

JRH

Form 1100-1  
Rev. 10-77

Item 6.B-4 Minutes of \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
Madison, Wisconsin

ITEM RECOMMENDED FOR NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA

TO THE SECRETARY: C. D. Besadny

Date January 5, 1981

FROM: James T. Addis

SUBJECT: MASTER PLANNING - APPROVAL OF CONCEPTUAL MASTER PLAN FOR LABUDDE CREEK FISHERY AREA, SHEBOYGAN COUNTY.

1. To be presented at January Board meeting by Vern Hacker.

2. Appearances requested by the public:

Name

Representing whom?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Reference materials to be used:

Memorandum dated January 5, 1981, from James T. Addis to C. D. Besadny.  
LaBudde Creek Fishery Area, Sheboygan County Master Plan.

4. Summary: The final draft of the Conceptual Master Plan for this property has been completed and is presented for review and approval. The present approved goal of 301.24 acres has been reached, leaving a total of 120.76 privately owned acres within the approved boundary which encompasses 422.0 acres. The Department recommends that the goal be expanded to include the private 120.76 acres, and to enlarge the boundary and goal by an additional 82.0 acres. Thus, if approved, the new acreage goal would increase by 202.76 acres to 504.0 acres, with the new boundary also encompassing 504.0 acres. The additional 202.76 acres would be subtracted from the Southeast District Small Lake Creation acreage goal.

5. Recommendation:

That the master plan be approved.

APPROVED:

James R. Huntoon 1-12-81  
James R. Huntoon, Administrator Date

A. C. Damon  
A. C. Damon, Deputy Secretary Date

C. D. Besadny 1-12-81  
Secretary C. D. Besadny Date

Signed:  
James T. Addis  
James T. Addis, Director  
Bureau of Fish Management

- cc - Judy Scullion - ADM/5
- Robert Winnie - SED
- Ron Nicotera - ADM/5
- James T. Addis - FM/4
- Edward Faber - RE/4
- C. W. Threinen - FM/4
- Vern Hacker - Oshkosh

# CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Central Offices - Madison

Date: January 5, 1981

File Ref: 2100

To: C. D. Besadny

From: James T. Addis

Subject: LaBudde Creek Fishery Area, Sheboygan County Master Plan

Attached are the Conceptual Master Plan and the Environmental Assessment Screening Worksheet for the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area, Sheboygan County master plan. The EASW was available for public scrutiny, has been approved by the district, and has been placed in the Bureau of Environmental Impact files in the Central Office. The master plan was supplied to other interested parties and internal bureaus during the 45-day review period. Comments from internal bureaus were considered, and revisions made where appropriate. Comments from outside reviewing agencies and the DNR responses are shown in the appendix attached to the master plan.

At the present time, the approved acreage goal of the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area is 301.24 acres within an approved boundary of 422.0 acres. To date, the acreage goal has been completed, with all 301.24 acres having been acquired in fee title at a cost of \$39,898. A total of 120.76 privately owned acres remain within the boundary. The master plan task force recommends that the acreage goal be expanded to include the privately owned acres within the boundary, and to enlarge the boundary and acreage goal by an additional 82.0 acres. With the proposed increase of the acreage goal of 202.76 acres, and of the boundary by 82.0 acres, the new acreage goal and boundary would each be 504.0 acres. The 202.76 acres to be added to the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area acreage goal would be subtracted from the Southeast District Small Lake Creation acreage goal.

*who said they had that* → The task force recommends that the additional property be acquired in fee title if possible, or in perpetual easement, if necessary. Acquisition in fee title, which would permit multi-purpose use, would cost an estimated \$200,000, while a fishing easement 4-10 rods wide would have a 1981 cost of at least \$22,000.

Management of the fishery area would include both conventional and experimental stream improvement techniques, the latter including brush bundles and modified half-log devices in slow moving portions of the stream, while brushing and treatment with an environmentally approved herbicide will be completed on heavy bank brush cover of almost a mile of stream. Wildlife habitat management will include brush-pile construction, tree and shrub plantings and prescribed burns. Construction of two gravelled parking lots to accommodate 5-10 cars is proposed.

Your approval is requested to submit the plan to the Natural Resources Board for the January, 1981 meeting.

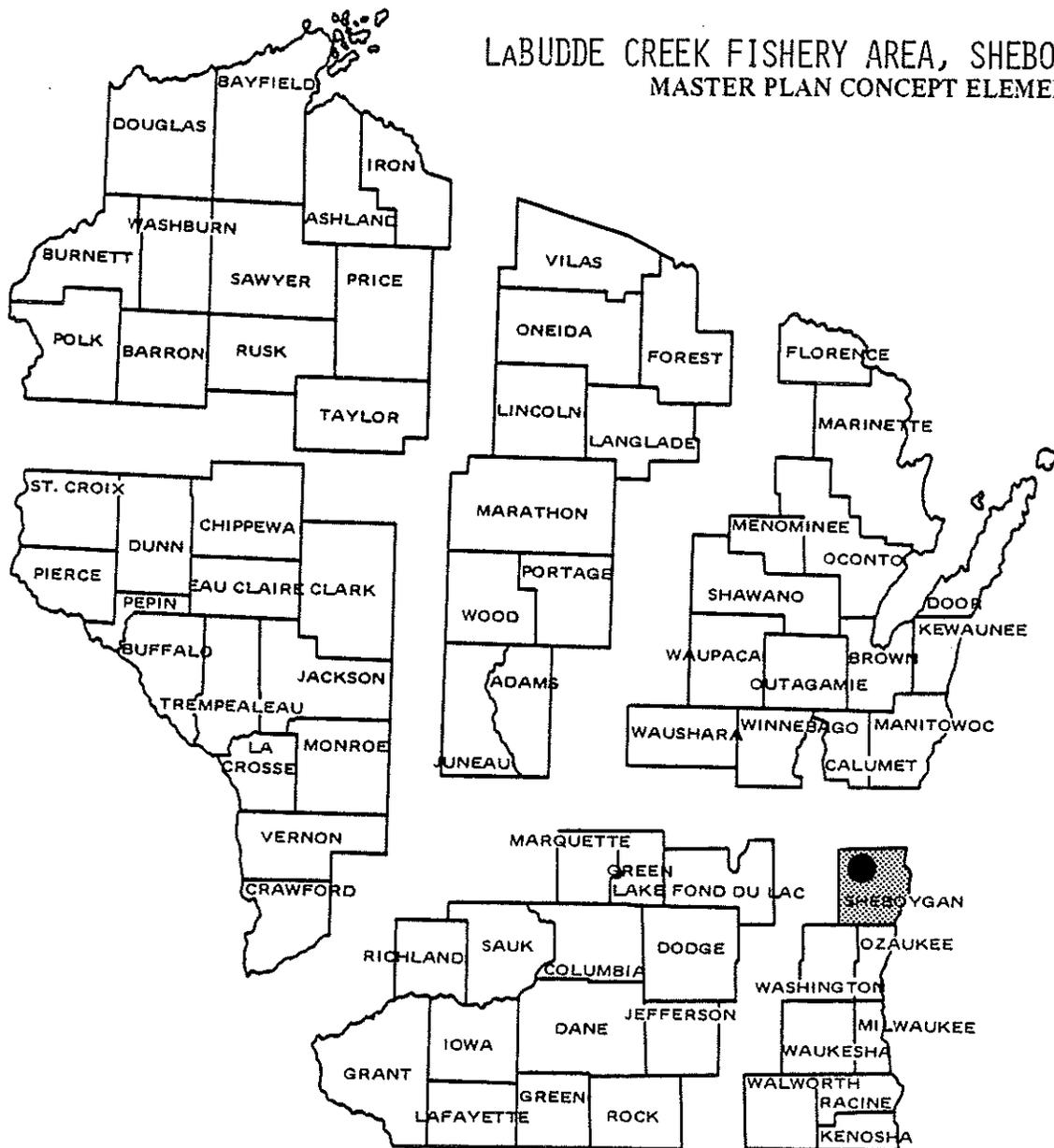
VAH:aep

Attach

cc - Judy Scullion - ADM/5  
Robert Winnie - SED  
Ron Nicotera - ADM/t

C. W. Threinen - FM/4  
Ed Faber - RE/4  
Vern Hacker - Oshkosh

LABUDE CREEK FISHERY AREA, SHEBOYGAN COUNTY  
 MASTER PLAN CONCEPT ELEMENT



Approved by Natural Resources Board:

PROPERTY TASK FORCE

Leader - LAWRENCE CLAGGETT, FISH MANAGER  
 DALE KATZMA, WILDLIFE MANAGER  
 LAWRENCE BAER, FORESTER  
 WALTER ADAMS, PARK SUPERINTENDENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

Submitted: SEPTEMBER 15, 1980

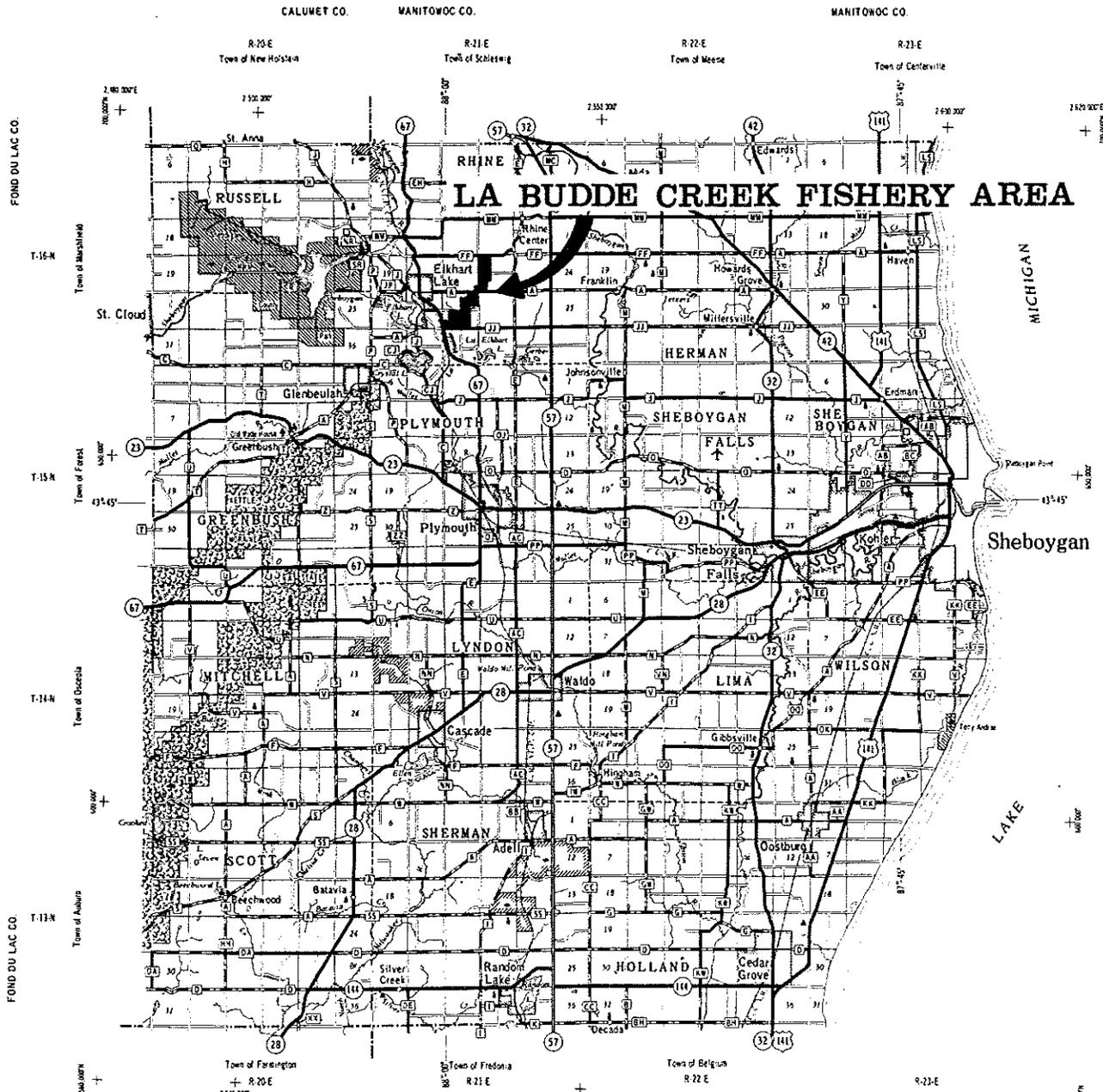
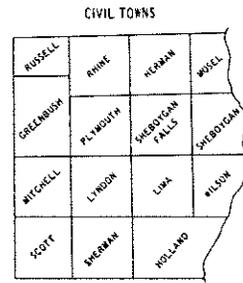


Figure 1. Location—La Budde Creek Fishery Area, Sheboygan County.

- LEGEND**
- Portland Cement ..... U.S. & STATE
  - Bitum Concrete ..... COUNTY
  - Blumwood ..... COUNTY
  - Gravel ..... COUNTY
  - Earth ..... COUNTY
  - Town Road ..... COUNTY
  - Fire Lane ..... COUNTY
  - Interstate Highway ..... COUNTY
  - Highway Separation ..... COUNTY
  - Interstate Highway No. ..... COUNTY
  - U.S. Highway No. ..... COUNTY
  - State Highway No. ..... COUNTY
  - County Hwy Letter ..... COUNTY
  - Railroad ..... COUNTY
  - Railroad Tunnel ..... COUNTY
  - Dam ..... COUNTY
  - State Boundary ..... COUNTY
  - County Boundary ..... COUNTY
  - Cell Tower Boundary ..... COUNTY
  - Corporate Limits ..... COUNTY
  - Nat. & State Forests ..... COUNTY
  - Airport ..... COUNTY
  - Fish Hatchery ..... COUNTY
  - Fair Grounds ..... COUNTY
  - County Seat ..... COUNTY
  - Unincorp. Village ..... COUNTY
  - Schools ..... COUNTY
  - Public Hunt or Fish Crts. ..... COUNTY
  - Hospital ..... COUNTY
  - Lookout Tower ..... COUNTY
  - Ranger Station ..... COUNTY
  - Public Camp & Picnic Site ..... COUNTY
  - State Park ..... COUNTY
  - County or City Park ..... COUNTY
  - Wayside ..... COUNTY
  - Game Farm ..... COUNTY



Land Area ..... SQ. MI.  
 Population ..... '84  
 Co. Seat ..... Sheboygan



**TOWNSHIP NUMBERS**

3	5	4	2	1
7	8	9	10	11
14	17	16	15	14
19	20	21	22	24
30	29	28	27	26
31	32	33	34	36

**SHEBOYGAN CO.**  
 STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN  
 STATE OFFICE BUILDING  
 MADISON, WISCONSIN  
 SCALE ..... MILES  
 Corrected for  
 MAR., 1985  
 Compiled from U. S. C. S. Quadrangles  
 Based on Aerial Photographs

\* Surface types on town roads not shown.

+ Grid based on Wisconsin coordinate system, south zone.

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SECTION I - ACTIONS  
GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

Goals: To complete land control and to manage the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area Sheboygan County; to improve the quality of trout fishing and wildlife-based recreation, and to provide for compatible recreational and educational opportunities.

Annual Objectives:

1. Provide limited management of a moderate quality fishery to accommodate 800 visitations for trout fishing.
2. Improve the brook trout population to allow a harvest averaging 0.2 trout per fishing hour.
3. Develop and manage the existing wildlife resources to accommodate 1,130 participant days of hunting and trapping including 230 for deer, 500 for upland game, 200 for woodcock, and 200 for trapping of raccoon, muskrat and mink.

Annual Additional Benefits:

1. Provide 1,000 participant days other recreational and educational activities including nature hiking, bird watching, and photography.
2. Benefit resident and migratory non-game species indigenous to the area including migratory and resident endangered or threatened species.
3. Manage the vegetative cover compatibly with the goals of fish, wildlife and non-game species management and with the aesthetic nature of the area.
4. Provide for 200 days of snowmobiling associated with a private club.

RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

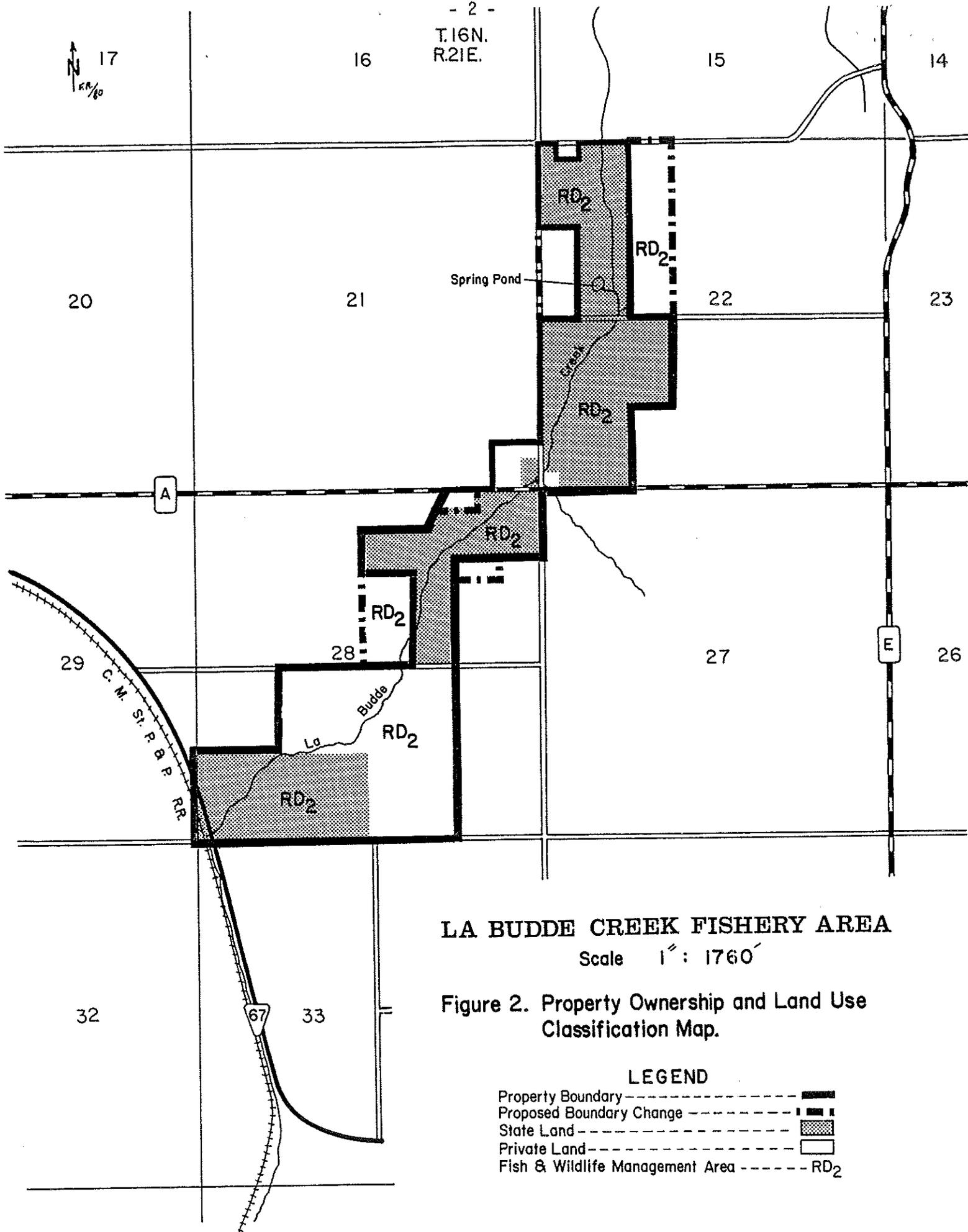
The existing approved acreage goal of 301.24 acres for the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area has been fulfilled, leaving a total of 120.76 privately owned acres within the 422.0 acre boundary (Figure 2). The task force recommends that the acreage goal be expanded to include the 120.76 acres. It is also recommended that the boundary be enlarged to include an additional 82 acres and to add them to the acreage goal. Thus, if approved, the boundary would increase by 82 acres and the acreage goal would increase by 202.76 acres, with both totals at 504 acres. The approximate cost would be \$200,000 for fee title acquisition, or \$22,000 for fishing easements along the stream.

The 82 acre increase is needed primarily to buffer the increasingly residential surrounding area from hunter conflicts on this narrow property. The increase will also include a portion of the stream in the middle of the property that presently separates the fishery area. Increased land control in the headwaters will also protect fragile seepage springs from development and agricultural pollution.

The recommended management program for the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area is limited habitat management. The nature of most of the low gradient stream does not lend itself to widespread and intensive stream improvement with conventional techniques. Some stream habitat work with conventional techniques is being planned for 1,000 feet of stream at a cost of approximately \$7,000 (Figure 3). Additional experimental techniques will be evaluated on 500 feet of stream at a cost of \$2,000-\$3,000 before being expanded. Approximately 5,100 feet of stream has extensive brush cover. The affect of brushing on water temperatures of the slow-moving stream is being studied. If effects are determined to be minimal, the stream will be brushed and the brush stumps treated with the environmentally approved herbicide Ammate-X-NI. If brushing and treatment can be accomplished by Youth Camp personnel, the cost is estimated at \$700, while the cost will be \$1,800 with hired labor.

Wildlife habitat only requires limited management in order to benefit populations of game and nongame species, improve and provide increased opportunities for recreational and educational activities as well as hunting opportunities. Brush pile construction, tree and shrub plantings, prescribed burns, and limited timber harvest is expected to result in costs of \$450 annually. Excessively high hunter density during opening weekend of pheasant season should be reduced by eliminating stocking or obtaining private hunting ground leases contiguous with the fishery area. Two gravelled parking lots to accommodate 5- 10 cars, will be constructed at a cost of \$1,500 each.

Forest management will consist of printing of red and white pine plantations with a commercial pulp thinning in 1995.



### LA BUDDE CREEK FISHERY AREA

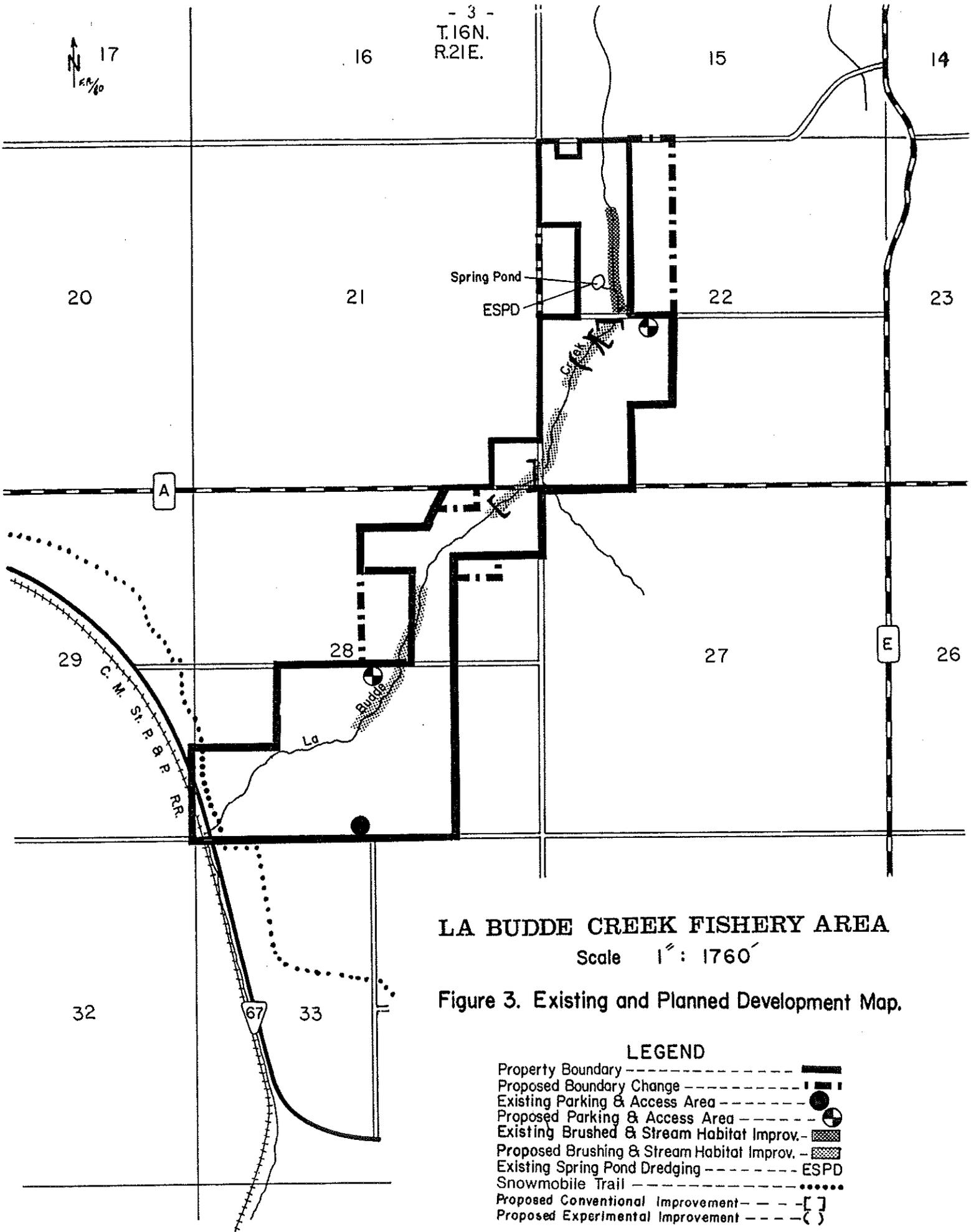
Scale 1" : 1760'

Figure 2. Property Ownership and Land Use Classification Map.

#### LEGEND

- Property Boundary ————
- Proposed Boundary Change - - - - -
- State Land ————
- Private Land ————
- Fish & Wildlife Management Area - - - - - RD<sub>2</sub>

- 3 -  
T.16N.  
R.21E.



### LA BUDDE CREEK FISHERY AREA

Scale 1" : 1760'

Figure 3. Existing and Planned Development Map.

#### LEGEND

- Property Boundary - - - - - [ ]
- Proposed Boundary Change - - - - - ( )
- Existing Parking & Access Area - - - - - [●]
- Proposed Parking & Access Area - - - - - [⊕]
- Existing Brushed & Stream Habitat Improv. - [hatched]
- Proposed Brushing & Stream Habitat Improv. - [dotted]
- Existing Spring Pond Dredging - - - - - ESPD
- Snowmobile Trail - - - - - [dotted]
- Proposed Conventional Improvement - - - - - [ ]
- Proposed Experimental Improvement - - - - - ( )

## SECTION II - SUPPORT DATA

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

#### History of Property Creation:

LaBudde Creek is one of three remaining trout streams in Sheboygan County that have not been affected by private hatchery development. It is also one of three streams in the county where significant amounts of naturally reproduced trout are found. The stream originates from a series of small springs and a spring pond. After flowing through the Fishery Area, LaBudde Creek joins the Mullet River, which merges with the Sheboygan River, which in turn, flows into Lake Michigan at the City of Sheboygan.

Hatchery brook trout have been stocked in LaBudde Creek since the first supplementary planting in 1933. The stream was first surveyed with electro-fishing gear in 1956, and the resulting survey report recommended that "The stream should have the highest priority for improvement of all brook trout streams in Sheboygan County with the possible exception of Nichol's Creek."

On June 2, 1958, the Wisconsin Conservation Department informed the Town of Rhine of its intent to purchase acreage along LaBudde Creek. The Sheboygan County Board of Supervisors in Resolution No. 46 gave approval to the project on November 1, 1958. The total estimated cost was set at \$62,685 for a 577-acre tract which included 12 landowners. Objectives of the project included meeting "the great need" for additional public fishing areas for persons seeking recreation. The development plan called for removal from pasturing of all lands adjacent to the stream and for restoration of wildlife food and cover. It stated that the use of the trout stream and adjoining areas for fishing and hunting were to be assured for all time under public ownership.

In 1959, the Wisconsin Conservation Commission approved a plan revising the size of the acreage to be purchased, and created the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area with a boundary surrounding 422 acres with an acreage goal of 301.24 acres.

#### Current Management Activities:

The current fish management program includes stocking of 1,000 legal-size brook trout annually. In addition, habitat improvement in the form of bank covers, wing deflectors and brush removal has been carried out on approximately 2,000 feet of stream (Figure 3). Additional stream improvement is planned with trout stamp funds before 1984. Silt removal from a small spring pond has been attempted to increase spring flow (without noticeable success), and to deepen the pond.

In the past, hunting opportunities have been enhanced through the release of 120 pheasants during the upland game hunting season. Currently there is no sharecropping on LaBudde Creek although it has occurred in the past.

### RESOURCE CAPABILITIES AND INVENTORY

#### Soils, Geology, and Hydrology:

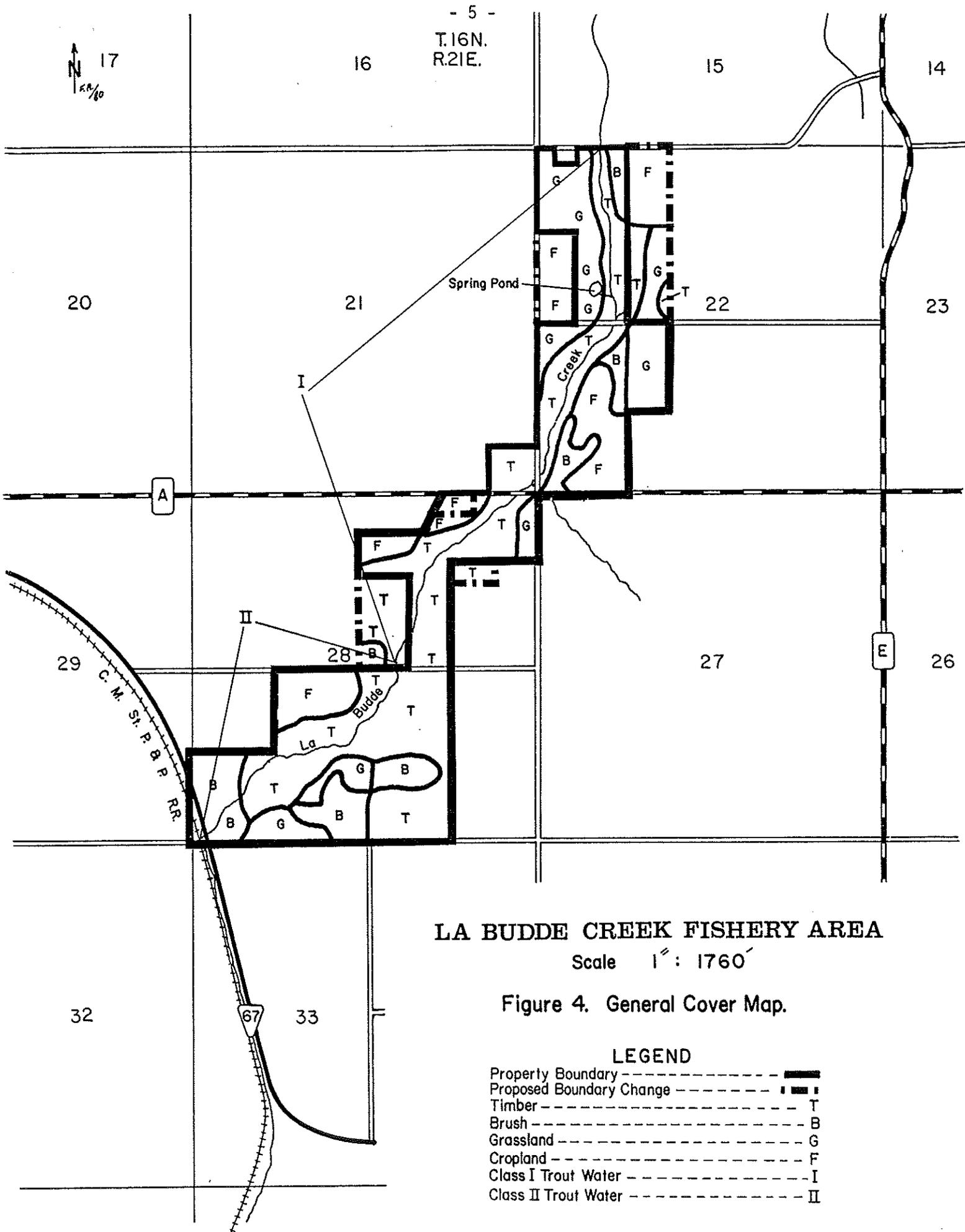
The major soils along the stream are poorly drained, organic mucks that are suitable for wetland wildlife. The other dominant soils are shallow loams with only fair potential for agriculture.

Bedrock geology of the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area is Niagara limestone overlain with approximately 100 feet of glacial drift. Glacial activity was a major influence on the character of the area. LaBudde Creek flows along the eastern edge of the Kettle Moraine, an interlobate moraine. Although the topography of the area is rolling and hilly, the stream has a very low gradient. Consequently stream flow is very sluggish except for the immediate headwaters.

The soils along the stream are deep (Houghton) and moderately deep (Adrian, Pains) mucks and poorly drained silty soils (Sebewa) and stony wetland. Upland soils include undulating to rolling fine sandy loams on calcareous lacustrine deposits (Sisson), loams over calcareous outwash (Fox, Casco) and rolling to hilly till-derived (Hochheim) and outwash-derived (Casco-Rodman) soils.

#### Fish and Wildlife:

Fish - The species composition of LaBudde Creek is characteristic of a cold to cool water stream fishery with brook trout, brook stickleback, pearl dace, mud minnow, common white sucker, johnny darter, creek chub and blacknose shiner being present. An occasional northern pike is also found in the lower, warmer reaches of the stream. Management is aimed specifically at brook trout, which have a fair amount of natural reproduction in the headwaters of the stream. The native brook trout are supplemented with hatchery fish to provide added recreational opportunities.



Birds - A variety of birds inhabit the area both seasonally and permanently. Wildlife management will primarily benefit the upland game birds, including ruffed grouse, ring-necked pheasant and woodcock. These efforts would also benefit songbirds that inhabit early successional vegetation types and open fields while the northern hardwood types attract canopy species of song birds. Some common songbirds on the area include yellow throated and yellow warblers, catbirds, a variety of woodpeckers, brown thrashers, and empidonax flycatchers.

Mammals - Although a variety of mammals occupy the area, management will focus on white-tailed deer, cottontail rabbit, and fox and grey squirrels. Furbearers including raccoon, muskrat and mink are also present and provide some trapping opportunities.

Vegetative Cover:

The LaBudde Creek Fishery Area is characterized by lowland brush and swamp hardwoods adjacent to the stream and northern hardwoods, upland brush, and grassland in the uplands (Table 1 and Figure 4). Some red and white pine is planted on grasslands within the boundary that will require pruning in 1985-1990 and thinning in 1995, and 28 acres that have been sharecropped in the past.

Table 1 - Vegetative Types and Acreage of the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area, Sheboygan County.

<u>Vegetative Type</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
Lowland Brush (alders, dogwood)	48.5
Upland Brush (sumac, hawthorne, prickly ash)	11
Swamp Hardwoods	108
Upland Hardwoods (hickory, maple, basswood)	20
Grass (former cropland)	83
Red pine & white pine plantation	21
	<u>291.5</u>

Endangered and Threatened Species:

No endangered or threatened species of fish, birds or mammals are known to inhabit the area. The area has not been surveyed in detail for amphibians, reptiles or plants, and it is recommended that such surveys be made as soon as funds and manpower are available. If any endangered or threatened species are found, the District Endangered and Non-Game Species Coordinator will be contacted, and immediate steps will be taken to protect the site.

Water Resources:

LaBudde Creek originates from two wetlands to the northeast of the Fishery Area and flows in a southwest direction for 4.4 miles to where it joins the Mullet River. It acquires the majority of its flow (measured at 4.10 cfs midway through the fishery area) from numerous seepage springs in the upper mile of the stream. LaBudde Creek has a watershed of 12.50 square miles, and in its entirety covers 4.27 surface acres. The stream averages 8.0 feet in width, 10 inches in depth and has a relatively low gradient of 5.6 feet per mile. The water within the stream is alkaline with a pH reading of 7.8, and is very hard with a total alkalinity (CaCO<sub>3</sub>) of 299. The water quality of the stream is good, but with the low gradient, unstable banks and bottom, the stream is wide and shallow considering its flow. Water temperatures exhibit wide fluctuations both temporally and spatially.

Past ditching and grazing have further reduced the fishery potential of the stream. Instream cover for fish is sparse and stream-side vegetation is typically dense brush. LaBudde Creek is presently classified as both Class I and II trout water (Figure 4 and Table 2) but it should be reduced to Class II in its entirety. Insufficient spawning area exists to produce enough native trout to use available food and space. Moderate stocking is presently required to maintain good fishing. Future stream improvement will improve holdover capability but is not expected to increase spawning areas.

Table 2 - Water Areas Within the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Length-Miles</u>	<u>Mean Width-Feet</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Trout Class</u>
LaBudde Creek	1.70	7	1.44	I
LaBudde Creek	0.75	10	0.91	II
Spring Pond			0.03	I
	<u>2.45</u>		<u>2.38</u>	

#### Historical and Archeological Features:

The LaBudde Creek Fishery Area has not been surveyed for buildings of historical significance or for archeological sites. The State Historical Society reports one known historical feature - a fish weir located in the SW 1/4, NW 1/4, Section 22, T16N, R21E, constructed by historic Indians. This site no longer exists as this section of stream was ditched and straightened earlier in this century and more recently was developed with intensive stream improvement devices. In the future, the State Historical Society will be contacted for clearance prior to any operation on the fishery area in which land or structures are disturbed.

#### Ownership:

The current approved boundary encompasses 422 acres with an acreage goal of 301.24 acres, all of which have been acquired in fee title at a cost of \$39,898.00. Two large private inholdings presently bisect the southern portion of the Fishery Area (Figure 2). The fishery area is two miles long, and ranges from 440 to 3,960 feet in width. This task force proposes to add width to the property with the addition of 82 acres to the boundary, and to connect the fishery area in order to provide assurance of continued public travel for hiking, nature study, cross country skiing and hunting through the area.

#### Current Use:

Fishing, hunting, nature hiking, bird watching and photography are activities enjoyed by the public on the area. Fishing pressure counts on opening day for 7 of the last 14 years showed an average of 20 fishermen on the stream during morning hours. Fishing pressure drops as the season progresses, however. The present annual estimate of fishing pressure is 400 angler days, or 420 hours per acre. Approximately 75% of this pressure occurs on the area of stream improvement in the northern half of Section 22. This yields an effective pressure of approximately 2,000 hours per acre on this small section of stream.

Pheasant hunting is another major activity on the fishery area. A pressure count on opening day in 1973 showed 31 cars and 75 hunters, or one hunter per four acres. Car counts on opening days of 1977, 1978, 1979 and 1980 revealed 36, 15, 44, and 52 cars respectively.

Grouse, woodcock, rabbit, squirrel, and deer hunting are other significant uses of the area. Hunting pressure estimates are not available for these species although it is known that woodcock hunting pressure is higher than average in this area.

A local snowmobile club maintains a 0.25 mile trail for crossing the south end of the property (Figure 3). Manmade and natural obstructions make this the safest and easiest route for the trails. Because it is so near the fishery area boundary and a major highway, little conflict of interest or disturbance takes place.

Approximately 28 acres within the property have been sharecropped in the past. Crops were rotated to provide food and keep the area open to benefit all upland game, but primarily pheasants. Corn and sorghum are alternated with an Alfalfa-Brome-Timothy mixture to provide food adjacent to a pheasant wintering area and to keep some area open for nesting and brood cover.

#### Land Use Potential:

The LaBudde Creek Fishery Area is a narrow strip of forest, brush, and grassland located in an agricultural area with growing residential encroachment. The size and location limit land uses for the property. The area has the greatest potential as a Fish and Wildlife Management Area (RD<sub>2</sub>) (Figure 2). Past alterations and abuse by agricultural and commercial interests have greatly altered the character of the stream. Restoration and improvement of the stream has been attempted by installing 60 wing deflector-bank cover devices in sections of the stream altered by ditching. More development work is needed.

The area lacks unique features to warrant a scientific area designation. The small size and past development of the area eliminate the Resource Protection Classification.

#### RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS

The heavy hunting pressure during the pheasant season and the deer gun season is a definite resource management problem. It results in the usual hunter problems including crowded conditions, reduced safety, increased competition for the resource, and unsportsmanlike conduct. Excessive hunting density during the pheasant season should be reduced by eliminating stocking, or by obtaining hunting ground leases adjacent to the area.

In contrast, there is considerable public under-use of the LaBudde Creek Fishery. This is largely due to the presence of heavy brush and grass cover on the streambanks and siltation in the stream itself. Another factor affecting fishing pressure is a tendency of Wisconsin's fishermen to concentrate on trout during the opening days of the season and switch to other species for the remainder. Efforts are being made to improve fishing opportunities through brushing and stream improvement.

Classical stream improvement techniques are difficult to successfully apply to a stream such as LaBudde Creek. The flow and gradient of the stream are very low so that silt cannot be eroded by narrowing the stream, while intensive brush removal may cause a harmful rise in water temperature. The muck substrate causes siltation and bank stabilization problems. In view of these limitations, traditional stream improvement techniques will be utilized where appropriate, but other experimental techniques will also be attempted and evaluated on a small scale before more widespread implementation.

Private inholdings within the area affect the physical continuity of the project and also hold the solution to environmental protection and water quality problems.

An increase in the boundary as illustrated in Figure 2 would help solve the problems of inadequate watershed protection, adjacent landowner conflicts, and confusing boundary arrangements.

#### RECREATION NEEDS AND JUSTIFICATION

LaBudde Creek Fishery Area is easily accessible to many people. Because it is centrally located between Green Bay and Milwaukee, approximately 1,000,000 people live within an hour's drive of the area. According to the Sheboygan County Planning and Resource Department, Sheboygan County's population is expected to grow from 96,660 in 1970 to 102,685 in 1980. Demand for nearby recreation is expected to increase in the near future because of increased energy costs and the economic recession. Increased use of the LaBudde Creek Area may lead to deterioration of natural resources unless management and land acquisition are increased.

Fishing - Demand for trout fishing in southeast Wisconsin is high. The eight counties that comprise the Department's Southeast District contain 6% of the state's stream trout resource and 43% of the state's population. Of the 61.25 miles of trout stream in the District, only 8 miles (13.1%) are state owned. In Sheboygan County, the 64.1 acreage goal Schuet Creek Fishery Area, and the 1,012 acreage goal Nichol's Creek Wildlife Area contain trout waters. A total of 34.15 of the Southeast District's 61.25 miles of trout stream (55.8%) are in Sheboygan County.

Hunting - LaBudde Creek Fishery Area provides an easily accessible public hunting area in the northeastern part of Sheboygan County. The human population and energy factors discussed in the fishing section relate as well to projections of hunting demand. Wisconsin's 1972 outdoor recreation plan projects hunting demand to increase in Sheboygan County from 144,000 hunter days in 1970 to 161,000 and 180,000 in 1980 and 1990, respectively. Sheboygan County has two other wildlife areas, Sheboygan Marsh with an acreage goal of 862 acres and Nichol's Creek Wildlife Area with an acreage goal of 1,012 acres. In addition, portions of the Northern Unit, Kettle Moraine State Forest (14,106.2 acres) are open to hunting.

Spot surveys on the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area have indicated high hunting pressure on opening weekend of pheasant season and during the deer gun hunting season. This area also provides opportunities for some exceptionally good woodcock hunting and fair small game hunting that attracts consistent and often heavy hunting pressure throughout the season. Land acquisition and more intense management will be necessary in the future to maintain acceptable harvest levels and hunting quality on this area.

#### ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES

##### Do Nothing:

Because of the extent of past physical alteration of the stream, management efforts are necessary to improve conditions for fish and wildlife. If all management was suspended, fish and wildlife habitat would change, and populations of trout and pheasant would decline.

If the remaining private parcels were not acquired, the fishery area will continue to be divided and environmental protection not assured.

##### Enlarge the Fishery Area:

Enlargement of the boundary is desirable considering the heavy hunting pressure and present small size of the area. Also, some of the stream is not within the present boundary, the area is less than 500 feet wide in several locations, and the boundaries are erratic and difficult to identify. Any major expansion would be difficult, however, because surrounding lands are agricultural and increasingly residential.

A minor boundary expansion of 82 acres is recommended to correct some of the problems in locations where land is presently undeveloped and contiguous to present boundaries.

##### Reduce the Size of the Fishery Area:

All of the land necessary to achieve the present property goals is in state ownership. Attainment of the goals and objectives would be impossible if the area was reduced. This would also be contrary to the Natural Resources Board approved acreage goal.

Intensive Habitat Management:

Proven conventional stream habitat improvement techniques are not applicable to much of LaBudde Creek. Low flow and gradient combined with muck soils make their success unlikely.

The fishery area is long and narrow and provides a strip of wild land in an agricultural area. The area has a diversity of habitat types both within and along its borders. The area does not require intensive habitat management of upland wildlife but wildlife habitat could be improved by brush pile construction, tree and shrub plantings, and a limited timber harvest. The open spaces areas (agricultural fields and grassland) and the brush areas can be maintained for the benefit of woodcock, pheasant, deer, ruffed grouse, and rabbits.

The area does not contain appreciable timber acreages requiring management and utilization.

Limited In-Stream Habitat Management:

Although the streambed of LaBudde Creek is in need of intensive habitat improvement, only limited areas are suitable for standard techniques. Experimental techniques could be applied and evaluated along small areas of the stream before being applied in an intensive manner. Streambank brushing should proceed carefully as increased summer, and decreased winter stream temperatures could result.

Agricultural fields and grasslands can be maintained by alternating areas under sharecropping and by limited prescribed burns. Brushy areas can be maintained by limited shearing and prescribed burns.

Appendix - Master Plan Comments by Outside Reviewing Agencies

Comments regarding the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area 45-day review copy of the Master Plan were received from a number of outside reviewing agencies. Their comments, and DNR responses, where necessary, follow:

Thomas J. Evans. Head, Mineral Resources Section, Geological and Natural History Survey, Madison, WI.

The staff of the Geological and Natural History Survey has reviewed the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area Master Plan. Based upon this review, the following comments are offered for your consideration (page 4):

1. Delete the phrase following "...the Kettle Moraine, and interlobate moraine" and delete the next entire sentence. These phrases are inaccurate.
2. The next paragraph should be reworded as follows:  
"The soils along the stream are deep (Houghton) and moderately deep (Adrian, Palms) mucks and poorly drained silty soils (Sebewa) and stony wetland. Upland soils include undulating to rolling fine sandy loams on calcareous lacustrine deposits (Sisson), loams over calcareous outwash (Fox, Casco) and rolling to hilly till-derived (Hochheim) and outwash-derived (Casco-Rodman) soils."

DNR Response: Agreed. Corrections made.

Edgar F. Koeser, Chairman, Sheboygan County Conservation Congress, 723 Madison, Howards Grove, WI 53081.

Master Plan very much approved and appreciate receiving it. If county funding is necessary, advance notice is requested, so to budget it in time. Would like also to have some pheasant stocking again.

DNR Response: County funding is not appropriate for a state fishery area. Pheasant stocking has resulted in excessive hunter density. Stocking may have to be discontinued if private hunting ground leases cannot be obtained to distribute pressure.

Mr. Foster Stearns, Chairman, Scientific Areas Preservation Council.

We have reviewed the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area concept master plan and find that the proposed management will not affect our program interests.

Mr. Henry W. Kolka, Chairman, Wild Resources Advisory Council.

The Wild Resources Advisory Council wishes to congratulate the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area Master Plan Concept Element Property Task Force of Lawrence Claggett, Dale Katsma, Lawrence Baer and Walter Adams for providing a concise and exemplary document of the project area. The assessment of the fishery is well done and the management proposals for it appear to be very appropriate.

A trout stream ranks high on the list of endangered state wild resources and the rate of degradation of this category still exceeds the rate of recovery. The Wild Resources Advisory Council is very pleased and endorses whole heartedly the proposed plans of recovery for the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area by the Property Task Force. A properly managed stream and its corridor not only will enhance

the trout habitat, but it will also provide a much richer ecosystem for that segment of wildlife that inhabit and prefer this type of environment. Not only will the trout fishing enthusiasts, young and old, enjoy the enriched aesthetics of a properly managed stream, so will the naturalist who visits and walks its banks without any intent of disrupting the stream populations. The property Task Force has recognized this possibility and is anxious to provide this dimension to a congested population area with limited resources of fishery types.

### Comments and Recommendations

#### 1. page 1 - Goals

The Wild Resources Advisory Council suggests that the last segment of the Goals statement include and educational between the words recreational and opportunities.

DNR Response: Agreed. Correction made.

#### 2. page 1 Annual Additional Benefits Numbers 1 and 2.

Number 1 - The WRAC considers the addition of and educational between the words recreational and activities necessary to cover the full intent of the statement.

Number 2 - The council recommends the insertion of and resident between words migratory and endangered. Endangered and threatened status could exist in both categories. (migratory and resident)

DNR Response: Agreed. Corrections made.

#### 3. page 1. Recommended Management and Development Program

Paragraph one - Considering the limited number and the people pressure upon trout streams in this part of Wisconsin, the WRAC considers the recommended increase of 202.76 acres to the ultimate total of 504 acres for the project area legitimate and very necessary in order to attain the goals and objectives of LaBudde Creek Fishery Area. WRAC recommends that the Natural Resources Board endorse the Task Force recommended project expansion to 504 acres.

Paragraph two - Since conventional techniques of stream improvement may not enhance the trout habitat on LaBudde Creek, special experimentation and constant monitoring of new techniques, as proposed by the Task Force, seems to hold the best promise for project success.

Paragraph three - In the so-called "nominal management" to maintain optimum populations and hunting opportunities. Equal consideration should be given for the welfare of non-game species and the recreational and educational patterns of actual and potential use.

DNR Response: Agreed. Additions made.

#### 4. page 2. Figure 2.

Excellent chart of project area. WRAC suggests that LaBudde Creek be extended beyond the junction of highway 67. As it stands the map indication gives the reviewer a false interpretation. The waters should be allowed to enter Mullet River and not run on highway 67.

DNR Response: Do not agree. The map is correct in that the stream flows between the highway and railroad. It continues south for another mile before entering the Mullet River.

5. page 3 - Chart. Figure 3.

According to paragraph 3 on the top of page 1, the snowmobile trail across the fishery property is part of a trail system and it provides "little conflict of interest or disturbance." Though the WRAC strongly censors snowmobile trails in wild resource habitats because of their non-compatible nature, it also recognizes the need to compromise such issues on the basis of minimal impact and least harm. The chart could help to understand the compromise if it showed the snowmobile trail extension and explanation beyond the property crossing.

DNR Response: Agreed. Snowmobile trail extension is shown.

6. page 4. Fish and Wildlife.

The Fish paragraph is well done and very adequate, however, the paragraph on Birds and Mammals, outside of game species, all else is non-existent (in specie listings). WRAC does not agree that additional funding or that hiring of specialist is needed to obtain satisfactory project inventories. A safe assumption can be made that within each management unit there is someone who can come up with a fairly adequate specie listing, either a member of the staff or a citizen of the community. Specie lists are very important for they may generate special habitat management and they will also provide the basics for visitors interested in the education and non-consumptive recreational aspects of the project area.

DNR Response: Agreed in part. Common songbirds added. Do not agree in part. Standard practice is not to include species lists in master plans. Fish and wildlife managers will make observations while on the property to help complete species list that may be found in area files.

7. page 4. Vegetative Cover.

The same case as for birds and mammals, can be made for the plant listings. A well managed trout habitat engenders a much more colorful environmental setting for sun loving species. This new aesthetics can be enjoyed by both the fisherman and the non-fisherman.

DNR Response: Plant listing not available and not appropriate for department master planning.

8. page 4. Current Management Activities.

The WRAC endorses both proposals of the planners; the trout stream habitat enhancement and pheasant supplement. The Council encourages top level habitat management and eventual decrease in put-and-take practices.

DNR Response: Agreed.

9. page 6. Endangered and Threatened Species.

The WRAC is dubious of adequate funding or man power being made available to conduct specie survey for LaBudde Creek Fishery Area in the immediate future. The Council recommends that these critical inventories be made now with the expertise available in the project area.

DNR Response: Fish and wildlife managers will attempt to make observations (while on the property) of any endangered or threatened species.

10. page 6. Water Resources.

WRAC finds the property Task Force's assessment of the water resource very well done and the proposals adequate and challenging. The Council endorses this program.

11. page 7. Land Use Potential.

WRAC agrees with the project planners conclusions and development proposals for the project area.

12. page 7. Resource Management Problems.

Well diagnosed section. The WRAC supports your proposed solutions.

13. page 8. Analysis of Alternatives.

WRAC supports and endorses the following alternatives: Enlarge Project and Intensive Habitat Management. The Council does encourage a better visibility for the non-game species of plants and animals and associate uses under the Intensive Habitat Management program.

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Twin Cities, Mn.

This plan leaves the reader with many questions. Additional work is necessary to equal the quality of past plans. Section I recommends 1,000 feet of conventional stream habitat work and 500 feet of experimental techniques. However, figure 3 shows about 5,000 feet of work is proposed, an apparent conflict between the text and map.

DNR Response: Corrected Figure 3 distinguishes between the areas of conventional and experimental techniques.

Page 4, paragraph 4. Was the attempt to improve stream flow thru silt removal successful or unsuccessful?

DNR Response: Not noticeably successful. No before or after measurements were made.

Is there any remaining opportunity to increase spring flow?

DNR Response: No, stream flow could be increased however, by pumping ground water or overland pumping from Lake Michigan. Both are cost prohibitive with present techniques.

P. 4, paragraph 5 and figure 4. It is difficult to understand how sharecropping, within the fishery area is compatible with the best interest of brook trout habitat and populations? This activity must surely contribute to the stream sedimentation problem described in this document.

DNR Response: Sharecropping is no longer proposed. It was done in the past as a wildlife management technique. It provided food adjacent to a pheasant wintering area and kept an area open for nesting or brood cover. A sufficient buffer strip of vegetation exists between the sharecropped field and the stream to minimize siltation.

P. 7, paragraph 4. What is the justification for sharecropping for the benefit of pen-raised pheasants, when the resulting erosion of corn fields will contribute to the stream sedimentation problem? This appears to be a definite conflict. We suggest a reconsideration of the positive and negative impacts of sharecropping. Whatever your final decision, we suggest the final plan should document the conflicts and trade-offs involved, and provide justification for the recommended action. Considering that the surrounding area is largely agricultural land, protective winter cover may benefit upland game more than additional food.

DNR Response: Same as above.

P. 7, paragraph 7. The statement "There are few significant resource management problems in the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area" is quite perplexing. This plan appears to document numerous significant problems.

DNR Response: Agreed. Correction made.

P. 7, paragraph 8. This paragraph discusses hunting related problems and the concluding statement is "consideration should be given to limiting the hunting pressure on the fishery area." Is this a recommendation that was considered during the analysis of alternatives and formulation of the recommended management plan? Perhaps management could be modified to "spread out" the pressure rather than limit it.

DNR Response: Agreed. Excessive hunting density during the pheasant season should be reduced by eliminating stocking or obtaining private hunting ground leases contiguous with the area.

P. 7, paragraph 11. Suggest additional explanation regarding private inholdings and environmental protection/water problems.

DNR Response: Agreed. Additions made.

P. 7, paragraph 12. Suggest additional explanation regarding adjacent landowner conflicts and confusing boundary arrangements. Is the boundary of the area signed properly?

DNR Response: Do not agree. The boundary is signed properly. Erratic boundary lines cause confusion.

Mark G. Leider, County Planning Director, Sheboygan County Planning and Resources Department.

Page 1, second paragraph of RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM: What are the specific "conventional techniques" for stream improvement? More importantly, what are the "experimental techniques" that are contemplated?

DNR Response: Conventional techniques are those commonly used state-wide and described in DNR Technical Bulletin No. 39, "Guidelines for Management of Trout Stream Habitat in Wisconsin" by Ray White and Oscar Brynildson. They include streambank brushing, bankrip-rapping, wing dams, and bank covers. Experimental techniques that are contemplated include brush bundles and modified half log devices.

5. Anticipated stream habitat improvements are vague and unclear. An interested reader would certainly need to know what physical disturbances will occur on the Area.

DNR Response: Same as above.

6. The wisdom of streambank brushing and stump removal is questionable. The ardent, bona fide, (unfortunately rare) trout fishermen are high critical of such "improvement practices as Nichols Creek and other Wisconsin streams.

DNR Response: Do not agree. Streambank brushing, and treatment of brush stumps with an environmental approved herbicide is an acceptable method of fish management to allow energy in the form of sunlight to enter the stream. It results in increased fish food supplies, particularly in locations where brush creates deep shade. It results in narrowing and deepening the stream, thus providing increased trout cover and increased current velocity that removes silt. Much of

LaBudde Creek contains sparse trout cover and would greatly benefit from such improvement. Most trout fishermen are in favor of such improvements, especially after they become aware of the results.

The plan fails (1) to describe the ownership and compatibilities of stretches upstream and downstream from the subject, and (2) to discuss the status of local zoning or other protective devices that may impact the subject and its contiguous stretches.

DNR Response: Agreed. Statements added.

(For All DNR Type II Actions, Except Regulatory)

FORM 1600-2

REV. 1-78

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DISTRICT OR BUREAU

Southeast

DNR NUMBER

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT SCREENING WORKSHEET

(Attach additional sheets if necessary)

Title of Proposal: LaBudde Creek Master Plan - Conceptual Phase

Location: County Sheboygan (figure 1)  
Township 16 North, Range 21 East, West  
Section(s) 21, 22, 28  
Political Town Rhine

Project:

### 1) General Description (overview)

Conceptual phase of LaBudde Creek Master Plan proposes to: increase boundary and acreage goal by 82.0 and 202.76 acres, respectively (figure 2); improve stream with conventional techniques for 1000 feet and evaluate experimental techniques on 500 feet (figure 3); brush 5100 feet of stream bank after determining effect on stream temperature; improve wildlife habitat with brush pile construction, tree and shrub plantings, rotational sharecropping or prescribed burns, and limited timber harvest; and construct two gravel parking lots.

### 2) Purpose and Need (include history and background as appropriate)

See attached.

Authorities and Approvals:

- 1) Statutory Authority to Initiate The Master Plan process is authorized by the Natural Resources Board in accordance with Sec. NR 1.415, Wis. Adm. Code.
- 2) Permits or Approvals Required U.S. Army Corps of Engineers blanket 404 permit will cover stream improvement work. Sheboygan County shoreland zoning permit required.
- 3) Participants notified of above requirements?  Yes  No
- 4) Does this proposal comply with floodplain and local zoning requirements?  Yes  No

Estimated Cost and Funding Source:

See attached.

Time Schedule:

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## EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

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### 1) Physical (Topography-soils-water-air-wetland types)

See attached.

### 2) Biological

#### a) Flora

See attached.

#### b) Fauna

See attached.

### 3) Social

See Recreation Needs.

### 4) Economic

LaBudde Creek is located in a rural-agricultural area that is becoming increasingly residential. Potential home sites in a scenic area near urban areas are experiencing great demand. The recent downturn in housing status and the economic situation has temporarily alleviated demand.

### 5) Other (include archaeological, historical, etc.)

See attached.

2.) Purpose and Need (include history and background as appropriate)

History of Property Creation

LaBudde Creek is one of three remaining trout streams in Sheboygan County that have not been affected by private hatchery development. It is also one of three streams in the county where significant amounts of naturally reproduced trout are found. The stream originates from a series of small springs and a spring pond. After flowing through the Fishery Area, LaBudde Creek joins the Mullet River, which merges with the Sheboygan River, which in turn flows into Lake Michigan at the City of Sheboygan.

Records show that the first supplementary plants of hatchery brook trout were made in LaBudde Creek in 1933, continuing to the present time. The stream was first surveyed with electro-fishing gear in 1956, and the resulting survey report recommended that "The stream should have the highest priority for improvement of all brook trout streams in Sheboygan County with the possible exception of Nichols Creek."

On June 2, 1958, the WCD informed the Town of Rhine of its intent to purchase acreage along LaBudde Creek. The Sheboygan County Board of Supervisors in resolution No. 46, gave approval to the project on November 1, 1958. The total estimated cost was set at \$62,685 for a 577 acre tract which included 12 landowners. Objectives of the project included meeting "the great need" for additional public fishing areas for persons seeking recreation. The development plan called for removal of all lands adjacent to the stream from pasturing and for restoration of wildlife food and cover and it states that the use of the trout stream and adjoining areas for fishing and hunting were to be assured for all time under public ownership.

In 1959, the Wisconsin Conservation Commission approved a plan revising the size of the acreage to be purchased, and created the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area with a boundary surrounding 422.0 acres with an acreage goal of 301.24 acres.

Recreation Needs

LaBudde Creek Fishery Area is easily accessible to many people. Because it is centrally located between Green Bay and Milwaukee, approximately 1,000,000 people live within an hour's drive of the area. According to the Sheboygan County Planning and Resource Department, Sheboygan County's population is expected to grow from 96,660 in 1970 to 102,685 in 1980. Demand for nearby recreation is expected to increase in the near future because of increased energy costs and the economic recession. Increased use of the LaBudde Creek Area may lead to deterioration of natural resources unless management and land acquisition are increased.

Fishing - Demand for trout fishing in Southeast Wisconsin is high. The eight counties that comprise the Department's Southeast District contain 6% of the state's stream trout resource and 43% of the state's population. Of the 61.25 miles of trout stream in the District, only 8.0 miles (13.1%) are state owned. In Sheboygan County, the 64.1 acreage goal Schuet Creek Fishery Area and the 1,012 acreage goal Nichols Creek Wildlife Area contain trout waters. However, 34.15 of the Southeast District's 61.25 miles of trout stream (55.8%) are in Sheboygan County.

Hunting - LaBudde Creek Fishery Area provides an easily accessible public hunting area in the northeastern part of Sheboygan County. The human population and energy factors discussed in the fishing section relate as well to projections of hunting demand. Wisconsin's 1972 outdoor recreation plan projects hunting demand to increase in Sheboygan County from 144,000 hunter days in 1970 to 161,000 and 180,000 in 1980 and 1990, respectively. Sheboygan County has two other wildlife areas, Sheboygan Marsh with an acreage goal of 862.0 acres and Nichols Creek Wildlife Area with an acreage goal of 1,012.0 acres. Approximately 1,500 acres of farm and marsh land are leased for public hunting near the Village of Adell. Portions of the Northern Unit, Kettle Moraine State Forest (14,106.2 acres) are open to hunting. Also, the county owns about 7,000 acres of marsh north of the state land on the Sheboygan Marsh, that provides public hunting.

Spot surveys on the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area have indicated high hunting pressure on opening weekend of pheasant season and during the deer gun hunting season. This area also provides opportunities for some exceptionally good woodcock hunting and fair small game hunting that attracts consistent and often heavy hunting pressure throughout the season. Land acquisition, public hunting ground leases, and more intense management will be necessary in the future to maintain acceptable harvest levels and hunting quality on this area.

Purpose (Goals, objectives, and additional benefits)

Goals: To complete land control and to manage the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area, Sheboygan County; to improve the quality of trout fishing and wildlife-based recreation, and to provide for compatible recreational opportunities.

Annual Objectives:

1. Provide limited management of a moderate quality fishery to accommodate 800 participant days of trout fishing.
2. Improve the brook trout population to allow a harvest averaging 0.2 trout per fishing hour.
3. Develop and manage the existing wildlife resources to accommodate 1,130 participant days of hunting and trapping, including 230 for deer, 500 for upland game, 200 for woodcock, and 200 for trapping of raccoon, muskrat and mink.

Annual Additional Benefits:

1. Provide 800 participant days for other recreational activities including nature hiking, bird watching, and photography.
2. Benefit resident and migratory non-game species indigenous to the area including migratory endangered or threatened species.

3. Manage the vegetative cover compatibly with the goals of fish, wildlife and non-game species management and with the aesthetic nature of the area.
4. Provide opportunities for 200 participant days of snowmobiling associated with a private club.

Table 1. Estimated Cost, Funding Source, and Time Schedule

Activity	Estimated Cost	Funding Source	Time Schedule
Land Acquisition:			
Fee Title	200,000	ORAP, D-J Segregated Funds	As available
Fishing Easement	22,000	" "	
Stream Improvement:			
Conventional	7,000	Trout Stamp	1981-82
Experimental	3,000	Trout Stamp	1981-82
Brushing	700	Trout Stamp	1981-82
Wildlife Habitat Management	450	Wildlife Segregated Fund	Annually

#### EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

##### 1) Physical (Topography-soils-water-air-wetland types)

Bedrock geology of the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area is Niagara limestone overlain with approximately 100 feet of glacial drift. Glacial activity was a major influence on the character of the area. LaBudde Creek flows along the eastern edge of the Kettle Moraine, an interlobate moraine formed by deposits of glacial drift and associated lacustrine formations. The creek originates as an intermittent outlet from two wetlands to the northeast of the Fishery Area. It picks up the majority of its flow from numerous seepage springs and a small spring pond. Although the topography of the area is rolling and hilly, the stream has a very low gradient. Consequently, stream flow is very sluggish except for the immediate headwaters.

The major soils along the stream are poorly drained, organic mucks that are suitable for wetland wildlife. The other dominant soils are shallow loams with only fair potential for agriculture.

Approximately 160 acres of wetlands occur along the stream throughout the length of the Fishery Area. Type 6 wetland, shrub swamps, make up about 50 acres, and type 7, wooded swamps, account for 110 acres.

The LaBudde Creek Fishery Area is located in Sheboygan County which is classified as "attainment" for the Ambient Air Quality Standards for particulates, sulfur oxides, and carbon monoxide. Currently, Sheboygan County is "unclassified" with respect to the Ozone Air Standard. However, exceedances of the Ozone Air Standard have been reported at the air monitoring network operated by Wisconsin Power and Light around their Edgewater Generating Station, in the Sheboygan City area which would also be indicative of the entire county.

Generally, the air quality is considered to be good even though the nearest air monitoring site is over 10 miles away. Locally, high carbon monoxide levels might be expected close to STH 67 and other local streets that handle traffic generated by visitors to Road America. Also, any open burning at landfill sites in the area would be expected to reduce air quality.

## 2) Biological

### a) Flora

The LaBudde Creek Fishery Area is characterized by lowland brush and swamp hardwoods adjacent to the stream and northern hardwoods, upland brush, and grassland in the uplands (Table 2). Some white pine plantations are also within the boundary, and 28 acres have been share-cropped in the past. Present plans do not include the cutting of timber, as the area does not include appreciable timber acreages requiring management.

Table 2. Vegetative Types and Acreage of the LaBudde Creek Fishery Area, Sheboygan County

Vegetative Type	Acreage
Lowland Brush (alders, dogwood)	48.5
Upland Brush (sumac, hawthorne, prickly ash)	11
Swamp Hardwoods	108
Upland Hardwoods (hickory, maple, basswood)	20
Grass (abandoned field)	83
Red pine and white pine plantation	<u>21</u>
	291.5

b) Fauna

Fish - The species composition of LaBudde Creek is characteristic of a cold to cool water stream fishery with brook trout, brook stickleback, pearl dace, mud minnow, common white sucker, johnny darter, creek chub, and blacknose shiner being present. An occasional northern pike is also found in the lower, warmer reaches of the stream. Management is aimed specifically at brook trout, which have fair amount of natural reproduction in the headwaters of the stream. Native trout are supplemented annually with hatchery fish.

Birds - A variety of birds inhabit the area both seasonally and permanently. Some common songbirds on the area include yellow throat, yellow warbler, catbirds, woodpeckers, brown thrasher, and empidonax flycatchers. Wildlife management will primarily benefit the upland game birds, including ruffed grouse, ring necked pheasant, and woodcock. These efforts would also benefit songbirds that inhabit early successional vegetation types and open fields while the northern hardwood types attract canopy species of songbirds.

Mammals - Although a variety of mammals occupy the area, management will benefit, cottontail rabbit and fox and grey squirrels. Furbearers including raccoon, muskrat and mink are also present and provide some trapping opportunities.

Endangered and Threatened Species - No endangered or threatened species of fish, birds, or mammals are known to inhabit the area. (See attached memo from the Office of Engangered and Nongame Species.) The area has not been surveyed in detail for amphibians, reptiles or plants, and it is recommended that such surveys be made as soon as funded and manpower are available. Should an endangered or threatened species be found, the District Coordinator will be contacted, and immediate steps taken to protect the site.

5) Other (include archaeological, historical, etc.)

The LaBudde Creek Fishery Area has not been surveyed for buildings of historical significance or for archaeological sites. The State Historical Society reports one known historical feature--a fish weir located in the SW 1/4, NW 1/4, Section 22, T16N, R21E, constructed by historic Indians. This site no longer exists as this section of stream was ditched earlier in this century and more recently, was developed with intensive stream improvement devices. In the future, the State Historical Society will be contacted for clearance prior to any operation on the Fishery Area in which land or structures are disturbed (see attached letter from the State Historical Society).

## PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE

### 1) Manipulation of Terrestrial Resources (include quantities – sq. ft., cu. yds., etc.)

Proposed wildlife management includes:

Construction of approximately 12 brush piles.

Plant trees and shrubs on boundaries of newly acquired land (approx. .5 mile).

Limited timber harvest on 20 acres of upland hardwoods and thinnings of any acquired pine plantations (approx. 30 acres).

Maintain 83 acres in grassland by sharecropping or prescribed burns.

Prescribed burns would be conducted about every 5 years on about 25 acres of grassland in the SW 1/4 of Section 22.

Develop two gravel parking lots (1000 sq. ft. each) on upland areas adjacent to highway.

### 2) Manipulation of Aquatic Resources (include quantities – cfs, acre feet, MGD, etc.)

Improve instream fish habitat with conventional stream improvement techniques:

approximately 10 wing deflectors, 20 bank covers, and 20 half logs, on 1000 feet of stream. Evaluate experimental techniques such as brush bundles and elevated half logs on 500 feet of stream. Cut brush 20 feet back from stream along 5100 feet of streambank if stream temperatures are not found to be detrimentally increased.

### 3) Structures

None

### 4) Other

### 5) Attach maps, plans and other descriptive material as appropriate (list)

See figure 3.

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PROBABLE ADVERSE AND BENEFICIAL IMPACTS (Include Indirect and Secondary Impacts)

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1) Physical Impacts

See attached.

2) Biological Impacts

See attached.

3) Socioeconomic Impacts

a) Social

See attached.

b) Economic

See attached.

4) Other (include archaeological, historical, etc.; if none, so indicate.)

The State Historical Society will be contacted for clearance prior to any operation in which land or structures are disturbed (see attached memo from the State Historical Society).

PROBABLE ADVERSE AND BENEFICIAL IMPACTS (Include Indirect and Secondary Impacts)

1) Physical Impacts

a) Stream Improvement

Adverse: Structures instream will reduce hydraulic capacity of channel and increase floodwater heights upstream. No damage will result because of Department land control and conservancy zoning upstream. Temporary compaction of soft soils due to activities associated with construction of structures. Sedimentation will increase downstream during construction, but will be minimized by sodding or seeding exposed banks. Brushing along stream may cause a detrimental increase in water temperature and a temporary adverse aesthetic impact.

Beneficial: Structures instream will stabilize banks, reduce erosion, narrow stream, deepen stream, and increase meanders, therefore improving habitat for trout and improving aesthetics.

b) Parking Lot Construction

Adverse: Small area (2,000 square feet) of upland grassland and pine plantation will be replaced by gravel lots.

2) Biological Impacts

a) Increased Land Acquisition

Beneficial: Flora and fauna will change in some areas from those associated with agricultural land to those associated with natural areas. Aesthetics and wildlife species will benefit. Water quality will be improved by eliminating pesticide application and soil erosion.

b) Wildlife Management

Adverse: Temporary aesthetic impact of brush pile construction, timber harvest, and prescribed burns.

Beneficial: Increase in wildlife habitat and populations. Improved aesthetics by tree plantings on boundaries.

c) Stream Improvement

Beneficial: Structures instream will improve fish habitat and increase fish and other aquatic organisms.

d) Parking Lot Construction

Adverse: Small area (2,000 sq. ft.) of upland grassland and pine plantation will be replaced by gravel lots.

3) Socioeconomic Impacts

a) Social

1) Increased Land Acquisition

Adverse: Approximately 90 acres of land that is presently farmed would revert to its natural state, thereby reducing agricultural production very slightly.

Beneficial: Land needed for public recreation would be acquired. More uniform property boundary would result in less adjacent landowner conflicts.

- 2) All other management activities and parking lot construction would improve access and improve hunting, fishing, and nature activities for the general public.

b) Economic

Increased land acquisition will slightly reduce local agricultural income. Acquisition and management of property will increase recreational use and add to the local economy through their expenses.

Increased acquisition will have a very small effect on local property taxes. All additional land purchased will be removed from the county tax rolls. This loss will be offset, however, by state payment in lieu of lost property taxes, increased school aid, reduction of town's share of school and county tax levies, and, if necessary, other increased state payments to the town.

PROBABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS THAT CANNOT BE AVOIDED

Increase in water temperature due to brushing.

Change from natural vegetation to gravel on 2,000 sq. ft. of parking areas.

Temporary aesthetic impact of fish and wildlife management activities.

Change of 90 acres of farmland, and farming income, to natural grassland and recreational income.

Temporary sedimentation of downstream areas during instream structure construction.

Reduced hydraulic capacity of channel with instream structures.

Compaction of parent soil within construction area.

Energy expenditures for construction activities.

Temporary increase in air pollution during prescribed burns.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHORT-TERM USES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

Stream improvement techniques will increase the long term productivity of brook trout in exchange for temporary aesthetic degradation, temporary downstream siltation, and small energy expenditures. Land acquisition will increase public recreation for perpetuity at the expense of a small amount of agricultural productivity. Long-term productivity of wildlife will be increased by periodic maintenance of open areas and habitat requiring small energy expenditures.

IRREVERSIBLE OR IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES IF ACTION IS IMPLEMENTED

1) Energy

Gasoline consumed by vehicles moving personnel and materials for management activities to and from the area.

2) Archaeological and historic features or sites

None

3) Other

None

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ALTERNATIVES (No Action-Enlarge-Reduce-Modify-Other Locations and/or Methods. Discuss and describe full with particular attention to alternatives which might avoid some or all adverse environmental effects.)

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No Action

Because of the extent of past physical alteration of the stream, management efforts are necessary to improve conditions for fish and wildlife. If all management was suspended, fish and wildlife habitat would diminish, and populations would decline.

If the remaining private parcels were not acquired, the fishery area will continue to be divided and environmental protection not assured. The future of hunting on the area may be threatened by new housing developments adjacent to the property.

Enlarge Project

Enlargement of the boundary is desirable considering the heavy hunting pressure and present small size of the area. Also, some of the stream is not within the present boundary, the area is less than 500 feet wide in several locations, and the boundaries are erratic and difficult to identify. Any major expansion would be difficult, however, because surrounding lands are agricultural and increasingly residential.

A minor boundary expansion of 82 acres is recommended to correct some of the problems in locations where land is presently undeveloped and contiguous to present boundaries. These additions should help buffer new housing developments from hunting activity and better protect the watershed.

Reduce Project

Attainment of the goals and objectives would be impossible if the area was reduced. This would also be contrary to the Natural Resources Board approved acreage goal.

Intensive Habitat Management

Proven conventional stream habitat improvement techniques are not applicable to much of LaBudde Creek. Low flow and gradient combined with muck soils make their success unlikely. Experimental techniques could be applied and evaluated along small areas of the stream before being applied in an intensive manner. Streambank brushing should proceed carefully as increased summer stream temperatures could result.

The fishery area is long and narrow and provides a strip of wild land in an agricultural area. The area has a diversity of habitat types, both within and along its borders. The area does not require intensive habitat management of upland wildlife, but wildlife habitat could be improved by brush pile construction, tree and shrub plantings, and a limited timber harvest. The open spaces areas (agricultural fields and grassland) and the brush areas would be maintained for the benefit of woodcock, pheasant, deer, ruffed grouse, and rabbits. Agricultural fields and grasslands could be maintained by alternating areas under sharecropping or by limited prescribed burns. Brushy areas can be maintained by limited harvests and prescribed burns.

EVALUATION (Discuss each category. Attach additional sheets and other pertinent information if necessary.)

- 1) As a result of this action, is it likely that other events or actions will happen that may significantly affect the environment? If so, list and discuss. (Secondary effects)

A secondary effect of stream improvement could be overexploitation of the brook trout population due to improved access and greater fishing pressure. If this was observed, more restrictive regulations could reduce harvest while increasing quality of angling.

- 2) Does the action alter the environment so a new physical, biological or socio-economic environment would exist? (New environmental effect)

No

- 3) Are the existing environmental features that would be affected by the proposed action scarce, either locally or statewide? If so, list and describe. (Geographically scarce)

No

- 4) Does the action and its effect(s) require a decision which would result in influencing future decisions? Describe. (Precedent setting)

No

- 5) Discuss and describe concerns which indicate a serious controversy? (Highly controversial)

None

- 6) Does the action conflict with official agency plans or with any local, state or national policy? If so, how? (Inconsistent with long-range plans or policies)

No

7) While the action by itself may be limited in scope, would repeated actions of this type result in major or significant impacts to the environment? (Cumulative impacts)

A great increase in land acquisition for recreation could reduce agricultural production significantly. Recreational land makes up a small percentage of our total land area, and although the demand for more is documented, large increases are unlikely.

8) Will the action modify or destroy any historical, scientific or archaeological site?

No

9) Is the action irreversible? Will it commit a resource for the foreseeable future? (Foreclose future options)

No

10) Will action result in direct or indirect impacts on ethnic or cultural groups or alter social patterns? (Socio-cultural impacts)

No

11) Other

None

Date	Contact	Comments
10/13/80	James Morrissey	Comments incorporated.
3/27/80	Cliff Germain	No known potential natural or scientific areas.
10/16/80	Rick Dexter	One known archaeological site. Contact before construction activities begin.
10/16/80	James Hale	No records of endangered or threatened wild animals or plants.
10/16/80	Dale Katsma	Comments incorporated.

**RECOMMENDATION**

EIS Not Required . . . . .

Analysis of the expected impacts of this proposal is of sufficient scope and detail to conclude that this is not a major action which would significantly affect the quality of the human environment. In my opinion therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required before the Department undertakes this action.

Refer to Office of the Secretary . . . . .

Major and Significant Action: Prepare EIS . . . . .

Additional factors, if any, affecting the evaluator's recommendation:

SIGNATURE OF EVALUATOR <i>Lawrence E. Claggett</i>		DATE <i>11/12/80</i>
<i>James Morrissey 12-12-80</i>		
<b>CERTIFIED TO BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH WEP A</b>		
DISTRICT OR BUREAU DIRECTOR (OR DESIGNEE) <i>Mark F. Strain</i>	DATE <i>12-12-80</i>	
<b>APPROVED (if required by Manual Code)</b>		
DIRECTOR, BEI	DATE	

This decision is not final until approved by the appropriate Director and/or Director, BEI.



OCT 28 1980

PLYMOUTH

HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

October 24, 1980

Mr. Larry Claggett  
Department of Natural Resources  
P. O. Box 308  
Plymouth, Wisconsin 53073

SHSW: 446-80  
RE: La Budde Creek Master Plan

Dear Mr. Claggett:

In response to your recent request, we have searched our records for information on any known historical or archeological properties in the La Budde Creek Fishery Area, Sheboygan County.

There are no known buildings or other structures within the Fishery Area of architectural significance.

The Fishery Area has not been surveyed for sites of historical or archeological significance. However, our records show that a fish wier was discovered on La Budde Creek in the SW 1/4, NW 1/4 of Section 22, T16N, R21E. The site was found in the early part of this century and has not been revisited by the staff of the State Historical Society to determine its present condition. I understand that La Budde Creek has been ditched and straightened and that the fish wier may have already been destroyed.

We believe that there is a high probability the Fishery Area may contain other, as yet undiscovered archeological sites. We recommend that prior to any ground disturbing activities the DNR consult with our office to determine whether an archeological survey of the project area is warranted.

Should you have any further questions on this matter, please contact me. My telephone number is (608) 262-2732.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Dexter  
Compliance Coordinator

RWD:cm

THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN

816 STATE STREET · MADISON, WISCONSIN 53706 · RICHARD A. ERNEY, DIRECTOR

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION COMMENT LOG

Project Title: La Budde Creek Master Plan EIA  
Project Evaluator: Lawrence Claggett  
Initial Date Of Review Period: 11/17/80 - 12/5/80

Comments Were Received From The Following:

Name	Address	Comment	Action Taken
Bill Noyak	Plymouth Review 113 E. Mill St. Plymouth, WI 53073	Requested interview for newspaper story.	Information supplied
Lew Sore Kany	Bureau of Environmental Impact, Madison	Attached as addendum to EIA	Responses attached as addendum to EIA

December 10, 1980

1600

File

Larry Claggett

LaBudde Creek, Master Plan EIA, Addendum

Here are my responses to Lew Posekany's comments on the LaBudde Creek EIA.

1. There is no navigation of the stream by canoes. The small size of the stream and dense brush along the banks discourage recreational canoeing.
2. The stream improvement devices will not restrict real or potential navigation. Narrowing, deepening, and removing brush will provide improved navigation potential.
3. Probable adverse and beneficial impacts of prescribed burns.

a) Physical Impacts

Adverse: The burns will produce large quantities of light colored smoke consisting of particulates, carbon dioxide, water, and small quantities of nitrogen oxides and carbon monoxide. Most of the particulates are expected to settle out close to the site, and the remaining fine particulates will be dispersed in the ambient atmosphere. Harmful emissions are expected to be negligible because the material to be burned consists of grasses and some wood material. Because few residences exist in the immediate burn area and the smoke will disperse in the atmosphere, the effect of the smoke will be minimal on surrounding areas.

Small increases in erosion may occur if heavy rains follow the burns. The rapid "green-up" following the burn and surrounding vegetation strips will minimize any erosion that occurs.

b) Biological Impacts

Beneficial: Prescribed burns will maintain an open area of grassland by removing encroaching shrubs and woody vegetation for the benefit of wildlife that flourish in early successional grasslands.

4. Other recreational uses are mentioned in the following sections:  
Purpose - Annual Additional Benefits; Probable Adverse and Beneficial  
Impacts - Socioeconomic Impacts.

LC:jc