

MINNESOTA

Lake Superior

CLASSIFIED TROUT STREAMS of WISCONSIN



Wisconsin boasts over 2,989 trout streams that run across 13,000 miles of Wisconsin's topography. These numbers are up from 2,677 streams and 9,562 miles in 1980. The gains reflect improved farming practices, habitat protection and restoration work, regulations and stocking of wild-strain fish.

The DNR uses three categories to classify the different types of trout streams in Wisconsin. Efforts have been made to list all trout streams but it is recognized that this listing is not exhaustive. These data were last updated in January 2016.

Stream Classifications and Wisconsin's Stream Trout

Class 1

High quality trout waters that have sufficient natural reproduction to sustain populations of wild trout, at or near carry capacity. Consequently, streams in this category require no stocking of hatchery trout. These streams or stream sections are often small and may contain small or slow-growing trout, especially in the headwaters.

There are 5,289 miles of Class 1 trout streams in Wisconsin and they comprise 40% of Wisconsin's total trout stream mileage.



Brook trout

Class 2

Streams in this classification may have some natural reproduction, but not enough to utilize available food and space. Therefore, stocking is required to maintain a desirable sport fishery. These streams have good survival and carryover of adult trout, often producing some fish larger than average size.

There are 6,126 miles of Class 2 trout streams in Wisconsin and they comprise 46% of Wisconsin's total trout stream mileage.



Brown trout

Class 3

These waters are marginal trout habitat with no natural reproduction occurring. They require annual stocking of trout to provide trout fishing. Generally, there is no carryover of trout from one year to the next.

There are 1,817 miles of Class 3 trout streams in Wisconsin and they comprise 14% of Wisconsin's total trout stream mileage.



Rainbow trout (Steelhead)

IOWA

ILLINOIS

Lake Michigan

NAD 1983 HARN Transverse Mercator

SCALE 1:499,000 or 1 in = 8 miles

0 5 10 20 30 40 Miles

0 5 10 20 30 40 Kilometers