



**Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
Section of Fisheries  
Stream Population Assessment**

<b>Region</b> 5	<b>Area</b> Lake City (510)	<b>Stream Name</b> Bear Creek	<b>Tributary No.</b> M-34-73	<b>Length (mi)</b> 14.5 miles
<b>County</b> Olmsted		<b>Watershed Name, No.</b> Zumbro River, 35	<b>Source (T-R-S)</b> 106N 12W 21	<b>Mouth (T-R-S)</b> 106N 14W 1

<b>Date(s) of Assessment:</b> May 11, October 15 1998
<b>Assessment Purpose:</b> Reconnaissance check to assess current stream conditions.

Station	Similar Reach	Stream Mile	Length (ft)	Mean Width (ft)	Acres
Lower	2	8.7	500	11	0.13
Upper	3	13.6	650	4	0.06

**Summary:**

Bear Creek does not appear to have adequate trout habitat at this time. The river is mostly shallow with predominantly sandy substrates, and is lacking in trout cover (deep pools, overhanging cover, woody debris, etc.). Although no trout were present, water temperatures below the dam should support trout.







Age and Growth

Stream Bear Creek

Tributary Number M-34-73

a) Length Class Distributions

Species						
Station						
Date						
Length Class						
0.0 - 2.4						
2.5 - 2.9						
3.0 - 3.4						
3.5 - 3.9						
4.0 - 4.4						
4.5 - 4.9						
5.0 - 5.4						
5.5 - 5.9						
6.0 - 6.4						
6.5 - 6.9						
7.0 - 7.4						
7.5 - 7.9						
8.0 - 8.4						
8.5 - 8.9						
9.0 - 9.4						
9.5 - 9.9						
10.0 - 10.4						
10.5 - 10.9						
11.0 - 11.4						
11.5 - 11.9						
12.0 - 12.5						
12.5 - 12.9						
13.0 - 13.4						
13.5 - 13.9						
14.0 - 14.9						
15.0 - 15.9						
16.0 - 16.9						
17.0 - 17.9						
18.0 - 18.9						
19.0 - 19.9						
20.0 - 20.9						
21.0 - 21.9						
22.0 - 22.9						
23.0 - 23.9						
24.0 - 24.9						
25.0 - 25.9						
26.0 - 26.9						
27.0 - 27.9						
28.0 +						
Estimated Total						
Sample Size						

Stream Bear CreekTributary Number M-34-73**DISCUSSION OF FISHERY****HABITAT:**

Although adequate cover and substrates can be found in the upper reaches, it is lacking throughout most of the stream's length. Substrates are dominated by sand with a few rubble/gravel riffles in the upstream reach. Land uses along the stream include pasture, row crops, and some residential, but is dominated by a wooded box elder/willow corridor. Bank erosion is light-moderate throughout. The stream is characteristically wide and shallow. American brooklime is abundant, while watercress, curly-leaf pondweed, and yellow water buttercup are also present. High water temperatures in the summer may limit trout populations throughout the stream except below the BR 1 dam, as indicated from the 1995 report

**DAMS:**

Several inactive beaver dams were noted. BR1 is a reservoir created from a manmade dam.

**FISHERY:**

No gamefish were sampled in either station. Water temperatures below the dam appear suitable for trout.

**Source:**

Bushong, D. 1995. Stream population assessment: Bear Creek. 4 pp.

**Credits and Signatures****Field Crew:**

Dan Dieterman, Randy Binder, Byron Novak, Pat Rivers

**Report Completed by:****Name:**

Pat Rivers

**Title:**

NR Specialist

**Date**

12/28/98

**Approved by:****Area Fisheries Supervisor**

*Tim Schlegelst* 3/31/99

**Regional Fisheries Manager's Signature**

*Paul Lyman*

**Date**

5/12/99