

DNR PROPOSES NEW TROUT STREAM CLASSIFICATIONS IN DOUGLAS COUNTY

SUPERIOR – Six (6) streams in Douglas County are proposed for trout water classification or reclassification based on their habitats and abilities to support natural reproduction, under a Department of Natural Resources proposal open for public comment. Classification helps ensure high, long-term habitat quality necessary to support healthy fisheries.

These streams will be classified as Class 1, and all but one were not previously classified, according to Paul Piszczek, DNR Senior Fisheries Biologist in Superior. With the exception of Nebagamon Creek, the streams are small and unnamed, and DNR surveys documented multiple year classes (including young-of-year) of resident and migratory Lake Superior trout and salmon species.

“The DNR surveys used for this proposal demonstrate that the streams, in part, function significantly as natural fish hatcheries for Lake Superior’s near shore fisheries,” Piszczek said.

The stream being reclassified to Class 1 is:

- Nebagamon Creek in Brule Township (T46N, R10W, Sects. 21, 27, and 28). 1.5 miles beginning from the confluence with Blueberry Creek (SW/SE of Sect. 21), downstream to the confluence with the Bois Brule River (SE/NW of Sect. 27). This segment will join the existing Class 1 Brule River with the existing Class 1 Blueberry Creek.

The five streams being newly classified to Class 1 are:

- Unnamed tributary to Sandy Run Creek in Brule Township (T47N, R10W, Sect. 13). 0.3 mile beginning from the Douglas/Bayfield County line (SE/NE of Sect. 13) 0.1 mile south of U.S. Highway 2, downstream to the confluence with Sandy Run Creek. This segment will join with the existing 1.65-mile, Class 1 segment that continues downstream to the confluence with the Little Bois Brule River.
- Unnamed tributary to Bois Brule River in Solon Springs Township (T45N, R11W, Sect. 3). 0.1 mile beginning from the headwaters approximately 0.3 mile southeast of Stone Chimney Road and 0.4 mile west of Section Lines 2 and 3, downstream to the confluence with the Bois Brule River.
- Unnamed tributary to Angel Creek in Solon Springs Township (T45N, R11W, Sect. 4). 0.1 mile beginning from the headwaters approximately 0.6 mile south of Stone Chimney Road and 0.1 mile west of Section Lines 3 and 4, downstream to the confluence with Angel Creek.
- Unnamed tributary to East Fork Bois Brule River in Solon Springs Township (T45N, R11W, Sect. 9). 0.4 mile beginning from the outlet of Beaupre Springs, approximately 0.4 mile northeast of the end of Rifle Range Road (SW Sect. 9), downstream to the confluence with the East Fork of the Bois Brule River.
- Unnamed tributary to Bois Brule River in Highland Township (T46N, R10W, Sect. 30). 0.3 mile beginning from the outlet of the marsh located 0.2 mile south from the Bois Brule River crossing at County Highway S, downstream to the confluence with the Bois Brule River.

The Department shall waive any hearing requirement on this classification unless a written request for a hearing is received before November 22, 2013. Requests should be sent to: Paul Piszczek, Senior Fisheries Biologist, Wisconsin DNR, 1701 North 4th Street, Superior, WI 54880. He can be contacted by telephone at (715) 392-7990.