

# STREAM MANAGEMENT PLAN

REGION	AREA	STREAM NAME	TRIBUTARY NO.	LENGTH
5	510	Falls Creek	M-48-26-1	9.5 miles

SIMILAR REACH	STREAM MILE	STREAM TYPE	ECOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION	SPECIES MANAGED
1	0.0-0.6	warmwater	Class IV	forage
2	0.6-3.1	warmwater	Class IV	forage
3	3.1-4.8	warmwater	Class IV	forage
4	4.8-6.8	warmwater	Class IV	forage
5	6.8-9.5	warmwater	Class IV	forage

**Long Range Goal:**

Maintain and improve the natural stream corridor by allowing unrestricted fish movement through the stream corridor.

Promote wise land use practices within the watershed and protect the existing riparian corridor.

**Operational Plan:**

Reconstruction of Highway 60 in 1990 created a fish barrier at the culvert inlets. Coordinate with Minnesota DOT to alter culvert inlet (fish barrier) under State Highway 60 and restore unrestricted fish movement within the stream in 1993.

Investigate poor land use by hog farm operation at mile 3 and coordinate possible alternatives with landowner and Minnesota PCA.

**Midrange Objective:**

Compare species composition from future assessments to determine if alteration of the fish barrier allowed better distribution of species throughout the stream corridor.

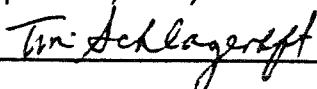
**Potential Plan:**

Evaluate the stream's potential to provide rearing-nursery habitat for gamefish species of the Straight River.

Conduct a population assessment in 1997 for warmwater stream inventory.

Area Supervisor's Signature

Prepared by Gary Brunwald

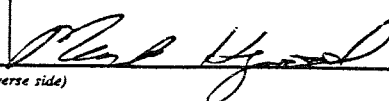


Date

3/29/93

Regional Manager's Signature

Date



4/16/93

(see reverse side)

# STREAM MANAGEMENT PLAN

STREAM NAME:  Falls Creek	TRIBUTARY NO.  M-48-26-1	Date:  031893
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**Narrative:**

Past Surveys and Investigations

An initial stream survey was conducted in 1992. Stream length is 9.5 miles, with 5 similar reaches. The 1992 survey recorded the lower portion (approximately 5 miles) as having firm substrates of boulder, rubble, gravel, and being well shaded within a woody corridor. The upper portion to the source was primarily shifting substrates of sand, silt, clay. Electrofishing sampled 15 species of minnows and non-game forage in the lower one-third mile and only 5-6 species in the upper portion. No gamefish were recorded. The stream may serve as an important source of forage to the Straight River and may also provide seasonal spawning and nursery habitat for gamefish.

Past Management

None recorded.

Stream and Watershed Alterations

Reconstruction of State Highway 60 in 1990 resulted in an inadvertently installed fish barrier on the upstream end of the culvert inlets. Subsequent coordination with Minnesota DOT has resulted in modifications which will be applied in 1993 and restore unrestricted fish movement throughout the stream.

Mile 6.2 to the source has been previously channelized and is bordered predominantly by row crops.

Poor land use (hog farm) at mile 3.0 may negatively impact water quality.

Social Considerations

The stream may provide a children's fishery for creek chubs and suckers due to its close proximity to Faribault and also the portion within Falls Creek County Park.

Limiting Factors

Agricultural practices in the upper portion of the stream have produced an abundance of fine substrates and a general lack of habitat. These fine substrates limit spawning habitat and invertebrate production above mile 5.0. The poor land practices associated with the hog farm at mile 3.0 contribute excessive nutrients to the stream.

Survey Needs

Conduct a population assessment in 1997.

Land Acquisition Needs

None are recommended.

Habitat Development Needs

Coordinate with Minnesota DOT to alter culvert inlet (fish barrier) in 1993 and restore unrestricted fish movement within the stream. Investigate poor land use by hog farm at mile 3 and possibly meet with landowner and MPCA personnel to discuss alternatives.

## STREAM MANAGEMENT PLAN

STREAM NAME: Falls Creek	TRIBUTARY NO. M-48-26-1	Date: 031893
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Narrative:

Stocking

None is recommended.

Regulations

None required.