2 section, all seven have stated they have participated in or observed swimming, canoeing, or kayaking at various locations including, Tusha Wildlife Management area, Goodell Wildlife Management area, and Sullivan Wildlife Management area.

While the comments suggest recreation such as canoeing and kayaking have occurred on the East Branch Iowa River, those recreational activities may not be consistent with the depths measured at the time of the assessment. The department assessed a total of seven recreation sites along the East Branch Iowa River. Of the measurements taken on the East Branch Iowa River, none of the 18 measurements were at or above the 19 inch average depth or 39 inch maximum depth guidelines used when considering attainability for Class A1 Primary Contact Recreational Use.





(Examples of the East Branch Iowa River from sites 436-B, C, D, and F)

The surveys returned to the department described the majority of the recreational uses such as canoeing, kayaking, swimming and fishing near survey sites within the County Conservation Recreational Areas, near the city of Belmond, and canoeing between the cities of Garner and Klemme and Klemme to Belmond. The above pictures are examples of the river in the fall of 2006 when the river was at or near base flow.

The depths at the assessed sites on the river range from 4 to 13 inches average depth and 5 to 20 inches maximum depth. The department also uses Iowa's Fish and Canoe guide while researching the public comments. This guide helps to support claims of canoeing or kayaking streams and rivers in Iowa. After researching Iowa's Guide to Fishing and Canoeing, the department has found that the East Branch Iowa River is listed as one of Iowa's canoe routes.

Seventeen of twenty-four surveys that were received by the department referenced the use of canoes and kayaks on the East Branch Iowa River. One of the surveys completed by the general public stated that the city of Belmond has a business located on the Iowa River called "Out Door Adventures" from which they regularly rent their canoes. Of the surveys returned from the general public, the majority of the comments were concentrated near the mouth of the East Branch Iowa River.

While the East Branch Iowa River did not meet the depth guidelines, Primary Contact Recreational (Class A1) uses have been described at locations from the mouth upstream to Garner. The department feels that because of the uses associated with this segment (frequent canoeing and kayaking) it can be concluded that the Class A1 Primary Contact Recreational Designation would be appropriate for this segment despite the marginal flows found during the original assessment.

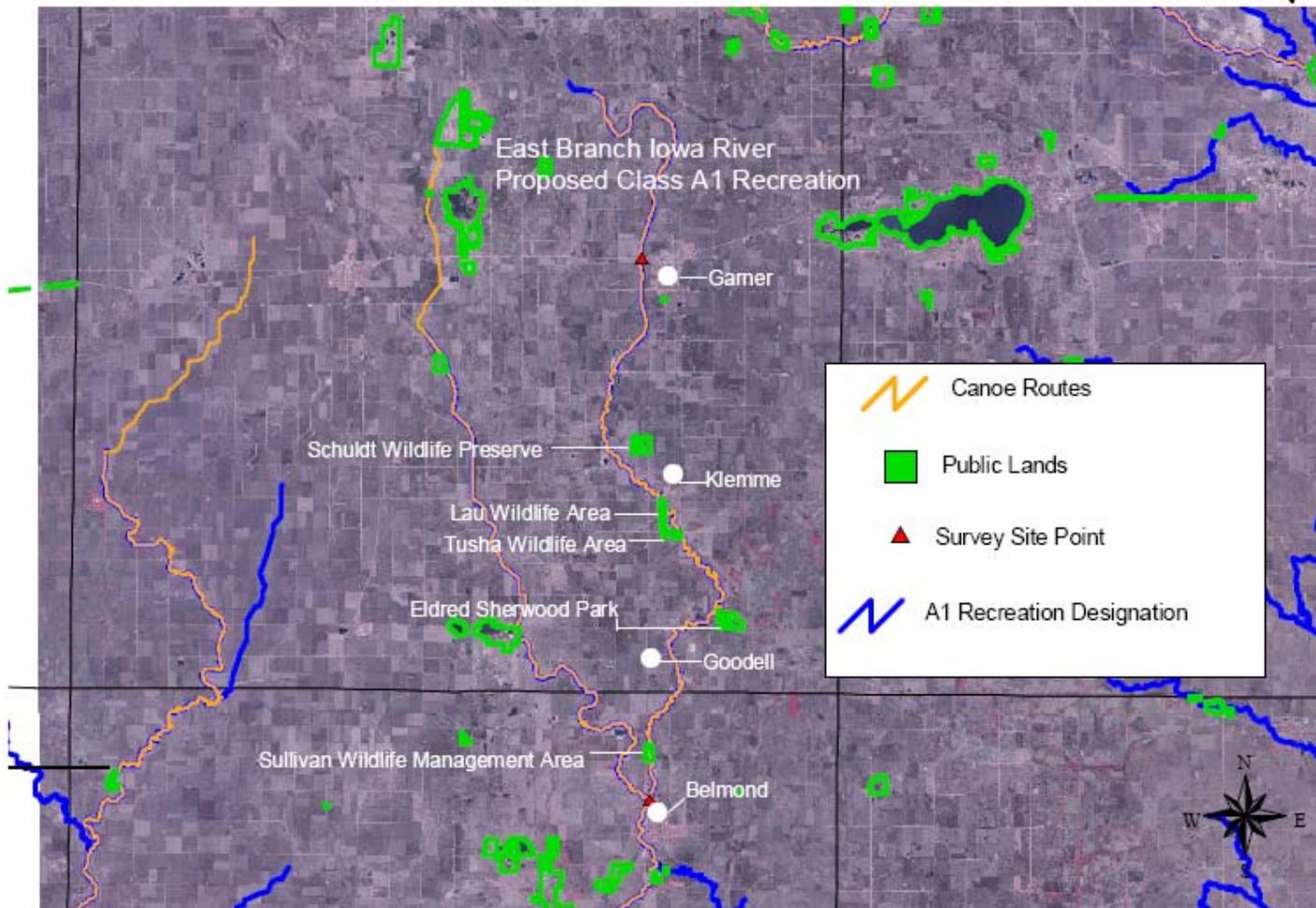
Due to recent information the Department is modifying the original recommendations as detailed below.

- Class A1 Primary Contact Recreation from the mouth (S19, T93N, R23W, Wright Co.) to Drainage Ditch 13 (S24, T96N, R24W, Hancock Co.)

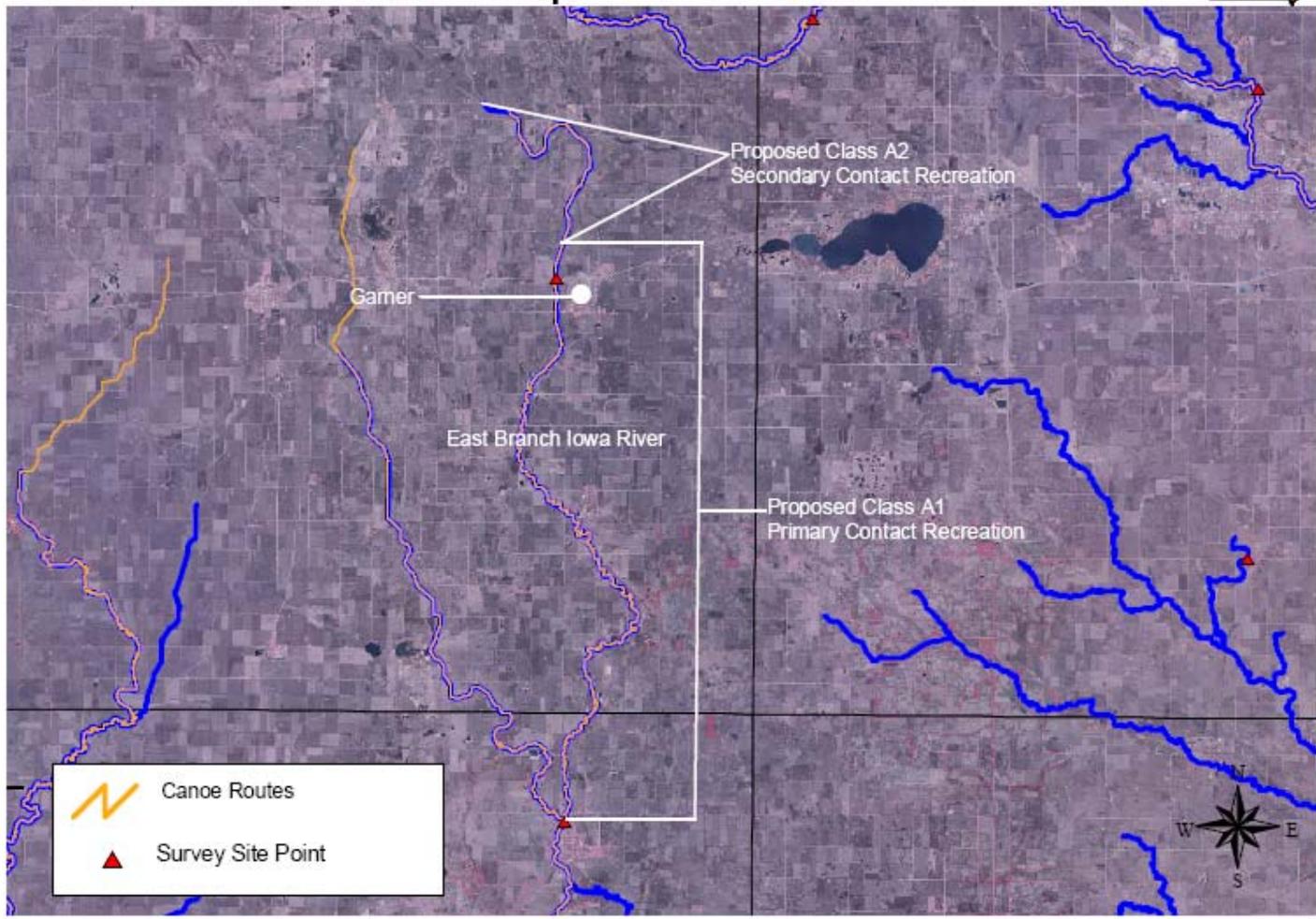
- Class A2 Secondary Contact Recreational Use from Drainage Ditch 13 (S24, T96N, R24W, Hancock Co.) to the confluence with Unnamed Creek (S27, T97N, R24W, Hancock Co.)

*See recommendation map for details

Public Lands Map - East Branch Iowa River



Recommendation Map - E. Branch Iowa River



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: East Fork Des Moines River
Affected Facility: GKN Wheel (48)
Armstrong (85)
Algona (103)
Oak Lake Maintenance (145)
Southdale Addition (565)
Sentral School (705)
Swea City (752)
South Oak Estates MHP (139)
Murphy Farms Feed Mill (187)

Dates: Field assessment – 6/12/06 and 6/13/06, 10/17/06

Public Comments:

Seven comments were received for the East Fork Des Moines River. Six of the comments were for the downstream portion of the East Fork Des Moines River that is currently recommended for Primary Contact Recreational Use. The remaining comment was from a phone interviews from an employee of the Kossuth County Conservation Board. The comment was for the recommended Secondary Contact Recreational Use segment and stated that fishing occurred frequently at the Tuttle Lake Wetland Complex. Children's Play was also mentioned, but it was stated to be infrequent. No other recreational activities were mentioned in the interviews.

Analysis:

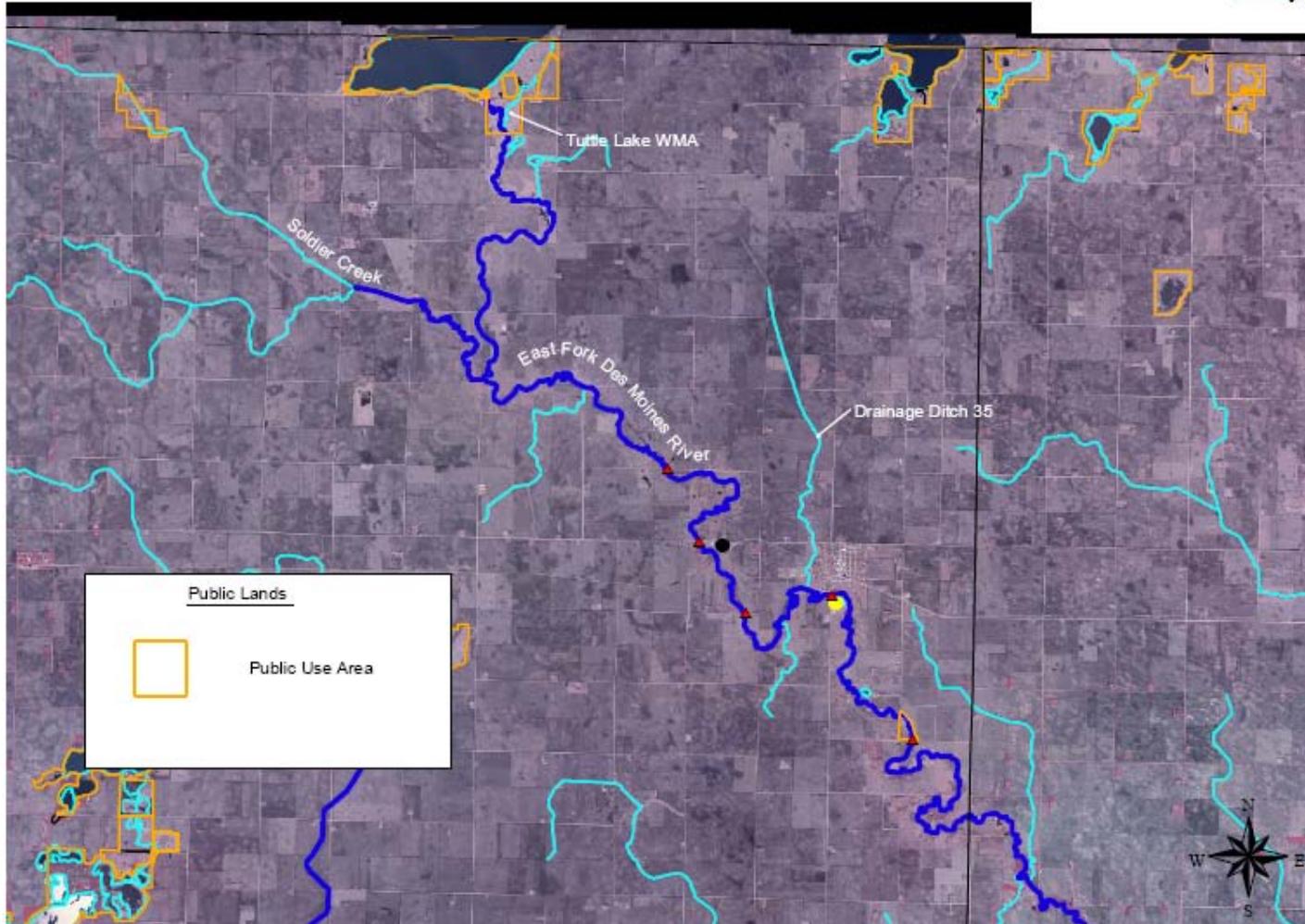
The previous assessment concluded that the East Fork Des Moines River was recommended to be split into two different designations. Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for the East Fork Des Moines River from the confluence with Drainage Ditch #35 (SE ¼ S15, T99N, R31W, Emmet County) to the headwaters at Tuttle Lake on the Iowa/Minnesota border (SE ¼ S11, T100N, R32W, Emmet County) due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation Use (Class A3). The department recommends the Class A1 Primary Contact Recreational Use apply from the Highway 169 bridge crossing (NE ¼ of S26, T94N, R29W, Kossuth County) to the confluence with Drainage Ditch #35 (SE ¼ of S15, T99N, R31W, Emmet County).

The comments received for the East Fork Des Moines River did not provide any additional information about the recommended Class A2 Secondary Contact Recreational Use portion that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for the East Fork Des Moines River will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the confluence with an unnamed tributary (NE ¼ S31, T90N, R30W, Webster County) to the bridge

crossing at 520th Street (N. Line S6, T91N, R32W, Pocahontas County). Primary Contact Recreational Use (Class A1) will remain as recommended the confluence with Drainage Ditch #35 (SE ¼ S15, T99N, R31W, Emmet County) to the headwaters at Tuttle Lake on the Iowa/Minnesota border (SE ¼ S11, T100N, R32W, Emmet County). *

*See recommendation map for details

Public Lands - East Fork Des Moines River



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: East Fork Medicine Creek
Affected Facility: Allerton (527)
Dates: Field assessment - 4/6/06,
Survey(s)/Interview(s) – Nov. 07 – Dec. 07

Public Comments:

County Conservation Board Mailing/Phone Survey

A recreational use survey concerning East Fork Medicine Creek was returned by a Wayne County Conservation Board employee. The survey indicated no recreational uses are occurring on the creek.

Online Survey/Email

A resident of Wayne County indicated no recreational uses are associated with the creek.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (A2) designation was appropriate for East Fork Medicine Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence and information to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3). Public comments did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's recommendation will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (A2) for East Fork Medicine Creek from the Iowa-Missouri state line (S24, T67N, R22W, Wayne Co.) to the confluence with Unnamed Creek (SW ¼, S31, T68N, R21W, Wayne Co.).*

* See recommendation map

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: East Nishnabotna River
Affected Facility: Shenandoah, City of STP (564)
Atlantic, City of STP (47)
Missouri River Energy Services, Exira Station (638)
Red Oak, City of STP (112)
Glacier Daido America, L.L.C. (46)
Templeton, City of STP (783)
Kimballton, City of STP (396)
Anita, City of STP (372)
Audubon, City of STP (397)
Dates: Field assessment: 9/10/2005, 10/3/2006, 10/16/2006, 11/16/06
Survey(s)/Interview(s): 12/07 - 9/06

Public Comments:

There were a total of 5 comments received regarding recreational activities in the East Nishnabotna River. Private individuals account for 3 comments, 1 comment was received from a Page County Conservation employee, and the other comment was a phone interview with an Audubon County Conservation employee. The phone interview pertained to the Nabotna Pond Park public area.

The three private individuals have witnessed, or not witnessed, different activities in the East Nishnabotna River. One commenter noted that fishing is the only recreational activity that occurs in the East Nishnabotna River. Regarding the other two; one has witnessed swimming, canoeing and fishing but has not witnessed any child's play while the other has witnessed swimming, child's play, canoeing, and fishing/seining/trapping. All three comments from private individuals noted various locations in the segment of the river from the mouth upstream to the City of Atlantic.

A survey was mailed in from a Page County Conservation employee who noted that fishing was the only recreational activity they had observed in the river. Fishing had been observed numerous times from bridges around the City of Shenandoah. There was a phone interview conducted with an Audubon County Conservation employee regarding the Nabotna Pond Park. This park is now managed by the City of Audubon and is no longer open to the public. There have been no observed recreational uses observed in that area.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that it was appropriate to have a split designation between a Primary Contact Recreational use (Class A1) and a Secondary Contact Recreational use (Class A2) for the East Nishnabotna River due to variances in flow and public access.

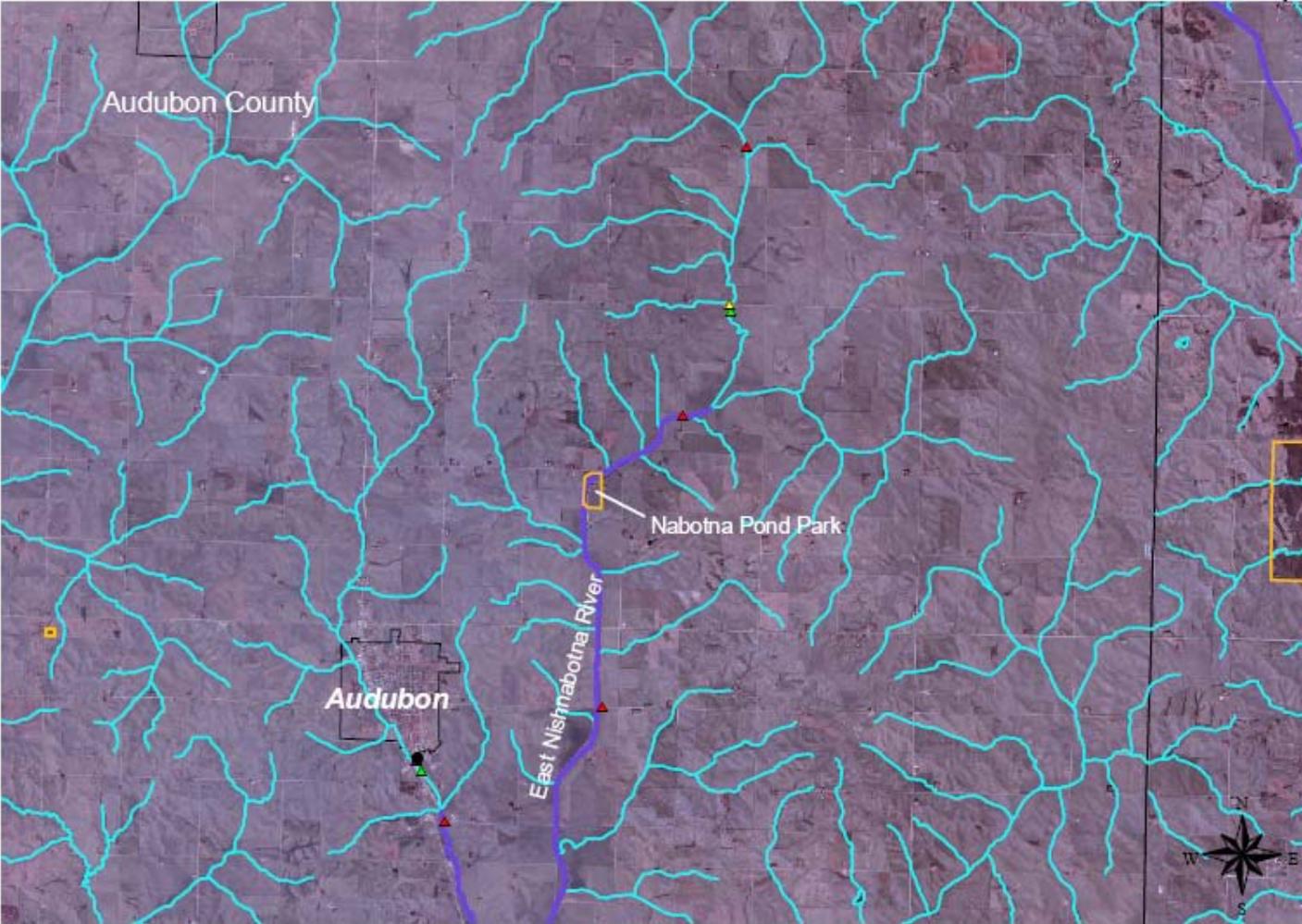
All the comments from the private citizens noted recreational uses occurring in the segment of the river between the mouth and the City of Atlantic. This segment of the East Nishnabotna River is currently recommended to be Primary Contact Recreation (Class A1). Therefore, the comments confirm the current recommendation.

The comments received for the East Nishnabotna River provided no additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for the river will remain as follows:

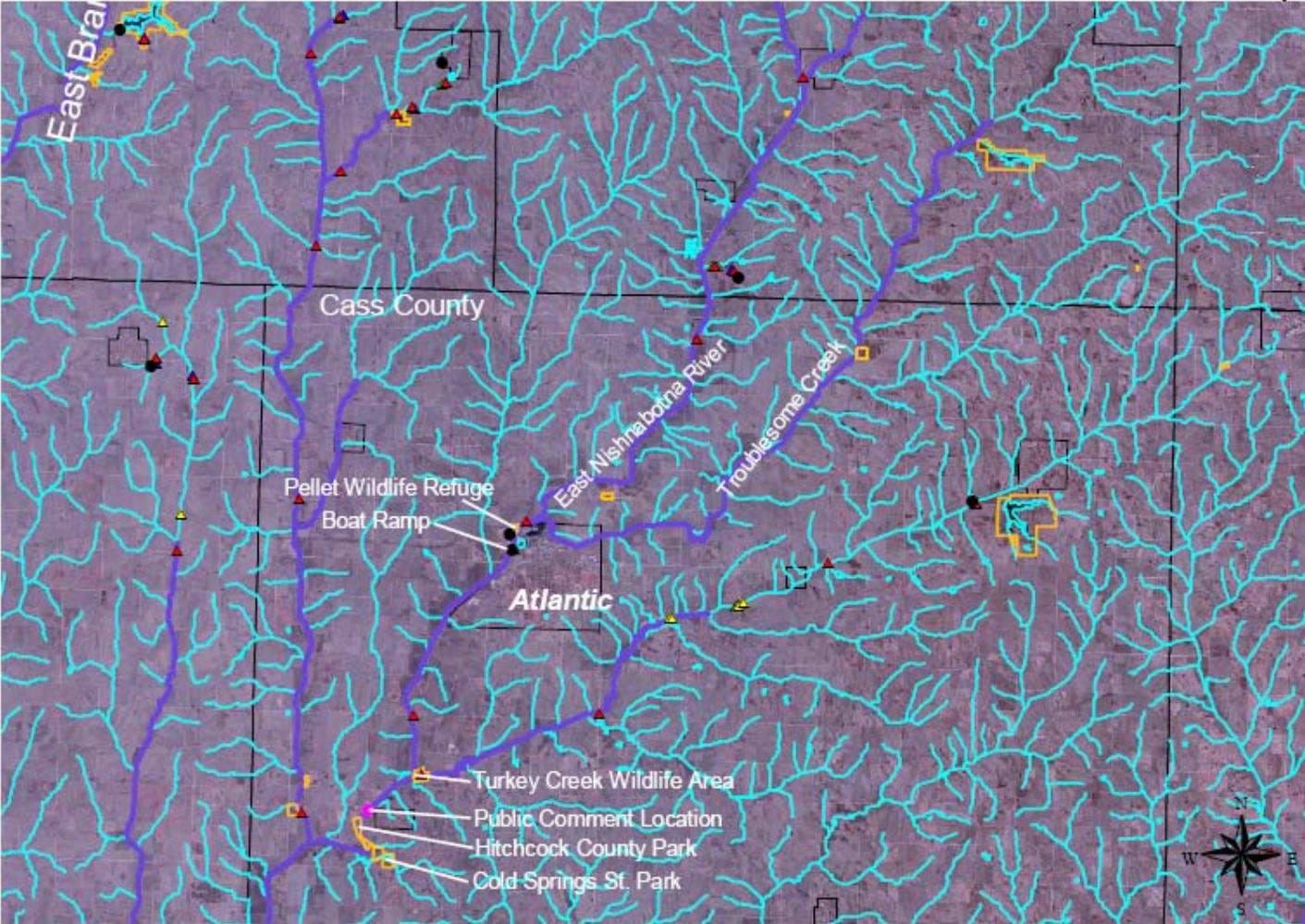
- Class A1 Primary Contact Recreation from the mouth to the confluence of Troublesome Creek (Cass County)*
- Class A2 Secondary Contact Recreation from the confluence of Troublesome Creek (Cass County) upstream to State Highway 141 (N. Line, S20, T82N, R35W, Carroll County)*

*See recommendation map for details

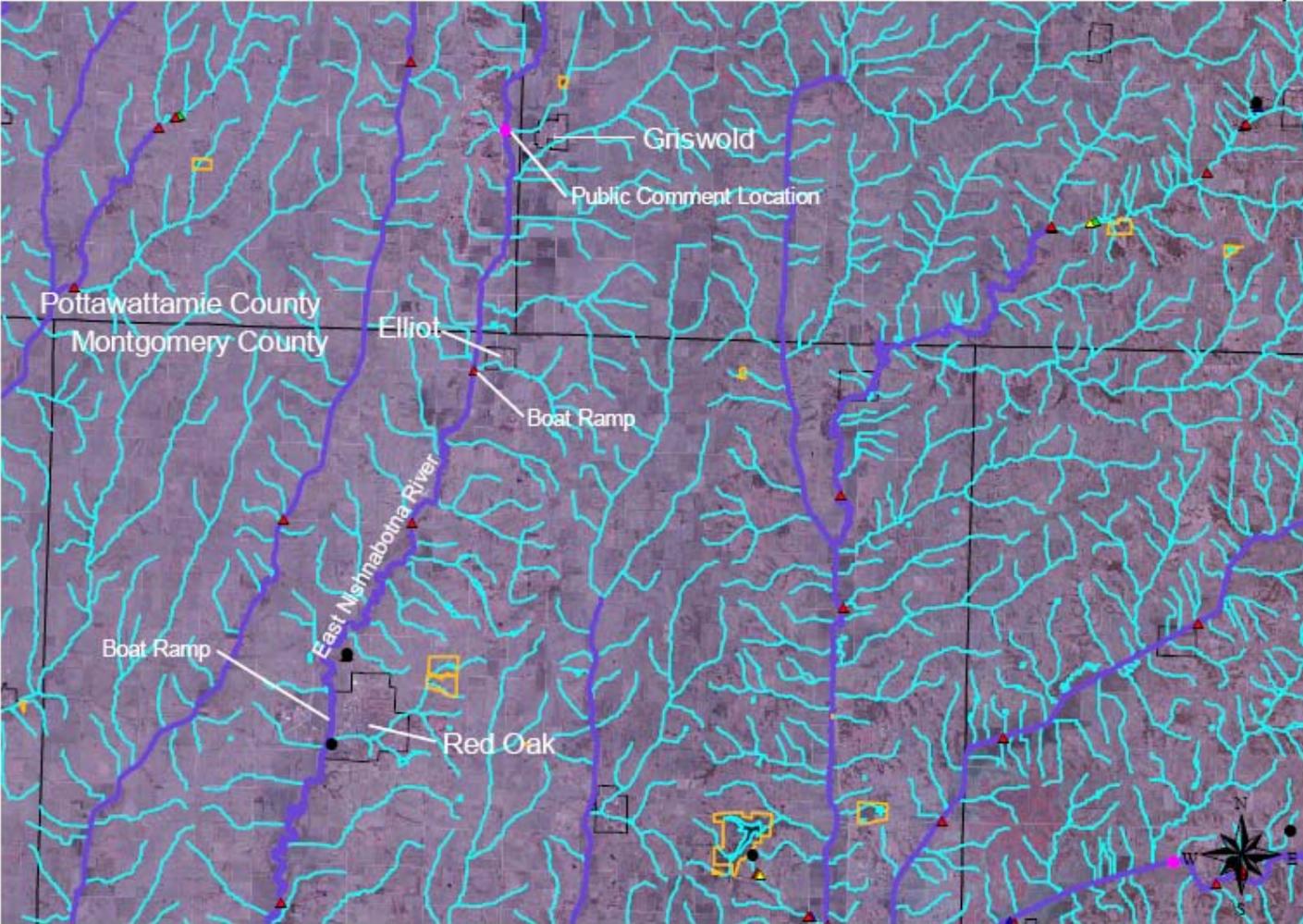
Public Lands and Comments for East Nishnabotna River 



Public Lands and Comments for East Nishnabotna River



Public Lands and Comments for East Nishnabotna River



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: East Otter Creek
Affected Facility: City of Kiron (421)
Dates: Field assessment – 09/05/06

Public Comments:

There was one survey returned for East Otter Creek. The survey stated that there were no known areas for swimming, however there may be a chance that children play in the stream near Memory Park in Kiron, but he has never witnessed it personally.

There were no known public lands on the maps, however the County Conservation employee stated that there is a city park in Kiron near the stream.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for East Otter Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

The comment received for East Otter Creek did not provide any additional information that would result in a change from the recommended Class A2 designation. There is a city park in the City of Kiron, however the park is located upstream from the wastewater treatment plant and was not included as part of the assessment. The segment of stream that Memory Park is located on is presumed to be a Class A1 Primary Contact Recreational use. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for East Otter Creek will remain as Class A2 Secondary Recreational Use designation apply from the mouth of East Otter Creek (NW1/4, NW1/4, S13, T85N, R39W, Crawford Co.) to the City of Kiron WWTP outfall (NW1/4, SE1/4, S12, T85N, R39W, Crawford Co.)

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: East Soldier River
Affected Facility: Schleswig (419), Ricketts (420)
Dates: Field assessment - 10/2/06, 10/16/06

Public Comments:

One survey was returned for East Soldier River from a Crawford County Conservation Board employee. The survey stated that there were no known recreational uses taking place in East Soldier River in the assessed reach.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for East Soldier River due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

The comments received for East Soldier River did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for East Soldier River will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the mouth (SE ¼ S34, T84N, R42W, Monona County) to the bridge crossing at 6th Street (SW ¼ S19, T85N, R39W, Crawford County).*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Elk River
Affected Facility: Miles (448)
Dates: Field assessment – 9/6/06, 10/26/06

Public Comments:

Two comments were received for the Elk River. One comment was a mail in survey returned by the Clinton County Conservation Board and one was an online survey. Both Comments were for the downstream portion of the Elk River that is currently recommended for Primary Contact Recreational Use.

Analysis:

The previous assessment recommended that the Elk River will be split into two different designations. Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation is considered appropriate for the Elk River from the bridge crossing at 432nd Avenue (NW ¼ of S15, T83W, R6E, Clinton County) to the bridge crossing at Section Road (NE ¼ of S36, T84N, R5E, Jackson County) due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3). The department recommends the Class A1 Primary Contact Recreational Use apply from the mouth (SE ¼ of S20, T83N, R7E, Clinton County) to the bridge crossing at 432nd Avenue (NW ¼ of S15, T83W, R6E, Clinton County).

The comments received for the Elk River did not provide any additional information regarding the recommended A2 Secondary Contact Recreational Use portion that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for the Elk River will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the bridge crossing at 432nd Avenue (NW ¼ of S15, T83W, R6E, Clinton County) to the bridge crossing at Section Road (NE ¼ of S36, T84N, R5E, Jackson County). The previous Primary Contact Recreational Use (Class A1) recommendation will remain for the Elk River from the mouth (SE ¼ of S20, T83N, R7E, Clinton County) to the bridge crossing at 432nd Avenue (NW ¼ of S15, T83W, R6E, Clinton County). *

*See recommendation map for details

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: English River
Affected Facility: City of Riverside WWTP (681)
City of North English WWTP (445)
City of Wellman WWTP (524)
Shiloh (273)
Twin County Dairy INC. (359)
Dates: Field assessment – 10/23/06, Phone interviews - Dec. 07/ Jan. 08

Public Comments:

There were 12 comments received for the assessed segment of the English River. The Washington County Conservation Board submitted 3 surveys and the remaining 9 surveys were submitted by the general public.

The comments submitted by the Washington County Conservation Board stated that no known swimming or children's play take place in the English River. Canoeing was noted as occurring on an occasional basis. Fishing on the English River was noted to occur frequently at several locations throughout the year.

8 of the 9 comment from the public stated that swimming occurs at various locations along the English River. Children's play was noted in 4 of the 9 surveys. No specific locations were given for children's play activities. 7 of the 9 surveys noted canoeing and tubing to take place on the entire English River. Several of the comments noted canoeing to occur on a regular basis during the spring, summer, and fall months. Fishing was noted on 4 of the 9 surveys to occur throughout the entire English River. Fishing was noted to occur often in the spring, summer, and fall months.

Analysis:

The initial department recommendation concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for the English River due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence and information to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3). (see previous recommendation map).

The depth criteria guidelines used by the department to help determine if Primary Contact Recreational use (Class A1) is attainable typically will exclude streams that are not able to support a Class A1 use due to the overall lack of flow needed to support activities that result in direct and prolonged contact with the water, involving considerable risk of ingesting appreciable quantities of water sufficient to pose a health hazard. While these guidelines are effective in most situations, there are cases where a stream demonstrates that it can support the Class A1 use despite the lack of flow that typically distinguishes a stream that can support Primary Contact Recreational uses.

The comments from the general public and local officials have indicated that multiple recreational uses occur within the English River. The comments received describe the occurrence of activities consistent with all three of Iowa's recreational use designations.

The public comments noted many recreational uses occurring at many locations throughout the English River. An emphasis on canoeing was noted on several of the comments despite the marginal flows. According to the Iowa Stream Fishing & Canoe Guide, the entire English River is listed as a designated canoe route and contains three public accesses. As noted by public and local officials, the entire English River is being used by many groups for canoeing, fishing, and other water related activities. One survey submitted by a private citizen noted specifically that the English River was paddled several times a year by him and his friends from the W21 (Dogwood Avenue) Bridge downstream to the mouth. Also, a survey from the Washington County Conservation Board specifically noted that the English River is paddled approximately three times a year from the confluence with the North and South English Rivers downstream to the W21 (Dogwood Avenue) Bridge.

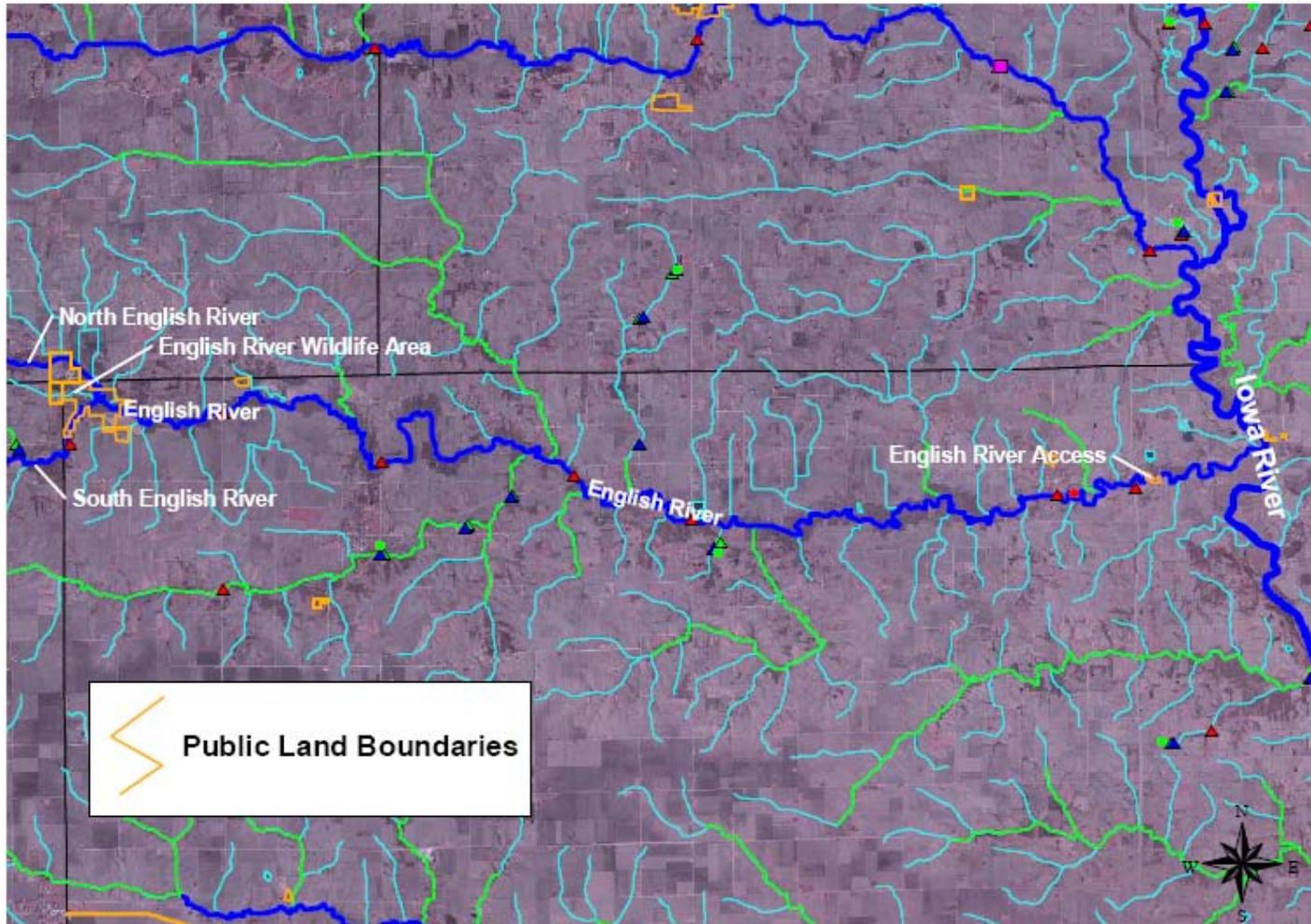
Primary Contact Recreational (Class A1) uses have been described at many locations throughout the English River from the mouth upstream to the confluence with the North and South English Rivers. These comments have been submitted by both the general public and county and state employees. Although the English River is considered to be shallow throughout the reach by typical Class A1 criteria; it has been proven that Primary Contact Recreational uses are not only attainable, but occurring on a regular basis throughout the spring, summer, and fall months.

Due to recent information the Department is modifying the original recommendations as detailed below.

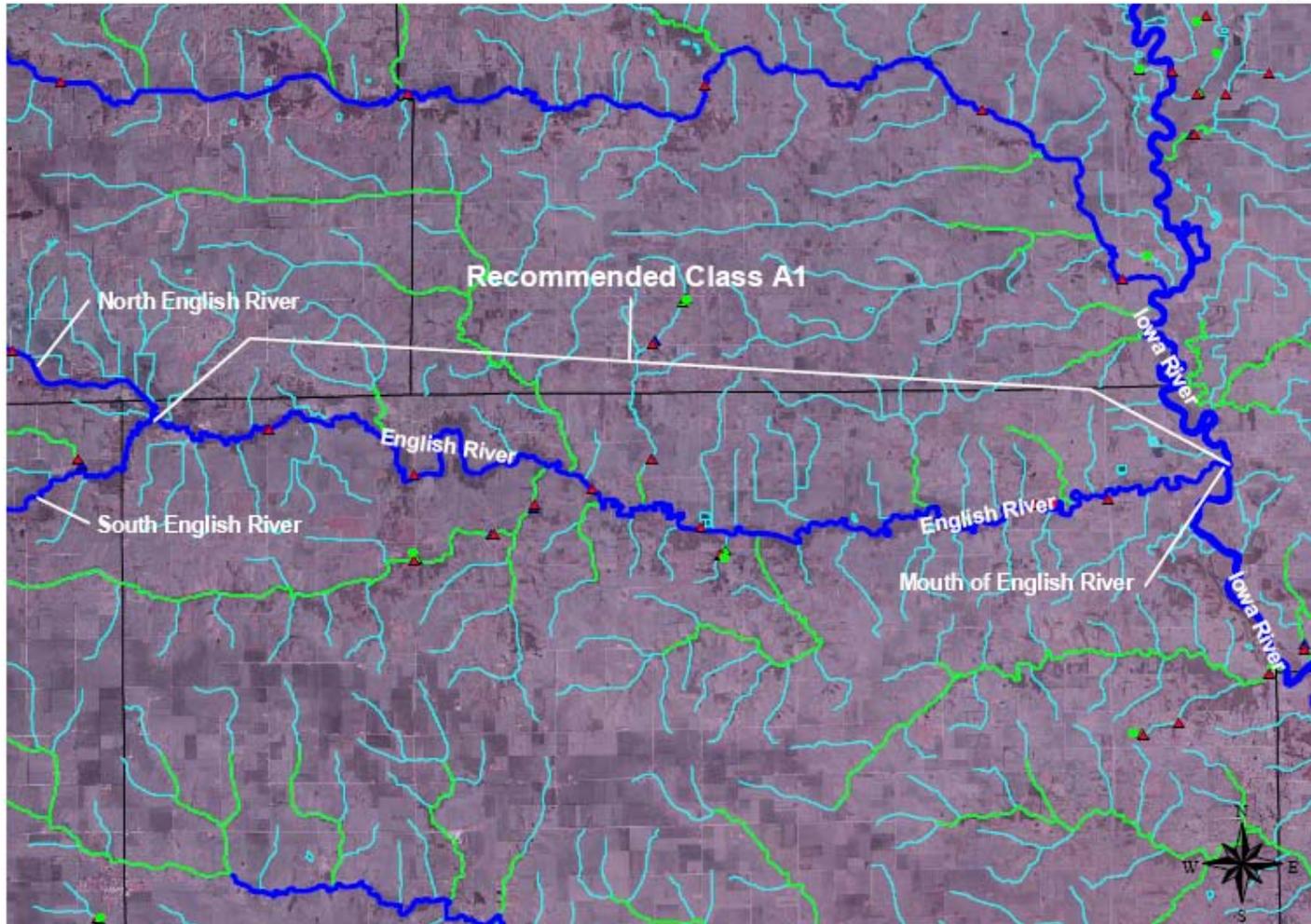
- Class A1, Primary Contact Recreation from the mouth of the English River (S12, T77N, R6W, Washington Co.) to the confluence with the North English and South English Rivers (S6, T77N, R9W, Washington Co.).*

* See recommendation map

Public Lands Map for English River



Recommendation Map for English River



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Fenchel Creek
Affected Facility: Strawberry Point (797)
Dates: Field assessment – 10/10/06 and 10/19/06

Public Comments:

One survey was returned for Fenchel Creek from a Clayton County Conservation Board employee. The survey stated that there were no known recreational uses taking place in Fenchel Creek in the assessed reach.

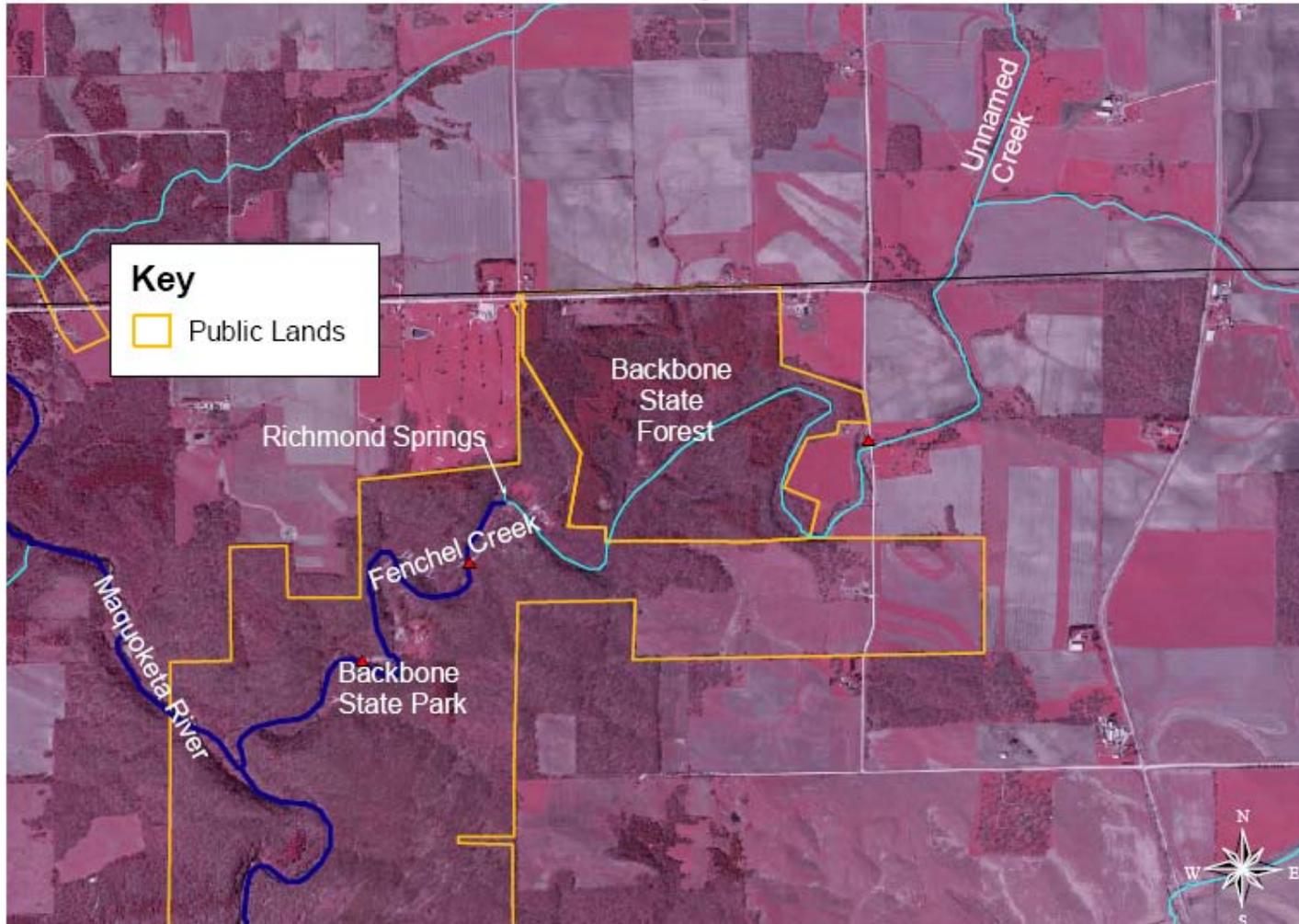
Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Children's Recreation Use (Class A3) designation was appropriate for Fenchel Creek from the mouth to Richmond Springs due to encouraged contact with the stream, and no recreational use was appropriate from Richmond Springs to the headwaters due to the lack of flow within this reach.

The comments received for Fenchel Creek did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Fenchel Creek will remain as Children's Recreational Use (Class A3) from the mouth (S5, T90N, R6W, Delaware Co.) to Richmond Springs (Center of S4, T90N, R6W, Delaware Co.) and no recreational use from Richmond Springs (Center of S4, T90N, R06W, Delaware Co.) to the confluence of Unnamed Creek (SE 1/4 of SW ¼ S34, T91N, R06W, Clayton Co.).*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Lands and Comment Map for Fenchel Creek



Public Comment Analysis

Stream:	Floyd River
Affected Facility:	Ag Processing Inc. – Sheldon (294) City of Le Mars WWTP (115) City of Sanborn WWTP (490) City of Sheldon WWTP (489) Magellan Pipeline Company, LLC. (201) Hospers (513) Nutra-flo (43) Well’s Dairy (Le Mars Milk) (299) Well’s Dairy (North Ice Cream Plant (300) Well’s Dairy (South Ice Cream Plant (301)
Dates:	Field assessment – 04/20/06, 08/23/06, 11/02/06 and 11/03/06

Public Comments:

There were 3 comments received for the assessed reach of the Floyd River from county conservation employees and 20 comments received from the general public for a total of 23 comments.

Many of the comments from the general public have noted swimming, child’s play, canoeing, and fishing occurring on a regular basis throughout the Floyd River. Of the 20 public comments; 14 observed swimming, 15 observed children playing, 16 observed canoeing, and 18 have observed fishing. The majority of the locations given for recreational activities are adjacent to cities or towns all the way from the mouth to the City of Sheldon.

There were two surveys returned from Plymouth County Conservation employees. One surveyor has observed canoeing one to two times per year between Merrill and Hinton or between Hinton and C70 bridge as well as fishing many times per year near Hinton. The other survey has noted fishing as the only recreational activity that they have observed.

One survey was returned from a Sioux County Conservation employee who stated that canoeing and fishing have been observed from Hospers to Alton.

During the initial field assessments; recreational evidence was found at 9 of the 12 assessed sites. These types of recreation typically consisted of footprints, graffiti, fishing tackle, ATV tracks, mud writing, and one rope swing at Site 489-f.

Analysis:

The initial department recommendation concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for the Floyd River due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact

recreational use and the overall lack of evidence and information to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

The depth criteria guidelines used by the department to help determine if Primary Contact Recreational use (Class A1) is attainable typically will exclude streams that are not able to support a Class A1 use due to the overall lack of flow needed to support activities that result in direct and prolonged contact with the water, involving considerable risk of ingesting appreciable quantities of water sufficient to pose a health hazard. While these guidelines are effective in most situations, there are cases where a stream demonstrates that it can support the Class A1 use despite the lack of flow that typically distinguishes a stream that can support Primary Contact Recreational uses.

The comments from the general public and local officials have indicated that multiple recreational uses occur throughout the Floyd River, and the department observed evidence of recreational uses at 9 of the 12 assessed sites. The comments received describe the occurrence of activities consistent with all three of Iowa's recreational use designations.

The public comments were spread throughout the reach of the Floyd River, all the way from the mouth to the City of Sheldon. These comments typically listed swimming, child's play, canoeing, and fishing occurring at most locations in proximity to towns, and the department found evidence of these activities at many of the sites during the initial field assessment. Canoeing was mentioned several times from Sheldon to Le Mars, Merrill to Hinton, and Hinton to C70. These locations stretch the majority of the assessed reach.

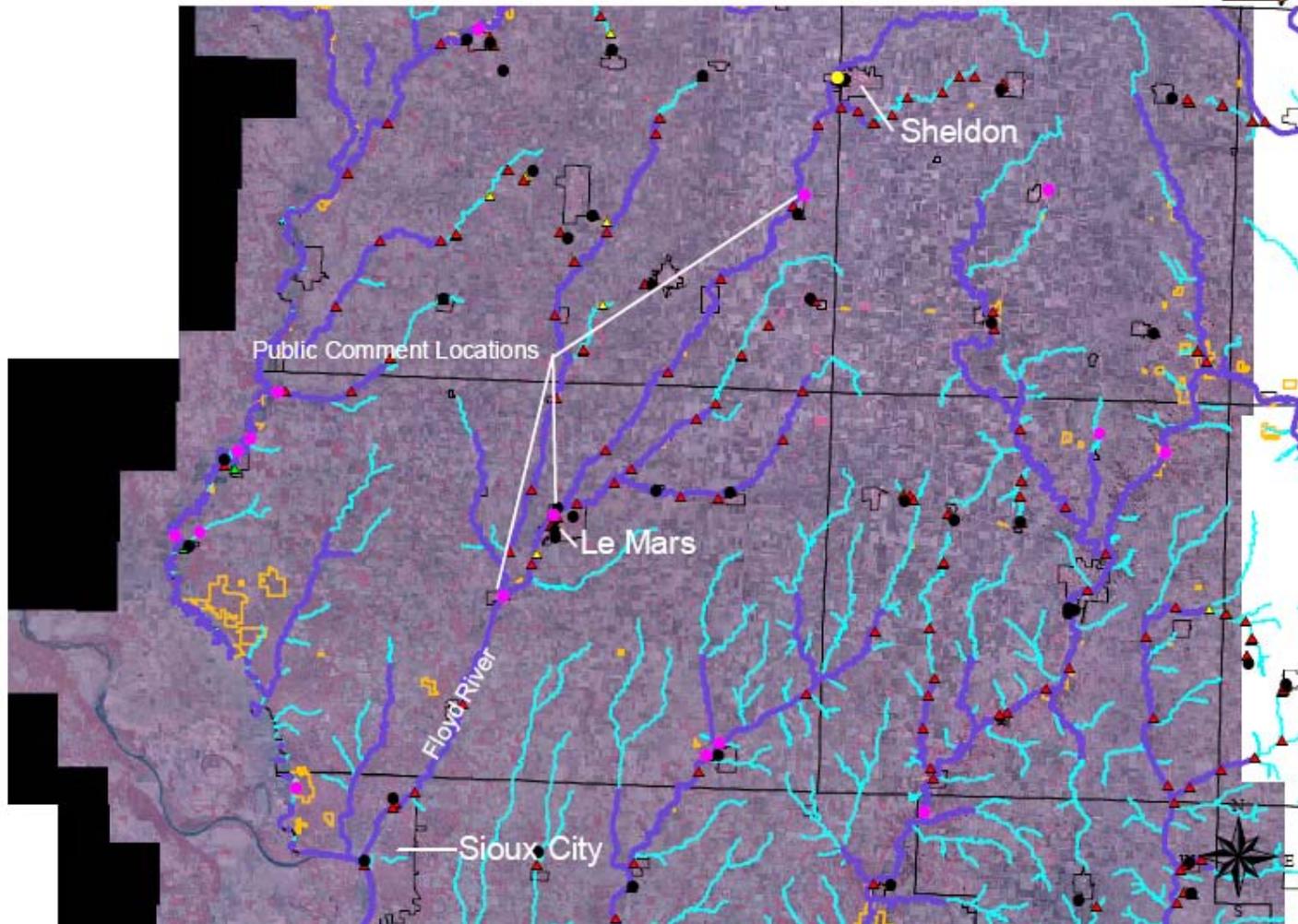
The department's initial recommendation noted that site 115-1 possessed adequate maximum depths to support the Class A1 use at that site; however the stream was noted to be at elevated flows. There were three sites total that displayed adequate average depths in a portion of those assessed reaches. While the Floyd River did not meet the depth guidelines in full, the fact that some sites meet the average and maximum depth requirements help to support the public comments received at these locations.

Due to recent information the Department is modifying the original recommendations as detailed below.

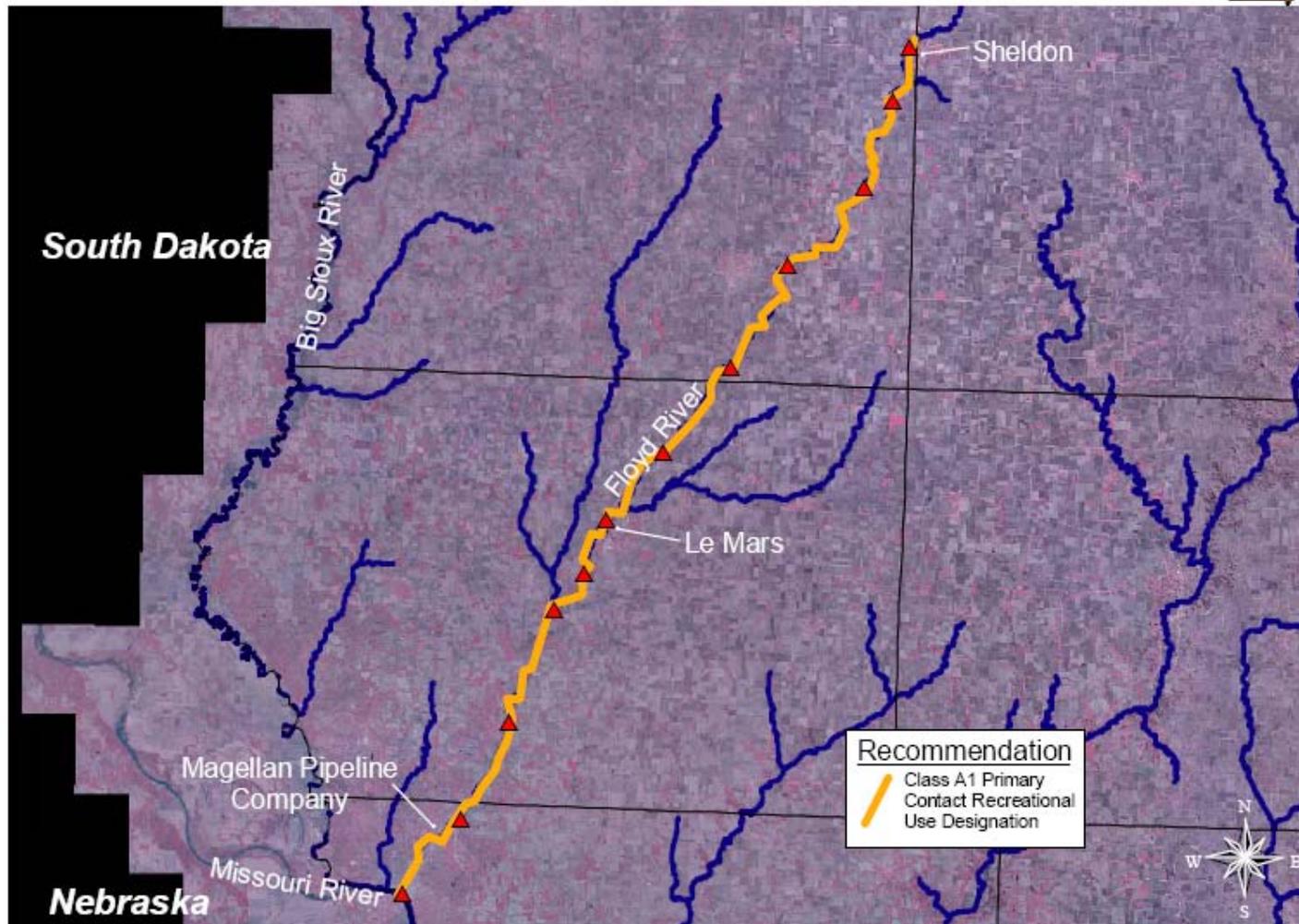
- Class A1, Primary Contact Recreation from the mouth of the Floyd River (E. line, S33, T89N, R47W, Woodbury County) to the Hwy 18 bridge crossing (N. line, S36, R97N, R43W, Sioux County).*

* See recommendation map

Public Lands and Comments for the Floyd River



Recommendation for Recreational Use Designation for Floyd River



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Fourmile Creek
Affected Facility: City of Slater WWTP (516)
North Polk Community School (37)
YMCA of Ankeny (31)
City of Ankeny WWTP (120)
Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities (177)
ADM Soybean Processing (318)
Dates: Field assessment: 4/24/06, 4/25/06 & 7/20/06

Public Comments:

There were a total of 12 comments received regarding recreational activities in Fourmile Creek. The 12 comments listed variances of swimming, child's play, canoeing, and fishing occurring in Fourmile Creek. Of these 12 comments, 11 of them gave locations on Fourmile Creek between the mouth and the 142nd Ave. crossing. The remaining comment listed child's play and swimming at two locations in the city limits of Slater, upstream from the City of Slater's WWTP outfall.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that it was appropriate to have a split designation between a Children's Recreation (Class A3) and a Secondary Contact Recreational use (Class A2) designations for Fourmile Creek due to public access and evidence of recreational activities.

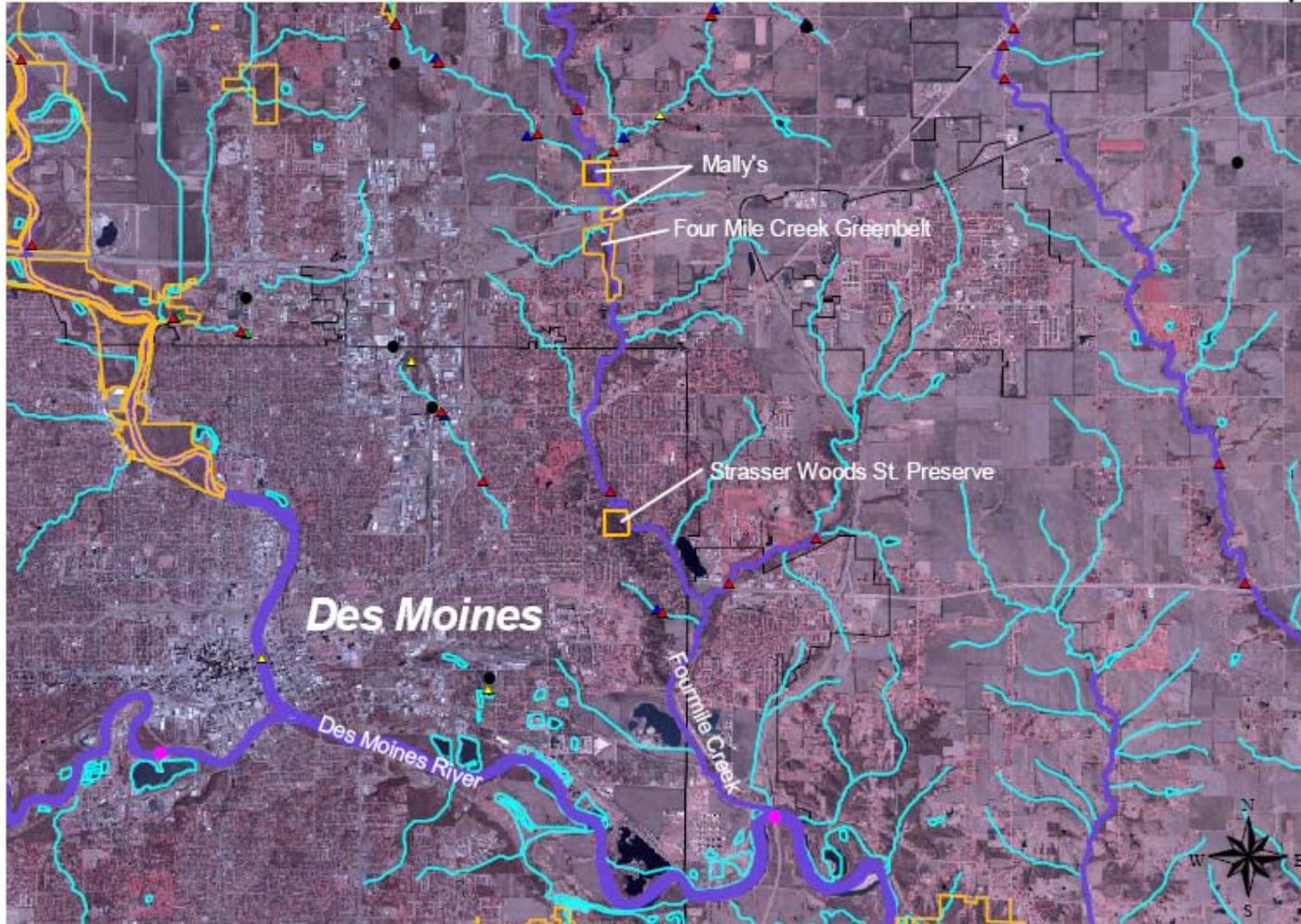
The 11 comments that listed locations between the mouth and the 142nd Ave. crossing are in a segment of Fourmile Creek currently recommended for Children's Recreation (Class A3). The remaining comment lists recreational activities occurring within the city limits of Slater. This stream segment is upstream from the end of our current recommended designation of Secondary Contact Recreation (Class A2); therefore, will be remaining as a presumed Primary Contact Recreation (Class A1) stream segment.

The comments received for Fourmile Creek provided no additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for the river will remain as follows:

- Class A3 Children's Recreation from the mouth (Polk Co.) to the 142nd Ave. bridge crossing (N. line of S22, T81N, R24W, Polk Co.)*
- Class A2 Secondary Contact Recreation from the 142nd Ave bridge crossing (N. line of S22, T81N, R24W, Polk Co.) to the City of Slater WWTP outfall (NE ¼, SE ¼, S31, T82N, R24W, Story Co.)*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Lands Along Fourmile Creek



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Fox River
Affected Facilities: City of Bloomfield (425), City of Mount Sterling (596)
Dates: Field assessment – 11/1/06, Survey(s)/Interview(s) – 12/07 - 11/07

Public Comments:

One comment was sent in from a private citizen regarding the recreation uses in the Fox River. He stated that he has never seen anyone swimming or boating in the river; however, when the river is low he has seen four-wheelers and hunters in the river bed.

One survey was returned from a Davis County Conservation employee that stated that they had canoed the river several times during periods of high flow.

A telephone interview was conducted with an Iowa DNR employee regarding recreational uses that have been observed occurring in either the DeVoss Foster Wildlife Management area or the Fox River Wildlife Management area. Swimming or child's play had not been observed at either location. The interviewee stated that fishing and canoeing likely occur at both locations; however, these activities had not been observed.

Graffiti, ATV tracks, and an old bucket trap are types of recreational evidence that was found at the 6 assessed sites during the initial assessment.

Analysis:

The initial department recommendation concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for the Fox River due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence and information to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

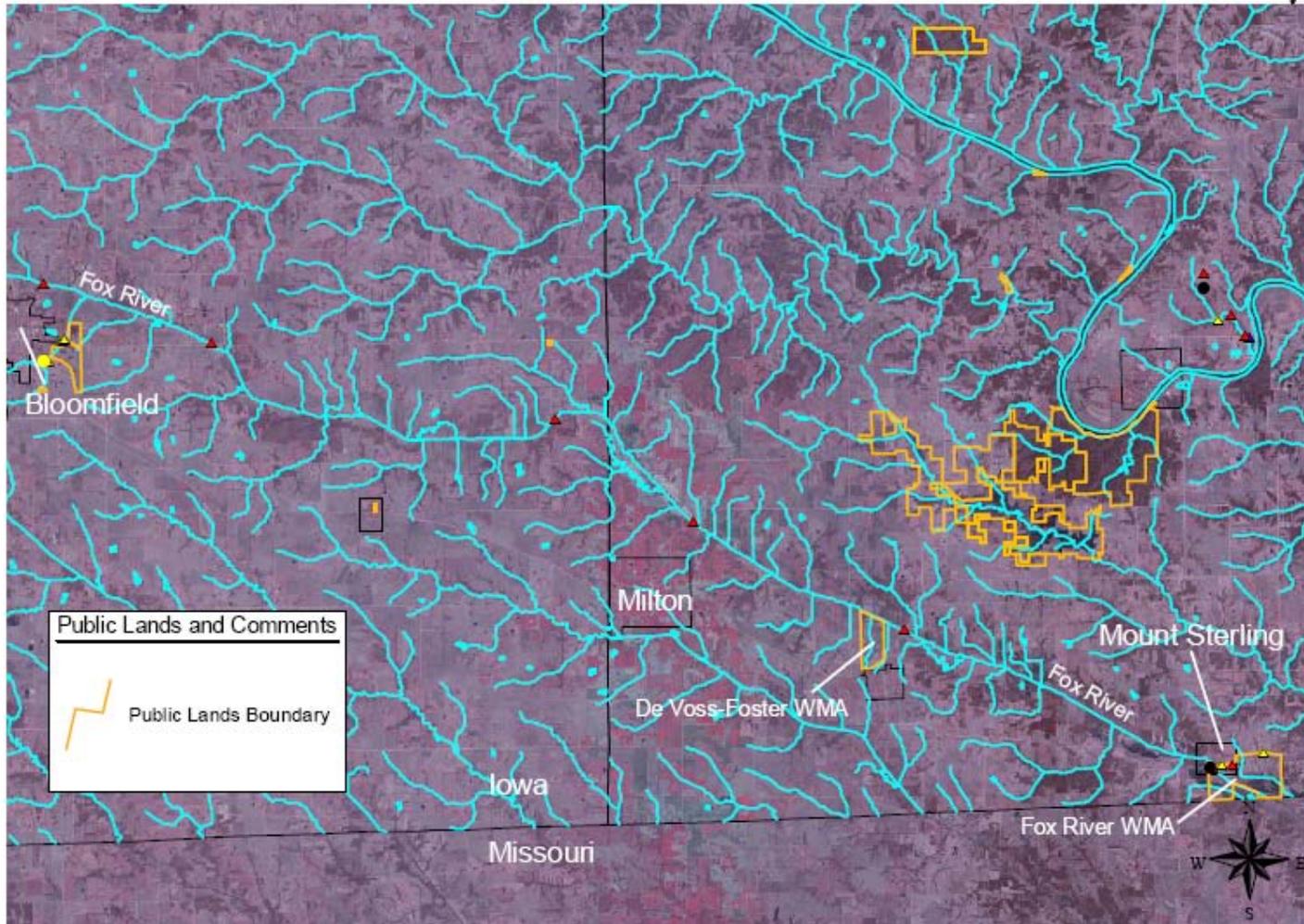
The previous assessment of the river found no evidence of primary contact or children's recreation. One assessment location at Site 425-e demonstrated adequate depths for primary contact recreation. The deep portion of the river appeared to have been recently dredged for flood control purposes. This or any other area of the assessed reach is not expected to sustain conditions to support recreational or other uses that may result in prolonged and direct contact with the water, involving considerable risk of ingesting water in quantities sufficient to pose a health hazard associated with primary contact recreation. The remainder of the assessed reach was shallow throughout (See attached picture).



The comments received for the Fox River did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for the Fox River will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the Iowa-Missouri state line to US Highway 63 (NW ¼, S19, T69N, R13W, Davis County).*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Lands and Comments Map - Fox River



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Gere Creek
Affected Facility: Meriden (761)
Dates: Field assessment - 10/4/06

Public Comments:

One survey was returned for Gere Creek from a Cherokee County Conservation Board employee. The survey stated that there were no known recreational uses taking place in Gere Creek in the assessed reach.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Gere Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

The comments received for Gere Creek did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Gere Creek will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (A2) from the mouth (NW ¼, S30, T93N, R40W, Cherokee County) to the confluence with Unnamed Creek (SW ¼, S36, T93N, R41W, Cherokee County).*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Gypsum Creek
Affected Facility: United States Gypsum Company (313)
Dates: Field assessment – 08/30/06, 08/31/06

Public Comments:

There was one survey returned for Gypsum Creek. The survey stated that there were no known recreational uses taking place in or near Gypsum Creek in the assessed reach.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use Class A2 designation was appropriate for Gypsum Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 Primary Contact Recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation Class A3.

The comment received for Gypsum Creek provided did not provide any information that would result in a change from the recommended Class A2 designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Gypsum Creek will remain as Class A2 Secondary Contact Recreational use from the mouth (S6, T88N, R28W, Webster Co.) to 210th street (S33, T89N, R28W, Webster Co.).

*See recommendation map for details

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Hardin Creek
Affected Facilities: Farnhamville (218) and Churdan (911)
Dates: Field assessment – 8/30/06, 8/31/06 and 10/16/06;
Survey(s)/Interview(s) –

Public Comments:

County Conservation Board Phone/Mail Survey

A recreational use mail survey concerning Hardin Creek was received by the department from an employee of the Greene County Conservation Board. The survey stated the following: They swam in the creek in the early 1970's, occasionally sees swimming activity (location not noted); occasionally sees children playing near the stream (location not noted); canoeing, kayaking, and tubing all take place seasonally when enough flow is present; and fishing is a common activity in the creek.

Additional Surveys/Comment

Twenty surveys/comments were received by the department from residents of Iowa. Many of the surveys indicated recreational uses consistent with Classes A1, A2, and A3 designations were occurring on the creek (swimming, canoeing, kayaking, tubing, fishing, wading, and children playing). The majority of the comments were received for the portions of the stream from Highway 4 north of Jefferson to the mouth of Hardin Creek.

Assessment Site Interview/Postcard

Interview

Site 218-2a: A local landowner was interviewed and they stated that fishing, seining, trapping, and wading occurred in the creek.

Postcard (left at rural residence next to the stream)

Site 218-2a: Postcard returned stated swimming (children playing); children playing in the summer; canoeing, kayaking, or tubing occur in the summer; and fishing occur in the creek.

Analysis:

The initial recommendation concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Hardin Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence and information to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

Segment 1: Mouth of Hardin Creek to Highway 4

The depth criteria guidelines used by the department to help determine if Primary Contact Recreational use (Class A1) is attainable typically will exclude streams that are not able to support a Class A1 use due to the overall lack of flow needed to support activities that

result in direct and prolonged contact with the water, involving considerable risk of ingesting appreciable quantities of water sufficient to pose a health hazard. While these guidelines are effective in most situations, there are cases where a stream demonstrates that it can support the Class A1 use despite the lack of flow that typically distinguishes a stream that can support Primary Contact Recreational uses.

During the 2006 assessment of the river, two out of nine sites demonstrated adequate depths for primary contact recreation. These two locations were located around the city of Jefferson to the mouth (the area where most of the public comments were concentrated). These sites were revisited in 2007 to determine the pool size at these locations.

418-1a

Pool size was 50 feet long X 200 feet in length

418-2a

No depths adequate for primary contact recreation were found

During the initial assessment, evidence of recreational use was observed at several locations through the assessed reaches. The evidence consisted of remnants of fishing tackle, a manmade rock dam, a private camp site (private camp site and rock dam were present from the city of Jefferson to the mouth at site 218-2a.

The comments from the general public and local officials have indicated that multiple recreational uses occur within the lower reaches of Hardin Creek from the mouth to the confluence with Unnamed Creek #2. The comments received describe the occurrence of activities consistent with all three of Iowa's recreational use designations.

Twelve comments/surveys were specific to this segment of river. Out of twelve surveys/comments received, these are number of surveys that indicated the following activities had been observed or personally participated in: 10 swimming or water play that might result in the ingestion of water, 9 children playing, 5 canoeing or kayaking, 5 tubing, and 9 fishing/seining/trapping minnows.

Nine surveys did not indicate specific locations on the creek but may or may not pertain to the assessed segment. Out of nine surveys/comments received, there are a number of surveys that indicated the following activities had been observed or personally participated in: 5 swimming or water play that might result in the ingestion of water, 5 children playing, 4 canoeing/kayaking, 3 tubing, and 8 fishing/seining/trapping minnows.

Despite the marginal flows, primary contact recreational uses are considered attainable for this segment of river taking into consideration the borderline depths found during the initial assessment within this portion of Hardin Creek and public comments that suggest activities consistent with Class A1 Primary Contact Recreational Use.

Pictures of the creek at site 418-1a in this segment



418-1a Bridge looking upstream



418-1a Bridge looking downstream

Segment 2: Confluence with Unnamed Creek #2 to the confluence with Unnamed Creek #1

During the initial assessment, no location within this reach contained sufficient depths for primary contact recreation or evidence of children's recreation. This segment of the creek flows through rural agricultural lands and has difficult accessibility in the reach. Children's recreation is not expected to be a frequent occurrence on the creek.

Two surveys were specific for this segment of the creek. One survey indicated that swimming, children playing, canoeing/kayaking, tubing, and fishing/seining/trapping minnows occur on the creek near the town of Churdan. The survey did not specify the frequency of these activities. The other survey indicated the following activities take place near Churdan: swimming, canoeing/kayaking/john boating, and fishing/seining/trapping minnows. It also stated that children's play in the creek and canoeing/kayaking/john boating depended on the amount of water in the creek. Assessment site 218-5a was located on Highway 4 approximately 3,227 feet from the city limits of Churdan. No evidence of recreational use was found at this location.

Nine surveys did not indicate specific locations on the creek but may or may not pertain to this segment. Out of nine surveys/comments received, these are number of surveys that indicated the following activities had been observed or personally participated in: 5 swimming or water play that might result in the ingestion of water, 5 children playing, 4 canoeing/kayaking, 3 tubing, and 8 fishing/seining/trapping minnows.

The comments that indicated primary contact recreation occurs most likely took in Segment 1 of the creek or at time of elevated flow conditions in this segment. During the initial assessment, sites 218-1, 2, 3, and 4 appeared slightly elevated 1 inch at the time of assessment. Though the creek may have been slightly elevated at these locations, the stream flow conditions found were considered adequately representative of seasonal flows to appropriately characterize the recreational uses of Hardin Creek. The majority of the average depths ranged from 3-10 inches with one average depth measurement of 16 inches in this segment, well below the guidelines used to help determine attainability of primary contact recreation. The stream was relatively narrow as well with widths of

15-51 feet. At summer base flow conditions the stream does not demonstrate the ability to support activities commonly associated with primary contact recreation.

Recommendation

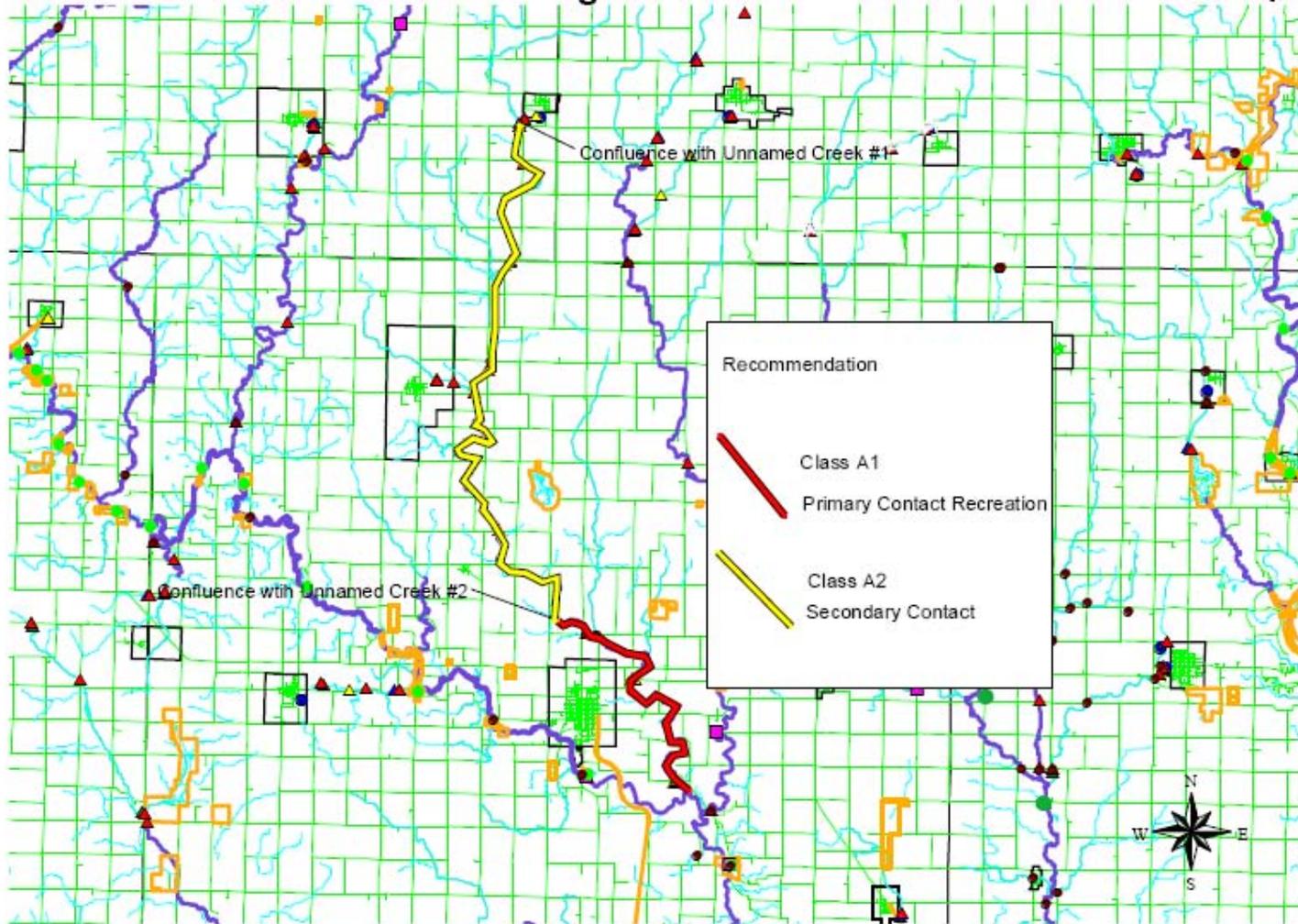
Due to recent information the Department is modifying the original recommendations as detailed below:

Primary Contact Recreational Use (Class A1) designation from the mouth(S23, T83N, R30W, Greene Co.) to the confluence with Unnamed Creek #2 (NE ¼, SW ¼, S30, T84N, R30W, Greene Co.)*

Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation from the confluence with Unnamed Creek #2 (NE ¼, SW ¼, S30, T84N, R30W, Greene Co.)* to the confluence with Unnamed Creek #1 (SE ¼, SE ¼, S11, T86N, R31W, Calhoun Co.).

It should be noted that the department continually updates water quality standards for Iowa. This can include follow-up studies regarding Use Attainability Analyses to incorporate the latest and any new information to ensure the uses of Iowa's waters are reflected appropriately in the Water Quality Standards.

Recommended Recreational Designation for Hardin Creek



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Hickory Creek
Affected Facility: Eldridge - Buttermilk (505)
Dates: Field assessment - 9/14/06 and 9/15/06

Public Comments:

One survey was returned for Hickory Creek from a Scott County Conservation Board employee. The survey stated that there were no known recreational uses taking place in Creek in the assessed reach, but some recreation may be possible due to the close proximity to the City of Eldridge.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Hickory Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

The comments received for Hickory Creek did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Hickory Creek will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the mouth (S31, T80N, R2E, Scott Co.) to the bridge crossing at Buttermilk Road (S15, T79N, R3E, Scott Co.).*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Hogans Branch
Affected Facility: Farley (429)
Dates: Field assessment - 8/28/06 and 10/23/06

Public Comments:

One survey was returned for Hogans Branch from a Dubuque County Conservation Board employee. The survey stated that the only known recreational use of Hogans Branch was occasional fishing, seining or trapping of minnows near Gun Club Road. There were no other known recreational uses within the assessed reach of Hogans Branch.

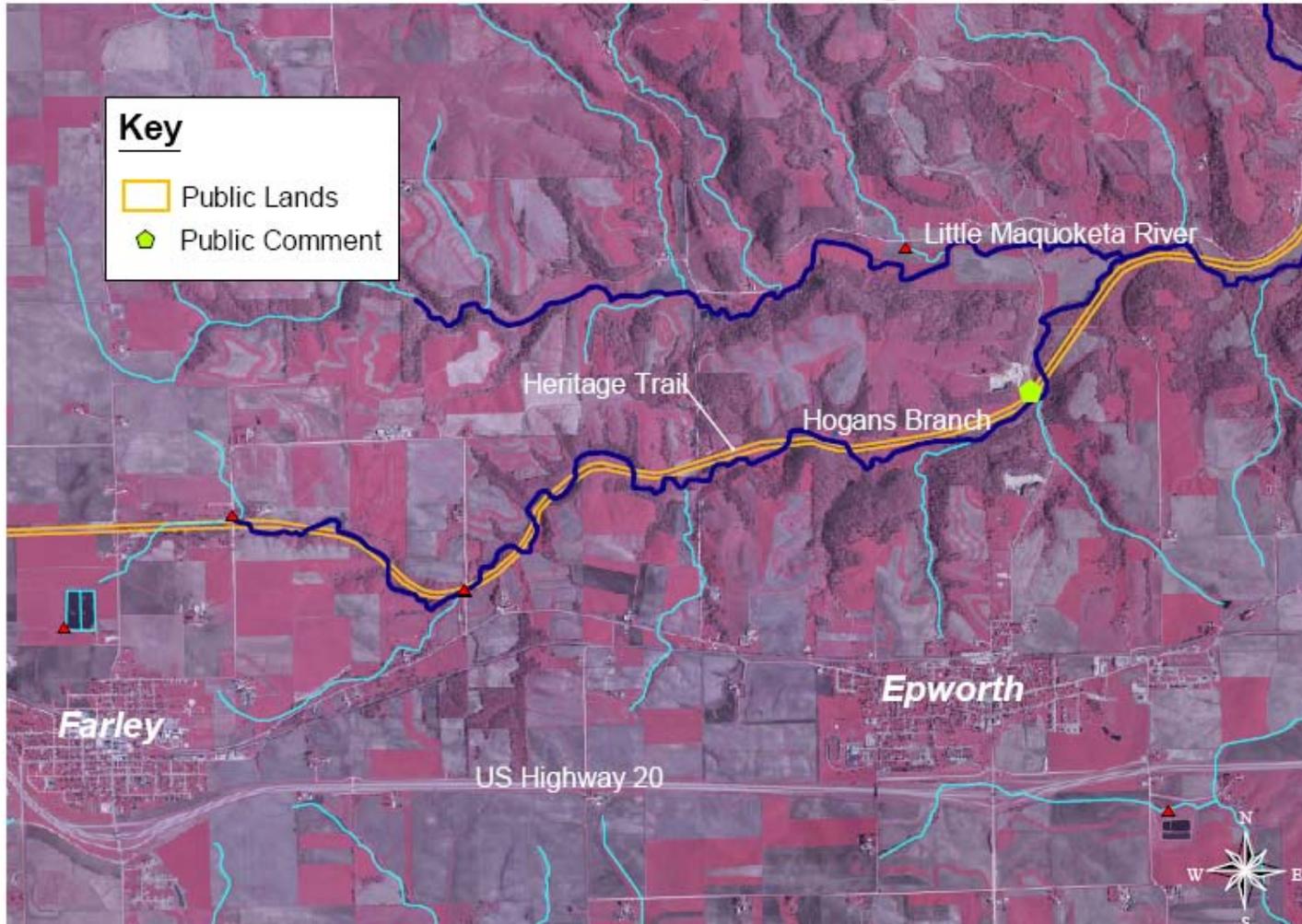
Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Hogans Branch due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

The comments received for Hogans Branch provided additional information that further supports the recommended Secondary Contact recreational use (Class A2). Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Hogans Branch will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the mouth SE ¼ of SE ¼ of S35, T89N, R01W, Dubuque Co.) to the confluence with the effluent transport ditch (NW ¼ of NE1/4 of S7, T88N, R01W, Dubuque Co.).*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Lands and Comment Map for Hogans Branch



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Honey Creek
Affected Facility: Boone (74)
Dates: Field assessment – 4/26/06

Public Comments:

One phone interview was conducted with a Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Saylorville Wildlife Management Unit employee for the portion of Honey Creek which flows through the Saylorville Wildlife Management Area. The survey stated that wading was possible but if it does take place it is infrequent. There is not enough water present to support swimming. It was stated that the area was not heavily used and no children have ever been seen recreating in the area. Canoeing, kayaking or tubing does not take place within the area due to the lack of water but minnow seining is possible near the bridge in the riffle area. People have been seen hunting in the area but not frequently. The parking lot is heavily used for dumping of trash.

A comment was submitted by the general public stating that they had waded in, floated in and canoed nine of Iowa's streams and rivers including Honey Creek.

A comment was submitted by the general public stating that they have waded in the area near Montana Road. It was also noted that the person owns property that hosts visitors year round. It was not noted if the visitors recreated in or near the stream.

A survey for Honey Creek was submitted by the general public for the area near Highway 30 and the Golf Course. It was stated that the person's friends, family and others have been swimming in the stream for many years, and they have witnessed children in the stream many times over the years. During major rain events the person stated that they have kayaked down the stream. Also seining for minnows was mentioned to have taken place.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded a Secondary Contact Recreational use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Honey Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

One comment stated that they had waded in the area near Montana Road but the frequency of use was not noted. Another comment received stated that wading may be possible but it happens infrequently. During our field assessment there was no sign of recreational uses in the area.

One comment received stated that they had waded in, floated in, and canoed in Honey Creek. The overall depth of the stream found during our field assessment was not

considered adequate for floating and canoeing (See photos). The maximum depth found during the field assessment was 26 inches.

Site 74-1 Bridge Views



Looking Upstream



Looking Downstream

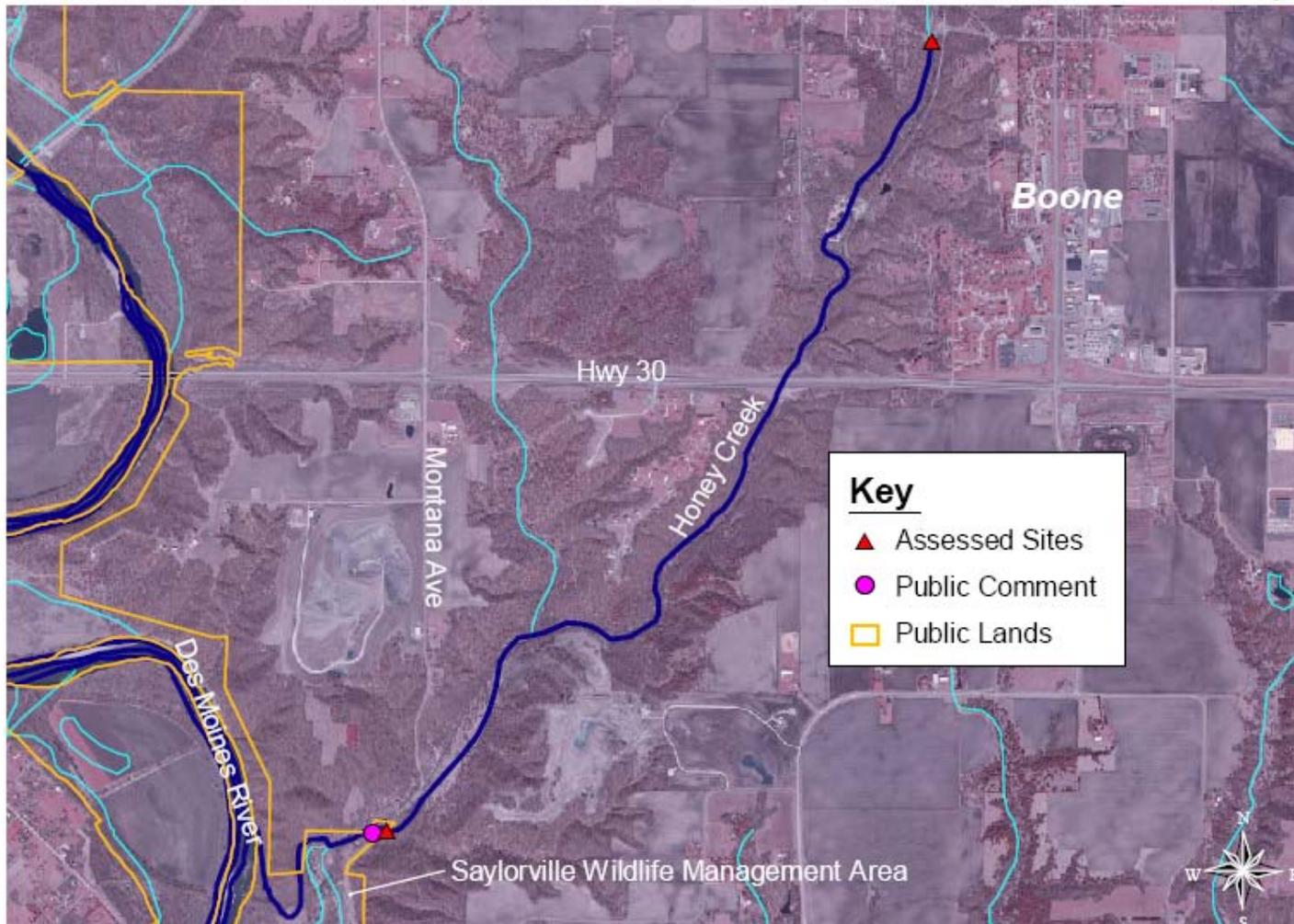
A comment stated that the person and his family and friends swim in Honey Creek and that children frequently play in the stream. During the field assessment there was no sign of any recreational uses taking place. The depth of the stream was also inadequate to likely support swimming. Although children's play may be taking place in the stream it is difficult to determine if the activities are taking place at a frequency to warrant a Class A3 Children's Recreational Use designation.

It should be noted that the Department continually updates the water quality standards for Iowa. This can include follow-up studies regarding Use Attainability Analyses to incorporate latest and any new information to ensure the uses of Iowa's waters are reflected appropriately in the Water Quality Standards.

The comments received for Honey Creek did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Honey Creek will remain Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the mouth (SW ¼ of SE ¼ of S7, T83N, R26W, Boone Co.) to the Park Ave Bridge Crossing (NW ¼, S33, T84N, R26W, Boone Co.).*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Lands and Comment Map for Honey Creek



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Hoosier Creek
Affected Facility: Ely (104)
Dates: Field assessment - 6/9/06

Public Comments:

Two phone interview surveys were completed for Hoosier Creek by the Army Corps of Engineers. The phone interview surveys pertained to the Lake View OHV(Off Highway Vehicle) Park and the Coralville Reservoir. Both surveys stated the same comments. The surveys stated that canoeing, kayaking, and tubing is a possible recreation activity under high flow conditions. Under normal flow conditions these activities are not possible. The surveys also stated that fishing may take place in the lower reaches of Hoosier Creek near the Coralville Reservoir where waters are deeper. Although recreation uses are possible they were never observed by the Army Corps of Engineers.

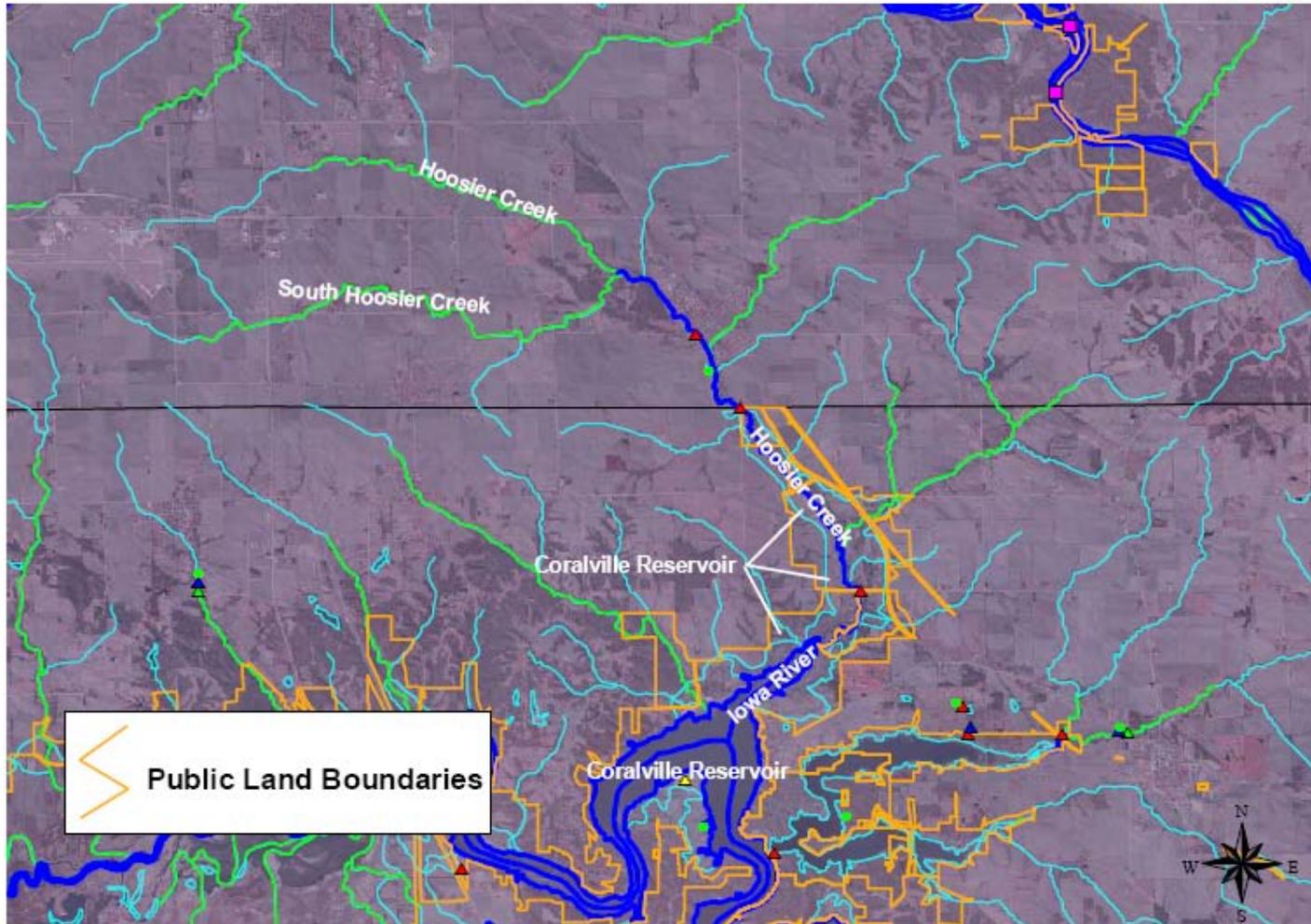
Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Hoosier Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

While canoeing, kayaking, and tubing were noted as possible recreation activities, they have never been observed. The comments received for Hoosier Creek did not provide any additional information that would result in a change in the recommended designation. Therefore, the department's original use designation recommendation for Hoosier Creek will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) from the mouth (S17, T81N, R6W, Johnson County) to the Vista Road bridge crossing (S31, T82N, R6W, Linn County).*

*See recommendation map for details

Public Lands Map for Hoosier Creek



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Iowa River
Affected Facility: Klemme (436)
Dates: Field assessment – 10/27/06, Phone interviews - Dec. 07/ Jan. 08

Public Comments:

The department contacted the Wright County Conservation Board to acquire information regarding the recreational activities that have occurred in the assessed reach of the Iowa River. A Wright County Conservation Board employee stated that fishing and canoeing had occurred in the Iowa River.

59 comments about the Iowa River were also received from the general public and local residents. Of the comments received, 11 pertained to the section of the Iowa River that is proposed for a designation change. Swimming, children's play, tubing, canoeing, and fishing were recreational activities that were mentioned in the comments. The breakdown of comments are as follows: 4 for swimming, 6 for children's play, 5 for tubing, 9 for canoeing, and 10 for fishing.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for the Iowa River due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

The comments received have indicated that multiple recreational uses occur within the assessed reach of the Iowa River; although, the department did not observe any evidence of recreational use during the field assessment in 2006. The comments received indicated that: swimming, children's play, tubing, canoeing, and fishing are common recreational uses taking place on the Iowa River in the assessed reach.

The depth criteria guidelines used by the department to help determine if Primary Contact Recreational Use (Class A1) is attainable and typically will exclude streams that are not able to support a Class A1 use due to the overall lack of flow needed to support activities that result in direct and prolonged contact with the water, involving considerable risk of ingesting appreciable quantities of water sufficient to pose a health hazard. While these guidelines are effective in most situations, there are cases where a stream demonstrates that it can support the Class A1 use despite the lack of flow that typically distinguishes a stream that can support Primary Contact Recreational uses.

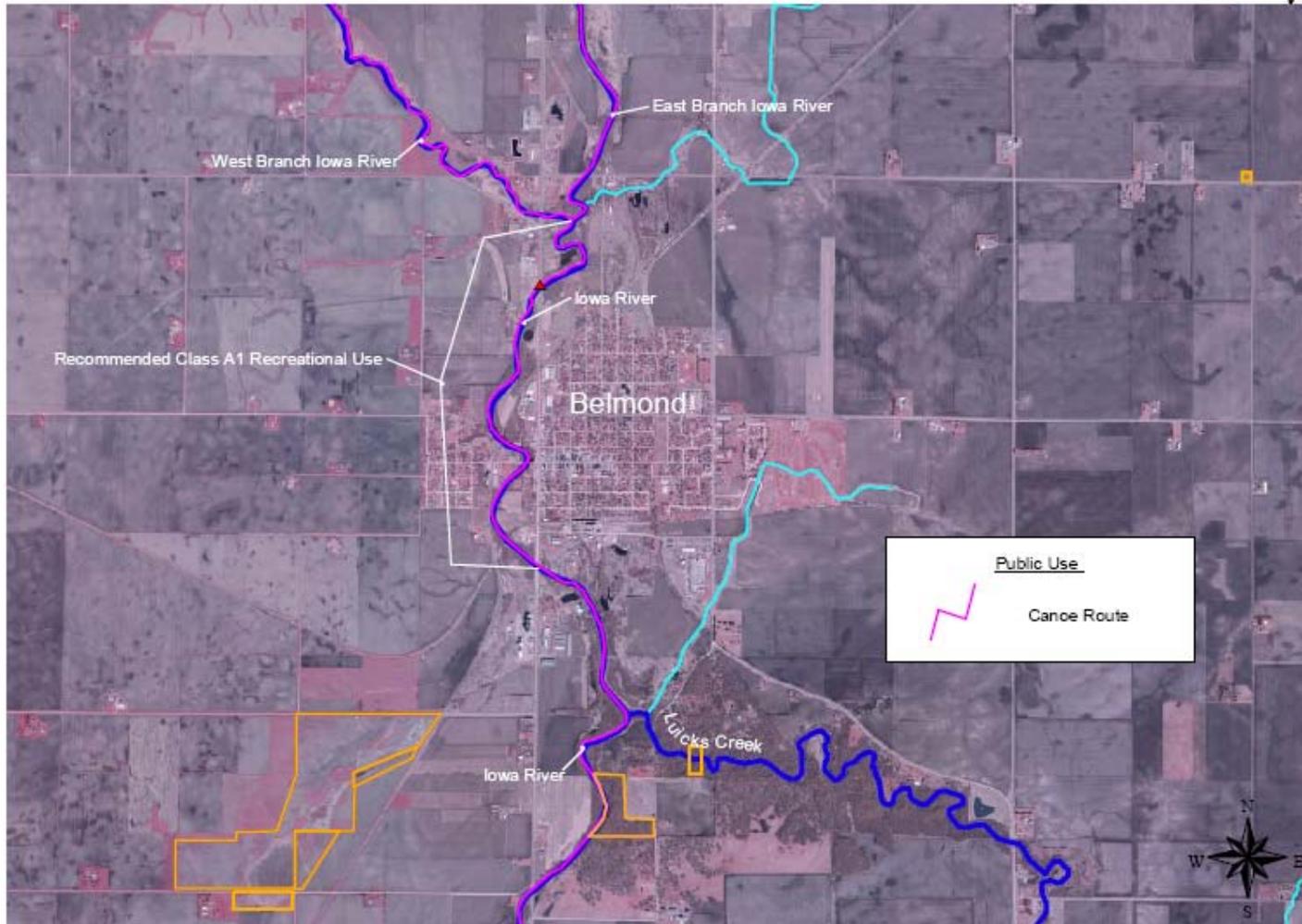
The Iowa River passes near the city of Belmond in the assessed reach increasing the possibility or frequency of people coming into contact with the water.

Due to recent information the Department is modifying the original recommendations as detailed below.

- Class A1, Primary Contact Recreation from Highway 69 (E. line, S25, T93N, R24W, Wright County) to the confluence with East and West Branch Iowa River (S19, T93N, R23W, Wright County).

* See recommendation map

Recommended Recreational Use - Iowa River



Public Comment Analysis

Stream: Jackson Creek
Affected Facility: Corydon (528)
Dates: Field assessment - 3/31/06
Survey(s)/Interview(s) – Nov. 07 - Dec. 07

Public Comments:

County Conservation Board Mailing

A recreational use survey concerning Jackson Creek was returned by a Wayne County Conservation Board employee. The survey indicated fishing and trapping occurs at bridge crossings.

Online Survey/Email

A resident of Wayne County indicated no recreational uses are associated with Jackson Creek.

Analysis:

The previous assessment concluded that a Secondary Contact Recreational Use (Class A2) designation was appropriate for Jackson Creek due to the lack of flow throughout the reach to completely fulfill what is considered a Class A1 primary contact recreational use and the overall lack of information and evidence to justify Children's Recreation (Class A3).

Public comments have not provided any additional information to modify the original recommendation. Therefore, the department's recommended designation for Jackson Creek, will remain as Secondary Contact Recreational Use (A2) from the mouth (S1, T69N, R21W, Wayne Co.) to its confluence with West Jackson Creek (SW ¼, NE ¼ of S25, T69N, R21W, Wayne Co.).*

* See recommendation map