



## Wisconsin DNR News Release

---

### Chippewa, Eau Claire county streams upgraded as trout water

News Release Published: February 20, 2012 by the West Central Region

Contact(s): Heath Benike, DNR fisheries biologist, Eau Claire, 715-839-2877; Ed Culhane, DNR communications, Eau Claire, 715-781-1683

EAU CLAIRE – Trout populations have improved and expanded their range in Chippewa and Eau Claire counties, the state Department of Natural Resources reports. Fisheries biologists are proposing to classify or reclassify 11 streams as new or upgraded trout water.

“These are positive changes,” said fisheries biologist Heath Benike. “These are smaller streams that have changed over time because land use practices have improved. During the past 15, 20 years, farmers and other landowners have worked hard to prevent erosion and runoff.”

The stream classifications will allow DNR fisheries biologists to consider trout stream management practices and the use of trout stamp funds for these stretches of water.

The DNR will waive hearing requirement on these classifications unless a written request for a hearing is received before March 25, 2012. Requests should be sent to Heath Benike, Wisconsin DNR, PO Box 4001, Eau Claire, WI 54702.

- A Class II trout stream in these cases contains a population of brook or brown trout made up of one or more age groups, above the age one year, in sufficient numbers to indicate substantial survival from one year to the next and may have natural reproduction of trout occurring; however, stocking is necessary to fully utilize the available trout habitat or to sustain the fishery.
- A Class I trout stream in these cases contains brook or brown trout with two or more age groups, above the age of one year, and natural reproduction and survival of wild fish in sufficient numbers to utilize the available trout habitat and to sustain the fishery without stocking.

The following streams are proposed for classification or reclassification as trout water:

Eau Claire County

Bears Grass Creek in the towns of Otter Creek and Lincoln will be reclassified as Class II

brook trout water for its entire length. This stream was previously classified as class III trout water.

Diamond Valley Creek in the Town of Bridge Creek will be reclassified as Class II brook trout water for its entire length. This stream was previously classified as Class III brook trout water

First Trestle Creek in the Town of Bridge Creek will be classified as Class II brook and brown trout water from Ted Anderson Road downstream. This section of stream was not previously classified as trout water.

Deinhammer Creek in the Town of Seymour will be reclassified as Class I brook trout water for its entire length. This stream was previously classified as class II brook trout water.

Pine Creek in the towns of Seymour and Ludington will be reclassified as Class I brook trout water for its entire length. This stream was previously classified as Class II brook trout water.

Rush Creek in the Town of Lincoln will be classified as Class II brook trout water from Lincoln Road downstream. This section of stream was not previously classified as trout water.

Otter Creek in the towns of Clear Creek, Washington and Otter Creek will be reclassified as Class II brown trout water for its entire length. This stream was previously classified as class III brown trout water.

Un-named Creek 29-16 in towns of Ludington and Lincoln will be classified as Class II brook trout water from its entire length. This stream was not previously classified as trout water.

#### Chippewa County

Duncan Creek in towns of Tilden and Woodmohr will be classified as Class II brook and brown trout water from the northernmost County Q crossing (T30N, R9W, Sect 27) downstream to Chippewa County B. This section of stream was not previously classified as trout water.

Little Hay Creek in Town of Tilden will be classified as Class I brook trout water for its entire length. This stream was not previously classified as trout water.

Tilden Creek (Un-named Creek 13-7) in Town of Tilden will be classified as class II brook trout water from Chippewa County Highway Q downstream. This section of stream was not previously classified as trout water.