

# FISHERIES WARMWATER STREAM RECONNAISSANCE REPORT



<b>REGION</b> 5	<b>AREA</b> Lake City	<b>STREAM NAME</b> North Fork Zumbro	<b>TRIBUTARY NO.</b> M-34-49	<b>LENGTH</b> 51.0 mi.
<b>COUNTY</b> Dodge, Olmsted		<b>WATERSHED NAME, NO.</b> Zumbro River - 41	<b>SOURCE (T.R.S)</b> T109N R20W S24	<b>MOUTH (T.R.S)</b> 109N 14W S10

**DATE(S) OF ASSESSMENT:** Angling: 8/29/2003 and seining: 10/24 and 10/30/2003

**ASSESSMENT PURPOSE:** Reconnaissance to assess smallmouth bass presence through angling and non-game/minnow species presence/absence/diversity by seining.

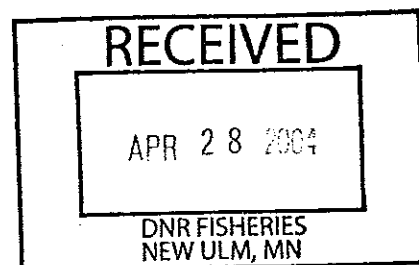
**LOCATIONS/STREAM MILES:**

Similar reaches and specific sampling locations are labeled in the Discussion and Summaries of this report.

**Discussion of the fishery (angler/s):**

From upstream working downstream:

**Mile 12.8 – 6.0, from Forest Mills to Mazeppa (Schmidt, Binder):** This reach provides good to very good smallmouth bass habitat. Several pools were 4-6 feet deep and provided good cover beneath log jams or high gradient riffles containing boulders and fractured limestone. The flow regime of the North Fork Zumbro is characterized by extreme and rapid fluctuations and may serve in maintaining or creating scour pools. It does not appear that a smallmouth bass population has become established yet as a result of removing the Mazeppa Dam. Only one, 8.5-inch individual was sampled.



Stream: North Fork Zumbro  
 Date: August 2003

**SMALLMOUTH BASS SAMPLING SUMMARY**

Station*	1					
Gear	Anolina					
Date	8/29/03					
Location (Mile)	12.8-6.0					
Location (Description)	From Forest Mills downstream to Mazeppa.					
Effort (Angler-hrs)	13.0					
Adult smallmouth bass	1					
CPE (Fish/AnHr)	.08					

\* Station numbers used for this Recon only.

**SUMMARY:**

Smallmouth bass habitat in this reach was very good. It does not appear that many smallmouth bass have migrated upstream from below Mazeppa since the removal of the dam. Two brown trout were sampled however, and were most likely immigrants from downstream. Since smallmouth bass can now migrate freely between downstream winter habitat and upstream summer habitat, a modest stocking of pre-spawn adult smallmouth bass may be warranted as an effort to jump-start a population.

**Credits and Signatures:**

Field Crew: Al Schmidt, Randy Binder

Report Completed by: Al Schmidt

**APPROVED BY:**

Area Supervisor's Signature

*[Signature]* 4-12-04

Regional Fisheries Manager's Signature

*[Signature]*

Date

10/2/04