FOREST PLAN
APPENDIX C

INTERIM POTENTIAL CLASSIFICATION STUDY

Nationwode River Inventory (NRI) Candidates

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Introduction

The Nationwide Rivers Inventory of 1979 identified rivers that have potential for designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of October 2, 1968.

Seven rivers listed in this Nationwide Rivers Inventory are located completely or partially within the exterior boundaries of the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri.

The Land and Resource Management Plan for the Mark Twain National Forest, approved June 23, 1986, recognizes these seven rivers as being eligible for study. A determination that a particular river is eligible for designation does not necessarily imply that designation is the best use of the river in terms of National interest.

The Plan also assigns a corridor extending ¼ mile from each river bank the length of the eligible study area to separate management areas with supporting standards and guidelines. Refer Forest Plan, pages, IV-17, IV-189 - IV-191.

These rivers have been reviewed to determine an interim potential classification until a formal river study is executed and a recommendation made to Congress as to the suitability for classification for each river.

This report presents the interim potential classification for each river, as well as the standards and guidelines by which National Forest System lands within these areas will be managed until studies are completed and Congressional action taken.

GASCONADE RIVER (66 miles)

National Forest Acres	599
Miles with NFSL – 1 side	7.71
Miles with NFSL – 2 side	1.37

This rivers' attributes and qualifications for national river status were evaluated by a Draft Environment Statement prepared in 1975. that study resulted in the following recommendation.

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION 1/

"It is proposed that legislation be enacted which would:

Amend Section 3(a) of P.L. 90-542 to include 66 miles of the Gasconade River and 52 miles of the Big Piney River as Federal components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and designates them "scenic" river areas. As defined in Section 2(b)(2) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, scenic river areas are those rivers that are free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped but accessible in places by roads." (See River Classification Map on page 3).

It has been determined (1987) that no significant changes have occurred to the river environment sufficient to cause a change in the proposed classification.

1/ Draft Environmental Impact Statement – Gasconade Wild and Scenic River Study. Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Department of the Interior. 1975.

Interim Potential Classification – Gasconade River

The determination for this river was adopted from the draft Gasconade/Big Piney Wild and Scenic River Study, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Department of the Interior, 1975.

The determination was made that:

1. The following segment be considered as shown on the map on page 3.

Segment 3	66 miles	Scenic

BIG PINEY RIVER (63 miles)

National Forest Acres	2,453
Miles with NFSL – 1 side	17.74
Miles with NFSL – 2 side	12.81

This rivers' attributes and qualifications for national river status were evaluated by a Draft Environment Statement prepared in 1975. that study resulted in the following recommendation.

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION 1/

"It is proposed that legislation be enacted which would:

Amend Section 3(a) of P.L. 90-542 to include 66 miles of the Gasconade River and 52 miles of the Big Piney River as Federal components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and designates them "scenic" river areas. As defined in Section 2(b)(2) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, scenic river areas are those rivers that are free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped but accessible in places by roads." 1/ (See River Classification Map on page 6).

Development subsequent to this 1975 finding has not reduced its potential qualification.

In addition, the determination is made that the 11 mile segment from the northern boundary of Ft. Leonard Wood to the north side of Section 31, T36N, R10W, should have an interim classification of "scenic." This opportunity results from a boundary adjustment that now places this 11 mile segment outside of the Fort.

1/ Draft Environmental Impact Statement – Gasconade Wild and Scenic River Study. Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Department of the Interior. 1975.

Interim Potential Classificaiton – Big Piney River

The determinations for hti sriver are a combination based on the draft Gasconade (Big Piney) Wild and Sacenic River Study, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Department of the Interior, 1975 and on a review of the current situations along the river.

The determinations were made that:

1. The 52 mile portion of the river from Highway 17 to Fort Leonard Wood as recommended in the Gasconade Wild and Scenic River Study be considered one segment. The best potential classification for this 52 mile segment of the river would be “Scenic.”

2. The 9.5 mile portion of the river from the southern boundary of Fort Leonard Wood to the northern boundary be considered one segment. This 9.5 mile segment should be excluded from consideration as a component of the Wild and Scenic River system due to its location within the boundary of Fort Leonard Wood.

3. The 11 mile portion of the river from the northern boundary of Fort Leonard Wood to the north side of Section 31, T36N, R10W, should be considered one segment. The best potential classification for this 11 mile segment of the river would be “Scenic.”

4. The 9 mile portion of the river from the north side of Section 31, T36N, R10W, to the junction with the Gasconade River should be considered one segment. This 9 mile segment should be excluded from consideration as a part of the wild and Scenic River System. The 1975 Study Report found this section to be unsuitable for classification. Since 1975, factors causing unsuitability have worsened.

Item 2-4 differ from the recommendation of the Draft Gasconade (Big Piney) Wild and Scenic River Study, 1975. The 1975 study called for the entire 29.5 miles to be excluded from consideration. A redescription of the Fort Leonard Wood boundary now places 11 miles of river outside of the Fort’s jurisdiction and within National Forest influence. This 11 mile segment is recognized as having a potential for Scenic classificaiton.

CEDAR CREEK (63 miles)

National Forest Acres	1,041
Miles with NFSL – 1 side	3.06
Miles with NFSL – 2 side	.73

Free Flowing – Cedar Creek is free flowing throughout.

Outstandingly Remarkable Values – The most remarkably scenic section is from Mile Post 8 to 21, with a cave, chimney rock, and rock bluffs. Two historical mill sites, several old house places, and many prehistoric sites occur along the creek.

Accessibility – Cedar Creek is crossed by two state highways and three county roads. One county bridge is for pedestrian use only. Eight fords are traditionally used by nearby landownersm, but are not accessible to the general public. Approximately 40 landowners adjoin Cedar Creek on the Boone County side, while Callaway County has approximately 60 different individuals with property tounching Cedar Creek. Each landowner has some sort of road or trail to the creek where topography allows.

Developments – Five powerlines and one pipeline cross Cedar Creek within the candidate area. Five county and seven private roads that don’t cross the creek have sections that run in the corridor. About 30 houses, 25 outbuildings, and two cemeteries lie in the area.

Land Use – With few exceptions, the bottomland flats and gentle slopes that are common within the corridor have been cleared of trees and planted in crops or grass. Management activities on National Forest System lands within the corridor have been limited, but include the planting of walnuts and cottonwoods, and subsequent release with herbicides.

Suitability for Public Recreational Use – Cedar Creek is a small creek which drains into the Missouri River. On the lower reaches of the stream the influences of the Missouri River can be seen. He creekbanks are high (10 feet or more) so that a user gets a tunnel-like impression. These high mud banks rise from the water of the creek so that there is limited area to land and leave the canoe or boat. Climbing the banks is difficult.

Cedar Creek has no developed public facilities, such as a boat ramp, restrooms, etc. Recreationists presently use the state and county road right-of-ways to launch their boats. The sream is best floated during periods of high runoff, typically in the spring. Year-round use is limited to that portion of the stream within 3 miles of the Missouri River.

Cedar Creek has only 0.73 linear miles with National Forest System lands on both sides, and 3.0 miles of NFSL on one side. Therefore, only 8% of the creekbank is in Forest Service ownership.

All in all, the capacity of the small stram to sustain heavy public use such as has resulted from national designation of other larger rivers in Missouri is quite limited.

Water Quality – During the mid-1900's, surface mining for coal disturbed thousands of acres of land in the upper Cedar Creek Watershed. In succeeding years, acid runoff from the barren mine lands degraded Cedar Creek, causing numerous major fish kills throughout its lengths. The last such fish kill occurred in 1982.

In March of 1980, the Abandoned Mine Land Seciton of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources entered into a multi-phase reclamation program for the Cedar Creek Watershed. Two areas responsible for considerable amounts of acid runoff, the Cross-Mitchell and Tipple sites, have been reclaimed. Reclamation was directed toward wlimination of all sources of acid runoff, burial of exposed municipal wastes, and reclamation of polluted impoundments. Six additional sites (1,603 acres) have been identified that contribute acid mine drainage to the stream. Reclamation of two of those areas, the Upper Cedar Creek (1,004 acres) and Manacle Creek (207 acres), are now underway. Reclamation will focus on reduction of acid runoff, soil erosion, and flooding in the Cedar Creek Watershed above Interstrate 70.

Acid pollution from old mine sites has tainted the creek's water and its reputation, seriously degrading the aesthetic and recreational value of Cedar Creek. Following the compoletion of the reclamation of the pollution sources, it is hoped that the water quality can be returned to normal.

Personnel with the Missouri Department of Conservation released 3,000 smallmouth bass into the mid- and lower sections of Cedar Creek during September, 1986. Full fisheries production is not expected until the cleanup of the mine areas is completed. The upper sectio o fthe creek cannot support food for fish at present. Channel catfish and largemouth bass populations are normal south of Rutherford Bridge (Mile Post 12), and receive considerable fishing pressure.

Hydrology – Cedar Creek is 44.4 miles long from headwaters to mouth, running a southly direction with a total drop in relief of 300 feet, or a drop per mile of approximately 6.7 feet. It has a mean velocity of 1/3-foot per second with a traversal time of approximately 80 days. The stream valley is narrow, and Cedar Creek drains approximately 200 square miles, an average of 5 square miles of watershed for each linear mile of stream.

Location – Cedar Creek is located in the middle of the rapidly growing area of Columbia, Fulton, and Jefferson City. It is a two-hour drive from St. Louis and Kansas City.

INVENTORY OF CEDAR CREEK CORRIDOR, BY MILE POST

Note: Land ownership is private unless otherwise stated.

Mile Post 0 to 1 – Beginning at State Highway WW Bridge
- Cropland on west side of creek, pasture on east
- Old outbuildings next to pasture
- Narrow strip of large trees along creek
- Confluence with Little Cedar Creek
- Vemers Ford – traditional crossing, not accessible to the public

MP 1 to 2
- Cropland on west, pasture on east
- Narrow strip of large trees along creek

MP 2 to 3
- Traditional ford – not accessible to the public
- Pastures on east and west
- Strip of large trees along creek
- House and barn 1/8 mile to the east of creek
- Williams Brothers Pipeline crosses, banks cleared

MP 3 to 4

- East side has scenic, steep bluffs
- Creek makes horseshoe bend
- New house on steep bluff overlooking creek
- High Voltage powerline, ROW cleared on both banks
- Pastures on east and west
- Strip of large trees along creek
- Callaway County Road 351 runs parallel to creek on ridgetop
- Four houses on county road, within creek corridor

MP 4 to 5

- Traditional ford – not accessible to the public
- Old barn on east within corridor
- Large block of trees on west

MP 5 to 6

- Old barn on west side
- Pasture on west, cropland on east
- Several houses about ¼ mile away on Boone couty road

MP 6 to 7

- Confluence with Owl Creek. Owl Creek watershed has one abandoned mine area that contributes minimal amounts of acid pollution to Cedar Creek. The area is the smallest of those invertoried in the Cedar Creek Watershed, and is considered to be the lowest priority for reclamation.
- Traditional ford – not accessible to the public
- Pasture on west
- Block of trees on east

MP 7 to 8
- Creek makes horsehoe bend
- Wooded on west
- Cropland on east

MP 8 to 9
- Historical Mill Site Bluff on east
- Mill Site Crossing – historical ford, not accessible to the public
- Cropland on west
- Forested block on east
- House and outbuildings on each side of creek within corridor

MP 9 to 10
- Confluence with Millers Creek. Millers Creek watershed has five abandoned mine areas. Under normal conditions, with dilution and natural stream recovery, the amount of acid mine drainage is small and results in little change in the water quality of Cedar Creek.
- Pasture on west with a section of streambank trees cleared
- Creek touches corner of National Forest System Land (NFSL) – old field
- Wide sand bar

MP 10 to 11
- Creek touches NFSL for ¼ mile on east side
- Traditional ford – not accessible to the public
- Pasture on west with a section of streambank trees cleared
- Mostly forested on east
- Wide sand bar

MP 11 to 12
- Steep bluffs on west
- Forested on west
- Mostly pasture on east
- Johnson Cemetary within corridor on west side
- Boone County road runs parallel to creek for ¼ mile
- Two houses within corridor on west side
- NFSL lies within corridor but not adjacent to creek

MP 12 to 13
- Rutherford Bridge – not for vehicular traffic. Boy Scouts installed plands so that hikers using Cedar Creek Hiking Trail could use the old bridge to cross Cedar Creek.
- County roads on each side deadend at the creek. Callaway County side is not maintained, Boone County side is.
- NFSL within corridor, portions adjoin creek – forested and old fields
- Low water crossing on private
- Rugherford Cave – on private, opening approximately 20’ high by 30’ wide, depth unknown, opening can be seen from creek
- Private road within corridor
- Cropland on west, pasture on east
- Strip of trees along creek

MP 13 to 14
- Creek makes horseshoe bend
- Scenic rock bluffs
- Confluence with Smith Creek. Smith Creek watershed has one abandoned mine area that contributes only minimal acid pollution to Cedar Creek. The mine area is in the more advanced stages of recovery from natural succession.
- House and outbuildings in corridor on west side
- About ½ mile of Cedar Creek touches NFSL on the east – forested and old field
- Cropland on west

MP 14 to 15
- A rock overhang and several scenic bluffs in this section of creek
- About ¾ mile touches NFSL on the east, NFSL within the corridor on the west
- Old fields in flat bottomland, forested slopes

MP 15 to 16
- Creek makes long, narrow horseshoe bend called the Devil's Backbone
- Backbone itself is pastureland, with outbuildings
- Historical ford – not accessible to the public, columns from old bridge still there
- Historical Duley Mill Site on the Devil's Backbone
- East side of creek is forested
- Scenic rock bluffs
- NFSL within corridor but not adjacent to creek

MP 16 to 17
- First ½ mile still next to the Devil's Backbone
- Several scenic rock bluffs

MP 17 to 18
- Small rock bluffs
- Pasture on west
- Forested on east

MP 18 to 19
- Private road runs parallel to creek on west side
- House and outbuildings next to large lake within corridor
- Pasture on west
- Forested on east side

MP 19 to 20
- Outbuildings on both sides within corridor
- Pasture and wooded about equal on both sides
- About ¼ mile touches NFSL on west
- Tree evaluation area (cottonwood plantation) on NFSL
- High voltage powerline crosses creek – cleared ROW

MP 20 to 21
- About 7/8 mile of creek touches NFSL on west
- Five acres of private land surrounded by NFSL within corridor includes house. Owner of inholding has claimed ownership of the road across NFSL to his property. Road passes his house and continues to the creek. Private Road signs have been posted on the road and a Keep Out sign at his property boundary.
- Old outbuildings on NFSL next to the private inholding
- Walnut plantation and another tree evaluation area (cottonwood plantation) on NFSL
- High voltage powerline crosses NFSL and creek
- Chimney rock, on NFSL
- Pasture and forested on east

MP 21 to 22
- Mostly cropland on east and west
- State Highway Y crosses creek with bridge
- House and outbuildings on west
- Boone County road takes off of Hwy Y within corridor

MP 22 to 23
- Wide sandbars
- Cropland in bottom on west and east
- Small section of University of Missouri Ashland Wildlife Research Area within corridor
- House, outbuildings, and private road on east side
- NFSL in corridor but doesn’t adjoin Cedar Creek. This NFSL is in the process of being exchanged with the University of Missouri to better consolidate ownership of NFSL and the Ashland Wildlife Research Area.

MP 23 to 24
- House, outbuildings, and private road on west side
- Traditional ford – not accessible to public
- County Road 389 with bridge crosses creek
- Cedar Creek Hiking Trail uses bridge
- About ¼ mile lies next to NFSL, other NFSL within corridor but doesn’t adjoin creek
- About ½ mile lies adjacent to Ashland Wildlife Area
- Cropland on west side
- Strip of trees and pastureland on east side
- Two more houses and outbuildings within corridor

MP 24 to 25
- About ¼ mile next to Ashland Wildlife Research Area on west
- About 1/3 mile next to NFSL on west side – all forested, no public access. This “helicopter” tract is in the process of being exchanged with the University of Missouri to better consolidate ownership of NFSL and the Ashland Wildlife Area.
- Creek makes small horseshoe bend
- Forested on west side
- East side is in cropland, parts are cleared to the creek
- Large sandbars
- Private road and outbuildings on west

MP 25 to 26
- Callaway County road runs within corridor
- House, outbuilding and private road
- Cropland on west, pasture on east
- Narrow strip of trees along creek

MP 26 to 27
- Confluence with Brushy and Fowler Creeks
- Bluegrass sod farm on east side
- West side forested, some patches of pasture

MP 27 to 28
- ¼ mile of bluegrass sod field on east side
- Cropland on west
- About ½ mile touches NFSL on east side – special use hay field
- Narrow strip of large trees lines creek – some trees have sloughed into water with recent flooding
- REA powerline crosses NFSL and creek
- Zumwalt Bridge connects Boone and Callaway County roads. Bridge realignment has been proposed by the counties. Design plans and DOT easements are not yet finalized.
- Callaway County road parallels creek for ½ mile. May be moved farther away from creek as part of bridge realignment project.
- House and outbuildings on west side
- Two houses with outbuildings on east side
- Mt. Zion Cemetary on east side

MP 28 to 29
- Pasture on west
- Pasture and cropland on east
- Narrow strip of trees lines creek
- House, outbuildings, and private road in corridor

MP 29 to 29 ½ - Purchase Unit Boundary
- Cropland on east and west
- Block of forested land on east

Interim Potential Classification – Cedar Creek

These determinations are based on a review of that portion of the stream within the exterior boundaries of the Mark Twain National Forest an factors such as the amount and location of ownerships, the quality of the stream and land corridor, public use patterns, carrying capacity, existing public access, existing service to the public, the presence of other state and federal agencies on the stream, and the costs of establishing a Forest Service “presence” on the stream and administering the areas.

The determinations were made that:

1. The portion of the creek within the Mark Twain Naitonal Forest should be considered one segment.

2. The best potential classification would be other than a National classification. This classification is based on the high frequency of road access, buildings and the high impact of agriculture. Only Mileposts 15 and 17 are free of such impacts. Fifteen miles distributed throughout the 29 miles evaluated are affected by all these impacts. However, to avoid jeopardizing consideration for eventual classification, National Forest lands within the corridor will be managed to meet at least the Recreation category.

COURTOIS CREEK (18 miles)

National Forest Acres	1,081
Miles with NFSL – 1 side	2.63
Miles with NFSL – 2 side	2.1

Free Flowing – There are no dams across Courtois Creek although there are low water bridges at Brazil and at mile posts 5.1, 13.5 and 17.8. (See map which follows).

Outstanding Remarkable Values
The entire length of the stream is highly scenic.

National Forest Developed Recreation Facilities: None

National Forest Dispersed Recreation Sites for camping, swimming and fishing: From mile post 2.9 to 3.9 and at mile posts 8.4 and 16.3.

No outstanding geological sites.

There are prehistoric and historical cultural sites between mile post 2.0 and 15.0.

Accessibility – Public access is available at mile posts 2.7, 3.3, 7.4, 8.3 and 16.3. Public roads cross the Courtois Creek at Brazil and at mile posts 5.1, 7.6, 13.5 and 17.8. Lands outside the roadway are privately owned. Private roads reach the stream at mile posts 1.2, 2.3, 3.6, 4.0, 5.3, 6.1, 6.4, 6.6, 7.4 to 8.3, 10.4, 11.3, 11.4, 12.2 to 12.6, 13.1, 13.6, 14.4, 14.6, 15.0 to 15.3, 16.6, 18.7, 18.9 and 19.0.

Developments – There are no developed public access sites. Four commercial canoe rental facilities are located adjacent to the stream: Bass Canoe Rental and Campground at mile post 7.6, Misty Valley Canoe Rental and Campground at Mile post 13.5, Bass Canoe Rental at mile post 17.7 and Courtois Canoe Rental at 17.8.

There are numerous farms and homesites with associated buildings along the stream from Brazil to the Forest boundary.

Union Electric Company has an overhead powerline that crosses the stream at mile post 6.6.

Gulf Refining Company has a pipeline that crosses the stream at mile post 17.8. There are several telephone and powerlines running to private buildings within the ½ mile corridor that do not cross the stream.

There are fences along the entire stretch of the Courtois but only a few, if any, cross it.

A small section of the stream is rip-rapped at mile post 15.3. No wingwalls or sewage outlets are known.

Land Use – National Forest Land: Current National Forest activities are limited to dispersed recreation use, one range allotment and wildlife habitat management. Dispersed recreation (i.e., camping, swimming and fishing) is heavy during summer months between mile posts 2.5 and 3.9 and at mile post 8.3. Moderate day use recreation is experienced at mile post7.4.

Approximately 160 acres in the Berryman Cattle Allotment is located along Courtois Creek at mile post 7.7 to 8.3. The permit is for 38 AUM's with such improvements as fences, gates, wire gaps and ponds. A few openings are maintained for wildlife.

Private Land: The majority of private land adjacent to the stream is used for farming, with numerous pastures, some cultivated fields and numerous woodlands. These lands are criss-crossed with fences and other associated improvements. Almost all private lands are posted "No Trespassing."

There are four commercial canoe rental outlets along the stream at mile posts 7.6, 13.5, 17.7 and 17.8. These outlets provide rental services including some camping and parking facilities.

Suitability for Public Recreation Use – The recreation opportunities for water related activities are numerous. Water levels for stream floating (i.e., tubes and canoes) are adequate during most of the year with occasional high water in the Spring and low water in the late Summer and Fall. The best water for floating is from mile post 7.6 (Highway 8) downstream with good water for swimming and fishing along the entire length from Brazil to the Forest boundary.

Usable stream for floating: 9.0 miles.
Usable stream for swimming & fishing: 19.5 miles.

Water quality is generally excellent with muddy conditions only after heavy storms.

The limited public frontage (only 4 miles) prevents many public recreation development opportunities. A public boat launch (i.e., parkng lot and restroom) could be developed at mile post 7.5. This same area is being sought by the commercial rental outlets as a possible stream access for their operations.

Volume of Recreation Use – Floating: Most use is from mile post 7.6 downstream. Use is very heavy on weekends, light to moderate on weekdays from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Use is light during the Fall, Winter and Spring. There are several commercial canoe rental facitlities that use the stream heavily during the summer.

Fishing: Use is along the entire stream from Brazil to the Forest boundary. Use is heavy on weekends, moderate on weekdays during the summer months. Gigging is popular from mid-September until January.

Camping: Camping is heavy throughout the summer in the few public sites available, mile posts 2.5 to 3.9 and 8.3.

COURTOIS CREEK

Interim Potential Classification – Courtois Creek

These determinations are based on a review of that portion of the stream within the exterior boundaries of the Mark Twain National Forest and factors such as the amount and location of ownership, the quality of the stream and land corridor, public use patterns, carrying capacity, existing public access, existing service to the public, the presence of other state and federal agencies on the stream, and the costs of establishing a Forest Service “presence” on the stream and administering the area.

The determinations were made that:

1. The portion of the creek within the Mark Twain National Forest should be considered one segment.

2. The best potential classification would be other than a National classification. This classification is based on the high frequency of road access, buildings and the high impact of agriculture. None of the 18 miles of this study area are free of such impacts and 10 miles, distributed throughout the length are affected by all these impacts. However, to avoid jeopardizing consideration for eventual classification, National Forest lands within the corridor will be managed to meet at least the Recreation category.

HUZZAH CREEK (28 miles)

National Forest Acres	622
Miles with NFSL – 1 side	1.68
Miles with NFSL – 2 side	.29

Free Flowing – There are no dams across Huzzah Creek although there are low water bridges at dillard and at mile posts 4.6, 7.2, 10.1, 12.4 (washed out), 17.8 and 19.1. (See map which follows).

Outstanding Remarkable Values – The entire length of the stream is highly scenic.

National Forest Developed Recreation Facilities: Red Bluff Campground and Picnic Site (mile post 8.9 to 9.7) 335 PAOT's.

National Forest Dispersed Recreation Sites for camping, swimming and fishing: from mile post 7.6 to 8.8, no outstanding geological sites.

There are prehistoric and historical sites between mile post 0.0 and 28.

Accessibility – Public access is available at mile post 8.9 to 9.7. Public roadways cross Huzzah Creek at Dillard and at mile posts 4.7, 7.2, 10.1, 12.4, 17.8, 19.1 and 24.8. Lands outside these roadways are privately owned. Private roads reach the stream at mile post 2.7, 2.9 to 3.4, 6.3, 10.1 to 10.4, 11.0, 11.7, 12.6, 13.3, 14.1, 15.7, 16.3, 19.9, 20.3, 20.7, 21.2, 21.4, 22.0, 22.6, 22.7, 23.2, 23.4, 24.8, 25.3, 25.9, 26.3 and 28.9.

Developments – Red Bluff Campground is the only developed public access point.

Four commercial facilities are located adjacent to the stream: Dillard campground at Dillard, Pole Bridge Campground at mile post 6.8, Huzzah Canoe Rental and Campground at mile post 19.1 and Huzzah Valley Canoe Rental and Campground at mile post 24.8.

There are numberous farms and homesites with associated buildings along the stream from dillard to the Forest boundary.

The St. Louis-San Francisco Railroad crosses the stream at mile post 12.4.

Union Electric Company has an overhead powerline that crosses the stream at mile post 18.9.

Gulf Refining Company has a pipeline that crosses the stream at mile post 25.0. There are several telephone and powerlines running to private buildings within the ½ mile corridor that do not cross the stream.

There are fences along the entire stretch of the Huzzah but only a few, if any, cross it.

No rip-rap, wing walls or sewage outlets are known.

Land Use

National Forest Land: National Forest activities are limited to recreation use. Red Bluff Campground is open from May through September. Some dispersed recreation use is recorded between mile posts 7.6 and 8.9.

Private Land: The majority of private land adjacent to the stream is used for farming, with numerous pastures, some cultivated fields and numerous wood lands. These lands are criss-crossed with fences and other associated improvements. Most private lands are posted "No Trespassing." There are two commercial canoe rental outlets at mile post 19.1 and 24.8. These outlets provide rental services including camping and parking facilities.

Eagle Hurst Resort at mile post 18.4 provides rental services as well as lodging facilities.

There are two campground and parking facilities, one a t Dillard and one at mile post 6.8.

Suitability for Public Recreation Use – The recreation opportunities for water related activities are numerous. Water levels for stream floating (i.e., tubes and canoes) are adequate during most of the year with occasional high water in the Spring and low water in the late Summer and Fall. The best water for floating is from mile post 19.1 (Brickey Slab) downstream with good water for swimming and fishing along the entire length from Dillard to the Forest boundary.

Usable stream for floating: 9.3 miles
Usable stream for swimming and fishing: 28.4 miles

Water quality is generally excellent with muddy conditions only after heavy storms.

The limited public frontage (only 2 miles) prevents many public recreation development opportunities. Red Bluff Campground occupies the only accessible public stream frontage. No National Forest land fronts the stream in the stretch where floating is the best.

Volume of Recreation Use

Floating: Most use is from mile post 19.1 downstream. Use is very heavy on weekends, light to moderate on weekdays from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Use is light during the Fall, Winter and Spring. There are several commercial canoe rental facilities that use the stream heavily during the summer.

Fishing: Use is along the entire stream from Dillard to the Forest boundary. Use is heavy on weekends, moderate on weekdays during the Summer months. Gigging is popular from mid-September until January.

Camping: Camping use is heavy on private and national Forest land throughout the Summer. Red Bluff Campground receives approximately 35,000 RVD annually.

Interim Potential Classificatin – Huzzah Creek

These determinations are based on a review of that portion of the stream within the exterior boundaries of the Mark Twain National Forest and factors such as the amount and location of ownership, the quality of the stream and land corridor, public use patterns, carrying capacity, existing public access, existing service to the public, the presence of other state and federal agencies on the stream, and the costs of establishing a Forest Service “presence” on the stream and administering the area.

The determinations were made that:

1. The portion of the creek within the Mark Twain National Forest should be considered one segment.

2. The best potential classification would be other than a National classification. This classification is based on the high frequency of road access, buildings and the high impact of agriculture. No mile section of this – 25 mile river corridor is free of such impacts. Eighteen miles, distributed throughout the corridor are affected by all these impacts. However, to avoid jeopardizing consideration for eventual classification, National Forest lands within the corridor will be managed to meet at least the Recreation category.

See map on page 22.

NORTH FORK OF WHITE RIVER (30 miles)

National Forest Acres	3,387
Miles with NFSL – 1 side	2.59
Miles with NFSL – 2 side	10.32

Overall Situation: River is free-flowing throughout the district boundary. Between the southern District boundary and Norfork Lake there is a 4 foot dam at Dawt Mill. Low-water crossings require floaters to carry their canoes over the slab.

Water quality is generally good. Water clarity is high, except during high flow periods. Filamentous algae is abundant in slow moving pools near the upper end during very low flows, but does not degrade water quality. Except during periods of stormwater runoff, bacterial water quality is acceptable for whole-body-contact recreation.

A majority of the river corridor is privately owned and most of it is developed. Most of the development is farms and related residences. Access to the river is high, but much of it is privately owned. Public access is restricted to access across federal land, al9ong state or county roads, at state accesses (1 within the district boundary), and at private campgrounds and boat launches operated by canoe outfitters.

ASSESSMENT: RIVER MILEAGE PROCEEDS FROM NORTHERN DISTRICT BOUNDARY DOWNSTREAM

RIVER MILE 0-1

Ownership is 75% private, 25% federal.
County road parallels river within 1/8-1/4 mile on east side.
Numerous private accesses to river.
100% of private bottomland is cleared; some is planted to crops – the remainder is hayland and pasture.
Farm and residence on east side of river.
Most private land posted.
Private river banks denuded, some modification of banks from grazing and motor vehicle use.
Low public redcreation use. River unfloatable except during flood stages.
Water clear except during high flows.
Federal land is forested with oak-hickory. Land is roaded. Evidence of old timber sale on ridgetop.

RIVER MILE 1-2

Ownership is 85%+ private, remainder is federally owned.
Gravel road (access to farms) parallels and crosses the river throughout most of this segment.
Numberous private access roads to river.

60% of private bottomland and low terraces are cleared and planted to crops or hayland. The remainder is sparsely forested pasture.
3 residences (farms) on east side of river.
Evidence of past timber sales on private land.
Private river banks mostly denuded, although better than mile 0-1, some modification of banks by cattle and vehicles.
Low public recreation use. River only floatable during flood state. Much of land owned by cattle company hostile to public use; land is posted.
Water is clear except for sediment during high flows. Federal land occurs on ridge top and is forested with oak-hickory and pine. Land is very steep and unroaded.

Greasy Creek enters the North Fork at this river segment.

RIVER MILE 2-3

Ownership is 98% private. About 10 acres of federal land lies within ¼ mile of the river on the east side.

Area is highly roaded with farm access roads. Land is nearly 100% cleared and is in cropland or hayland. Oak, hickory and pine cover federal land and very steep slopes along the river meanders.

There are no residences along this stretch of river. Land is owned by a large cattle company which is hostile to public use.

River banks are mostly denuded. Evidence of gravel removal and numberous vehicle access points to river.

Public use is low. Most of land is posted and river flow is low most of year.

Water quality varies. During high water flows suspended sediment is high. Clarity is good remainder of the year.

RIVER MILE 3-4

Land is 100% private ownership. There are numerous private access roads in this river segment. State Highway 76 is the southern boundary of the segment. Highway 76, a 2 lane paved road, crosses the river via a 6 foot high concrete bridge. A utility line crosses the river at the highway.

Except for very steep land facing the river on the west side, the land has been cleared and planted to pasture or cropland. Side hills have been recently cleared with bulldozers. There has been substantial channelization of both the river and side tributarie. In addition to channelization, river banks are denuded, and there is evidence of gravel removal. Banks at bridge have been riprapped. There are two pools within this segment.

Land is owned by large cattle company which is hostile to public use. There are two residences along Highway 76. Land is posted.

Low public recreation use due to low water levels and hostile ownership. Water clear, except during high flows.

RIVER MILE 4-5

Ownership is 100% private. State Highway 76 parallels the river within ¼ mile of the stream. A one lane gravel county road crosses the river via a cement slab in the center of this stretch. There are numerous private vehicle accesses.

100% of the bottomland is cleared. Most is planted to crops; one parcel is pasture. There are two residences along Highway 76 and at least two residences (farms) south of the river and within the river zone.

The river is heavily channelized and banks are denuded. Very steep slopes at river bends are wooded. A substantial amount of the river is in shallow pools. There are commercial gravel pits within this river segment.

Landowner is the large cattle company mentioned previously. Despite the hostile landowners, a small number of people launch canoes from the concrete slab on the county road. This can only occur during high water periods as flow is too low the rest of the year. This sets the stage for confrontation as there is no place to park except on private land.

Water quality is similar to upstream.

MILE 5-6

With exception of 20 acrea of federal land located on a ridgetop in the NW portion of the segment, 100% of the land is privately owned.

Federal land has a mixture of oak-hickory forest and native warm season grass pasture. The private land has mixture of cropland and pasture, with about 1/3 of it in oak-hickory and pine forest. Forested areas on private land are located on very steep sidehills with rock outcrops and bluffs.

The river in this segment appears not to be channelized. About 1/3 of the river bank has tree cover. Gravel bars show heavy vehicle use.

There are numerous private accesses to the river. One gravel road fords the river in the south end of this stretch. There are at least 2 farms and residences within the river zone. Bittick Cemetery is located on the east side of this stretch of river.

Publlic use is low due to low water flows and ownership pattern. Water quality as described for upstream portions.

MILE 6-7

Except for a 20 acre federal tract in the SE end of the segment, land is privately owned. Federal land is very steep, unroaded, and forested with oak-hickory.

Segment consists of 2 very sharp meanders. Access is via 2 gravel roads to private farmland in the bottom. About 30% of the river corridor is very steep and inaccessable. This land has bluffs and is forested with oak-hickory and pine.

There is one residence (farm) within the ¼ mile river zone. Most of the bottomland is accessable and is a mixture of cropland, hayland, and pasture.

Much of the river bank is bare, with a number of gravel bars evident. The north meander has a pool, the remainder of the stretch is riffle. Banks are disturbed by cattle and vehicle use.

River is unfloatable except during high water periods. Public recreation use low due to low water levels and land ownership. Water quality as previously described.

MILE 7-8

Ownership is 80% federal, 20% private. There are bluffs, deep pools and gravel bars within this stretch of river.

River is accessable via a Forest Service access road on the east side and a private access road on the west. Both roads are single lane gravel.

Approximately 50% of the segment is forested with oak-hickory. There are a number of cedar and pine stands on the east side. Forested areas include steep bluffs facing the river.

Along with forested areas, the federal land has portions of two Forest Service grazing allotments. The allotments have native warm season grass and cool season pasture, wooded stands, glade and shrublands. Very little of the allotments can be seen from the river due to terrain.

Private land has hayland and pasture, along with a little forested land.

The river bank is mostly forested and undisturbed in this segment. Exception is a small portion of the private river bank.

Public recreation use is moderate, primarily for fishing, hunting, and trapping. River banks are not conducive to launching canoes and flow too low most of the year for good canoeing.

Water quality problems are suspended sediment during high flow and bacteria and algae during low flow. Water is clear most of time.

MILE 8-9

Ownership is private, except for 40 acrea of federal land in north portion of the river segment. This segment includes the old town of Topaz, and old grist mill, a working handle factory (water powered), associated mill pond, Topaz Spring, and 4 residences within the river zone.

A county road crosses the river at Topaz via a 4 foot high concrete bridge. The county roads also travels along the river bottom before crossing at the bridge. There is s small private picnic area between the road and the river. A utility line parallels the river at Topaz.

Private lands are predominately pasture and hayland; about 1/3 is forested, mostly on very steep, bluffly slopes along the river.

Federal land is forested with oak-hickory and pine. A small portion of a Forest Service allotment occurs on the ridgetop west of the river and is barely within the ¼ mile zone. This field can't be seen from the river.

River banks are forested and undisturbed, except for the portion immediately at Topaz. Banks are riprapped at the county bridge at mill sites. Also rockwork at mill pond spillway.

Downstream from Topaz, the river character changes. The flow from Topas Spring increases the river level enough to start a pool-riffle system. Upstram, the character is mostly riffle with isolated pools.

Despite increased flow, canoeing can only be done at high water periods. The bridge at Topaz is occasionally used as a launch point. The land surrounding the bridge is privately owned so permission must be obtained before parking cars. Canoeing use of this stretch is low ans fishing use is low to moderate. Trapping is moderate to high. Limitations are low water levels and access.

Water quality problems continue to be sediment during the high flows. Due to increased flow of cool water from Topaz Springs and other factors, algae is less abundant than upstream during low water periods.

MILE 9-10

Ownership is 100% private except for 40 acres at west end of the river segment.

Federal land is forested with pine and a small amount of oak-hickory.

Private land is 30-40% forested, mainly on the steep, bluffly sideslopes along the river. River bottom and ridgetops are in crops, hayland and pasture. There are 5 residences within the river zone. There are many private access roads to the river. 2/3 of the river bank has tree cover, the rest is denuded. Banks are impacted by both vehicles and cattle – especially noticeable at gravel bars.

Recreation use is low for fishing and canoeing, moderate to high for trapping. Limitations are low water levels and lack of access.

Water quality is similar to Topaz segment.

MILE 10-11

Ownership: 20 acres of federal land at SW end of segment, remainder is privately owned.

Federal land is located on sideslope and is very steep and bluffy. Federal land is covered with oak-hickory and pine.

Private land is 70% forested, 20% pasture, and 10% cropland. North of Clifty Creek, river banks are wooded and undisturbed. South of Clifty Creek, the land is cropland and there is vehicle traffic to the river. There are a number of gravel access roads to the private land. There are no residences.

Recreation use is low for floating and fishing, moderate to high for trapping. Limitations are low water levels and lack of public access.

Water quality is similar to Topaz segment.

MILE 11-12

Ownership: 60 acres of federal land is located on steep, bluffy slopes in the SW end of this river segment. The remainder of the area is privately owned.

Private land is 60-70% in haytland and pasture. The remainder is forested in oak-pine. There is one residence. Most river banks are bare and impacted by cattle.

A gravel county raod crosses the river via a cement slab at the downstream end of this stretch of river. Gravel has been removed at the bridge.

The landowner is hostile to public use and land is posted.

Recreation use is low for floating and moderate for fishing, moderate to high for trapping. Limitations are access and low water levels.

Water quality is similar to Topaz section.

MILE 12-13

Ownership: 85% federal and 15% private land.

Private land is lcoated in river bottom on north side of river. Private land is dairy farm with cropland and pasture. There are two residences. Landowners are hostile to public use and land is posted.

Federal land is 30% forested with oak-hickory and pine. The remaining 70% is a grazing allotment with a mixture of native warm season grass and cool season pasture, forested areas, savannahs and shrubland. Majority of the allotment is out of sight from the river.

River banks are forested, with only minor disturbances from recreation users.

Indian Creek enters the North Fork in the river segment. The deep hole at the confluence is on federal land and is a popular swimming spot. Indian Creek increases the volume of flow, and Osborne Crossing, the southern boundary of this segment, is aput-in spot for canoeists. Only one river bank is federal land at the crossing, so parking is very limited. Floating use is low to moderate during high water levels. Summer levels are too low to float. The area also receives high recreation use for hunting and fishing, and moderate to high for trapping. Limitations are low summer water levels.

Access: a gravel county road parallels the river on the west side and crosses the river via a cement slab at the southern boundary of the segment. There is one low standard Forest Service and one low standard private access on either side of the river. These roads are at the edge of the ¼ mile zone. A utility lin3e follows the county roads.

Water quality is similar to the Topaz segment. Water is clear except during high flow periods. Osborne Crossing is a gravel deposition area. Algae is not a major problem from this point downstream.

MILE 13-14

Ownership: 40% federal and 60% private.

Private land is located in river bottom and on east and north side of river. Private land consists of dairy farm and 2 residences. Land is mostely cropland and pasture. Landowner is very hostile towards public use and land is posted.

Federal land is located osuth and west side of river and is forested with oak-hickory and pine plantations.

River banks are wooded and undisturbed except for about 1/5 mile on the private land. Cattle impacts are evident in this 1/5 mile section.

Access: County roads parallel river on east and north sides and crosses the river via a cement slab at the northern boundry of this river segment. There is a Forest Service road on top of the ridge in the NW portion of this segment. A utility line crosses the river at the east end of this segment and follows the county road.

Recreation use: Osborne Crossing is used as a put-in point during high water periods. One-half of crossing is owned by hostile landowner so parking is limited. Floating use is low-moderate. Use by fishermen is moderate and trapping is moderate to high. Limitations are access and low summer water levels.

Water quality is similar to Osborne Crossing segment.

MILE 14-15

Ownership: 60% federal and 40% private land.

Private land is located on east side of river and has one residence and two small hayfields on the sideslope. Majority of the private land is forested with oak-hickory.

Federal land is wooded with oak-hickory and pine except for a native warm season grass field in southern end of the river segment. The field is hayed occasionally to maintain open character. Th8is field is at the Wake Cabin site. The cabin has been destroyed, but the foundations, fireplace, and interpretive sign remain.

River banks are wooded and undisturbed. River has pools and bluffs in this segment.

Access: a gravel county road crosses the river via a cement slab near the Wake Cabin site. Two low standard access roads occur at the Wake Cabin site; one provides access to Forest Service land, the other is a trespass across federal land and goes to adjacent private land. A utility line parallels and crosses the river in the southern section of this segment.

Recreation use: The federal land at the Wake Cabin site is popular for camping, hunting and fishing. Use is moderate for these activities. Canoeists use the road crossing to launch canoes. Floating use is moderate. Moderate to high levels of trapping occur in this stretch. Limitations are lack of access (only access is at downstream end of segment) and low summer water levels.

Water quality is similar to Osborne Crossing segment.

MILE 15-16

Ownership: 85% private and 15% federal land.

Federal land is mixture of woodland and fields associated with Wake Cabin site at north end of this river segment. Field is planted to Reed Canarygrass and is hayed occasionally. Federal land also has rock bluff and a spring.

40% of the private land is oak-hickory and pine stands on the sidehills; remainder is cropland, hayland and pasture in the bottom on the west side of the river and on the ridgetops. There are 5 residences in this segment. Major landowner is hostile to public use and land is posted. The sideslope on the east is very steep, wooded, and has bluffs. Fiddle Springs enters the North Fork from the east.

Access: a gravel county road parallels the river for the north 1/3 of this segment. There is a low standard Forest Service access road for 300 yards to the fields in the northern end of the segment. There are numerous private access roads to the river on both sides. A utility line parallels and crosses river at the north end.

River banks are wooded, but show varying degrees of disturbance. On private land, impacts are from both vehicles and cattle. On federal land, ther have been some impacts from trespassing cattle.

Recreation use is moderate for fishing, low to moderate for canoeing, moderate to high for trapping. Limiataitons are low summer water levels and access.

Water quality similar to Osborne Crossing segment.

MILE 16-17

Ownership: 95% private and 5% federal land.

Federal land is located on slideslope is SW end of segment. Federal land is forested with oak-hickory. A private access road passes through the federal land.

Private land is cropland, hayland, and pasture on bottomland and ridgetops, oak-hickory and pine on the steep side slopes. 75%+ of the private land is non-forested. There is one residence.

Access: There are numberous private accesses through and to the private land.

River banks are wooded but disturbed by vehicles and cattle.

Recreation use is moderate for fishing, low to moderate for canoeing, moderate to high for traping. Limitations are low summer water levels and access.

Water quality similar to Osborne Crossing segment.

MILE 17-18

Ownership: 25% private, 25% State of Missouri, 50% federal.

Private land is hayland and cropland in river bottom and on sidehill on east side of river. About 50% of private land is open. The remaining private land is forested with oak-hickory and pine. There is one residence within ¼ mile of the river. There are several low standard access roads to the private land in the bottom.

State land is located at the southern boundary of this river segment. State land is forested with bottomland hardwoods and has a oat launch and picnic area. State Highway AA turns into a gravel county road at this location and crosses the river via a 20 foot high steel bridge.

Federal land is forested with oak-pine and has some pine plantations on the ridgetops. There is a probable trespass from adjacent private landowner in the river bottom. Land has been cleared and is in hayland.

This stretch of river has some very deep pools (20 feet +), interesting underwater rock formations, and bluffs.

River banks are wooded and undisturbed. There is riprap at the bridge.

Recreation use is moderate to high for fishing, trapping, and low to moderate for canoeing, moderate to high for swimming and picnicing. The state access is used as a put-in point for canoeists most of the year, but use is received downstream. Limitations: low summer water levels and access.

Water quality similar to Osborne Crossing segment.

MILE 18-19

Ownership: 80% private and 20% federal land.

Federal land is forested with oak-pine and is lcoated on a ridgetop west of the river.

Private land is 60% cleared and planted to cropland, hayland, and pasture in the bottomland. Sidehills are forested with oak-hickory and pine. There are two residences. Land is posted.

River banks are mostly wooded; there is some disturbance from cattle and vehicles. River has several deep pools and a number of large gravel bars.

Access: A gravel county road parallels the river on the west side. Private access roads parallel the river on the east side and there are numerous private river accesses.

Recreation use is moderate to high for canoeing, swimming, picnicing. Fishing is moderate to high and trapping is low to moderate. Limitations are low summer water levels and limited access. The Hebron state access site is used as a canoe launch most of the year. Over 90% of existing public recreational use takes place from Hebron on downstream.

MILE 19-20

Ownership: 70% private and 30% federal land.

On the east side of the river, federal land is steep sidehill and bluffs facing the river and is wooded with oak-hickory. On the west side, federal land is located on the ridge top and is wooded with oak-pine.

Private land has 60% in crops, hayland or pasture-located in the river bottom. The sidehills have oak-pine forest. There is one residence. Land is posted. Hebron Cemetery is located within the river zone on the east side.

River banks are about 50% denuded, with evidence of disturbance by vehicles and cattle.

Access: There are numerous private river accesses. One forest Service road is located on the ridgetop west of the river.

Recreation use is moderate for fishing, moderate to high for canoeing and low to moderate for trapping. Limitations are low summer water levels and access.

Water quality is similar to Osborne Crossing segment.

MILE 20-21

Ownership: 85% private and 15% federal land.

Federal land is located in the SW end of the river segment and is west of the river. It consists of very steep, bluffy sideslopes which are forested in oak-pine.

Private land is 50% open and 50% wooded. Openland is located in river bottom and on ridgetops. It is cropland, hayland and pasture. The steep side slopes are forested withn oak-pine. There is an unnamed cemetery located on the east side of the river.

80% of the river bank is forested and 20% is denuded. There is substantial disturbance from cattle and vehicles. There is a possible gravel removal within the river zone.

Access: There are a number of private river access roads.

Recreation use is moderte for fishing, moderate to high for canoeing, low to moderate for trapping. Limitations are low summer water levels and access.

Water quality similar to Osborne Crossing segment.

MILE 21-22

Ownership: 90% private and 10% federal land.

Federal land is located west of the river on the ridgetop and forested oak-pine.

60% of the private land is crops, hayland and pasture. This openland is lcoated on bottomlands and ridgetopos. The sidehills are forested oak-pine. There are 3 residences.

River banks are 2/3 forested, 1/3 denuded and have substantial disturbance by cattle and vehicles. There may be some past channelization.

Access: There are many private accesses to the river. A county road and powerline passes through the federal land on the ridgetop west of the river. A powerline crosses the river at thesouthern end of this river segment.

Recreation use is moderate for fishing, moderate to high for canoeing, and low to moderate for trapping. Limitations are low summer water levels and access.

Water quality is similar to Osborne Crossing segment.

MILE 22-23

Ownership: 95% private and 5% federal land.

Federal land is located on the ridgetop in the SW portion of the river segment. Land is forested with oak-pine.

Private land is 60% forested with oak-pine. The 40% that is cleared includes a store, canoe rental, private campground and canoe launch. There is also farmland in the river bottom and one low terrace east of the river. There are 9 residences within the river zone. Cudworth Cemetery is also within the river zone. Sidehills are forested and very steep, with bluffs. Floaters may see eagles along bluffs during the winter from this point downstream. The confluence of Spring Creek, Tabor Creek, and thr North Fork occurs in the center of this segment.

80% of the river bank is forested and undisturbed, the remainder is disturbed by recreation use, vehicles or cattle. Banks are riprapped at the bridge at Twin Bridges.

Access: State Highways 14 and 181 intersect on the east side at Twin Bridges, Highway 14 then crosses the river via a high (50 foot+) concrete bridge. A state picnic area is located at the intersection of 181 and 14. County roads parallel the river on both sides of the river. There are numerous access roads to the river on private land. A power line crosses the river near Twin Bridges.

Recreation use is high for canoeing, fishing, camping, swimming, low for trapping. Limitations are low water levels in the summer.

Water quality is similar to Osborne Crossing segment.

MILE 24-25

Ownership: 100% federal land.

Land is forested with oak-hickory and pine. There are 3 small openings seveloped for wildlife habitat located on the ridgetops to the east. These openings have shrub-native warm season grass vegetation. This stretch has deep pools, bluffs, overhangs, and caves.

River banks are forested and undisturbed except for recreation use around gravel bars.

One low standard Forest Service road goes to the river at the NW end of this river segment. Another low standard Forest Service road goes to the ridgetop above Bat Cave on the east side.

Recreation use is high for swimming, hiking, canoeing, and fishing. Limitations are low summer water levels.

Water quality is similar to Osborne Crossing segment, except that increased flow due to Spring Creek and Tabor Creek discharge.

MILE 25-26

Ownership: 100% federal land.

Land is forested with oak-hickory with some pine stands. Gravel bars, pools, bluffs, and Hammond Mill site are found in this stretch.

River banks are forested except for two small openings (remnants of original homesteading) in the river bottom. These are used heavily by canoe campers. There is disturbance fromvehicles and recreation use along the river. The river bank is riprapped at the Highway CC bridge.

Access: There are two low standard user-established roads to the river. These roads are scheduled to be closed under the Forest Plan. South boundary of this segment is the large steel and concrete bridge where State Highway CC crosses the North Fork. A power line crosses the river ¼ mile upstream from the Highway CC bridge.

Recreation use is high for camping, swimming, canoeing, hunting, fishing, low-moderate for trapping. Limitations are access and low water levels some years.

Water quality as described for the Bat Cave segment.

MILE 26-27

Ownership: 100% federal land.

Land is forested with oak-history and some pine. This area has North Fork Recreation Area with a 20 unit campground, picnic area, boat launch, Ridgerunner Trailhead, Blue Spring Trail. The Devil’s Backbone Wilderness surrounds the recreation area. Also within the area are remnants of old logging and wagon roads, sawmill sites, homestead

farms, and a portion of old Highway CC –- left after the bridge was relocated. This segment also contains Blue Spring, which discharges 7,000,000 gallons per day.

The river bank is forested, but disturbed by recreation use and flooding.

Recreation use is very high for canoeing, swimming, camping, and picnicing. It is high for hiking, fishing and hunting and low to moderate for trapping. The North Fork Recreation Area is the major upstream launch point during summer low water levels.

Water quality is similar to Bat Cave segment except that water temperature decreases slightly downstream from Blue Springs.

MILE 27-28

Ownership: 95% federal and 5% private land.

Private land occurs at the Rainbow Springs property. Private land is forested with bottomland hardwoods.

Federal land is the Devil's Backbone Wilderness. Land is 100% forested with oak-hickory and bottomland hardwoods, with oak-pine and pine plantation near ridge tops. Land has bluffs, overhangs pools, gravel bars. McGarr Ridge is on the east and Crooked Branch enters the river from the east.

River banks are forested, but some areas have considerable disturbance from camping and canoe use. There are remnants of old wagon roads along the river bottom.

Recreation use is very hgih for camping, swimming, canoeing, pot smoking, sex, etc. Use is high for fishing and hunting.

Water quality is same as Bat Cave segment.

MILE 28-29

Ownership: 95% federal and 5% private land.

Federal land is located in the northern part of the river segment and is the Devil's Backbone Wilderness. Land is forested with oak-pine. North Fork Spring enters fromt the east. There are remnants of old logging and wagon roads along the river.

Private land is 50% cleared-mainly in lodge, dellings, hayland and grounds associated with the Rainbow Springs property. Spring is owned by private trout club which is hostile to public use. Land is posted. At least 3 residences on the property.

Rainbow Springs discharges 137,000,000 gallons per day; spring enters from the west. The water temperature drops markedly downstream from the springs. Brown and Rainbow trout are found downstream from the springs and sought avidly.

Access: There is aboundant access within the Rainbow property but it is restricted to members only. A utility line to the property enters the river zone from the west.

Recreation use is high for canoeing and fishing, low for everything else. Landowner actively discourages any other activity. Canoeing and fishing are protected under navigatable stream laws. Limitations are access, and ownership.

Water quality is good except for sediment during high water periods. Water temperatures are cold enough and flow sufficient to limit algae formation.

MILE 29-30

Ownership: 80% private, 20% federal.

Federal land is located on ridgetop west of river and has stands of oak-pine and pine.

Rainbow Springs owns the private land. Land is 60% cleared and includes hayland and pasture and an airstrip. Steep sideslopes are forested with oak-pine. Landowner hostile to public use, land is posted and activities discouraged.

River bnaks are 70% wooded, impacts from vehicle use.

Access: Private access roads parallel river on west side. There is a ford across river just north of the airport.

Recreation use is high for canoeing and fishing, low for everything else. Limitations: access, hostile landowner.

Water quality is similar to Rainbow Springs segment.

MILE 30-30.5

Ownership: 95% private and 5% federal land.

Federal land located on ridgetop west of river and is covered with oak-pine forest.

Private land is 40% cleared. Cleared land is hayland and cropland in river bottom. Sideslopes are forested with oak-pine. There is an unnamed cemetery within the river zone on west side of the river.

River bank is 100% wooded, but heavily roaded and impacted by vehicles. There is also a gravel road on the west side of the river.

Recreation use is high for floating and fishing, low for other activities. Limitations are access, ownership.

Water quality is similar to Rainbow Springs segment.

River leaves district boundary at this point. There is a four-foot dam across the river at Dawt Mill, about 15 miles before it is impounded by Norfork Lake.

Interim Potential Classification – North Fork of White River

These determinations are based on a review of that portion of the stream within the exterior boundaries of the Mark Twain National Forest and factors such as the amount and location of ownerships, the quality of the stream and land corridor, to the public, the presence of other state and federal agencies on the stream, and the costs of establishing a Forest Service "presence" on the stream and administering the area.

The determinations were made that:

1. The portion of the river within the Mark Twain National Forest should be considered two segments: milepost 1 to 18 and milepost 18 to 30.

2. The best potential classification for the milepost 1 to 18 segment would be other than a National classification. This classification is based on the high frequency of road access, buildings and the high impact of agriculture. No milepost section of the 17 mile section is free of such impacts. Thirteen of these 17 miles are affected by all these impacts. However, to avoid jeopardiing consideration for eventual classificatin, National Forest land within the corridor will be managed to meet at least the Recreation category.

   The best potential classification for the milepost 18 to 30 segment would be "Recreation."

ST. FRANCIS RIVER (17 miles)

National Forest Acres	320
Miles with NFSL – 1 side	.14
Miles with NFSL – 2 side	2.8

Free Flowing – The St. Francis River is free flowing throughout the year. There is an old breached dam directly north of the State Highway "D" crossing adjacent to Silver Mines Campground (See Mile Post 4.0 on map which follows).

Outstandingly Remarkable Values

a. Davinroy Boat Access (Map Mile Post .3)
b. Millstream Gardens (Map Mile Post 2.0)
c. Silver Mines Shut-Ins (Map Mile Post 4.0)
d. Fish-Trap Shut-Ins (Map Mile Post 14.0)
e. Salt-Peter Cave and high cliffs (Map Mile Post 16.3)

Accessibility – There are 8 public and 11 provate accessways to the river (See Map). In addition, there is a low-profile bridge crossing located at the intersection with State Highway "D", and a bridge with steel-truss superstructure loacted at the intersection of the river with State Highway "E." Access to the river as a whole is fair to good.

Developments
Significant developments are:
a. Powerline Crossing (Map Mile Post .3)
b. Millstream Gardens State Forest and Access (Map Mile Post 2.0)
c. Silver Mines Campground and Picnic Area (Map Mile Post 5.0)
d. Powerline Crossing (Map Mile Post 8.0)
e. Powerline Crossing (Map Mile Post 15.7)

Land Use
Within the river corridor, there is a well-distributed mix of uses totaling about 35% pasture, 60% Mixed-Oak and Bottomland Hardwood Forest Types, and 5% Other uses including rectreation areas, powerlines, etc.

Suitability for Public Recreational Use
This river is one of the most popular and scenic in Missouri for general recreational as well as canoe/kayak use. Major uses include the annual Missouri State Whitewater Championship races, fishing, swimming, and camping. Popularity for canoe/kayak racing diminishes as Summer progresses, and water levels subside to slower flow rates.

This river is also extremely scenic since it meanders through the St. Francis Mountains. Steep forested hills, rock outcrops, shut-ins, and occasional caves uncommon in other parts of Missouri are found along the river corridor.

Volume of Recreational Use
Our best records of use indicate an annual use of 13,450 RVD's of Dispersed and 27,450 RVD's of Developed Use (From RIM).

Interim Potential Classification – St. Francis River

These determinations are based on a review of that portion of the stream within the exterior boundaries of the Mark Twain National Forest and factors such as the amount and location of ownerships, the quality of the stream and land corridor, public use patterns, carrying capacity, existing public access, existing service to the public, the presence of other state and federal agencies on the stream, and the costs of establishing a Forest Service “presence” on the stream and administering the area.

The determinations were made that:

1. The portion of the river within the Mark Twain Naitonal Forest should be considered one segment.

2. The best potential classifiaction would be “Scenic.”

Standards and Guidelines

The Land and Resource Management Plan for The Mark Twain National Forest, approved June 23, 1986 contained standards and guidelines for the interim management of rivers eligible for consideration under The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Forest-wide standards and guidelines applied unless specific Management Area standards and guidelines were more exacting.

The original standards and guidelines are superceded by amended standards and guidelines which comply with provisions of the 7/24/87 agreement between the American Rivers Conservation Council and the Forest Service settling the Rivers Council's appeal of the Mark Twain National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan. (See Plan amendment 1, pages IV-189 to 192—2).

Public Involvement

Consideration of rivers in Missouri for National classification has been a topic of concern since the late 1960s. Attitudes on both sides of the issue are strongly held and have often been stated. These positions have not changed with the passage of time.

As would be expected, environmental groups generally support national river designation. Many local publics, particularly landowners in close proximity to eligible rivers, object to national classification. Most public agencies associated with resource management are fully aware of the socio-political aspects of national river studies and are not currently advocating initiatives in theis regard.

News releases by both The American Rivers Conservation Council and the Mark Twain National Forest have been circulated in the news media statewide. These releases generated contacts with landowner and public agency representatives for the purpose of explaining the Appeal Agreement.

These contacts have not generated support for national river studies at this time. They have resulted in resurfacing, concerns and opposition to this objective by local publics.

Environmental groups have expressed the opinion that the agreement is a positivie measure providing increased recognition and protection for the river resource. We have received no input advocating immediate action in regard to studies.

The Forest does not view the provisions of this amendment as significantly changing the intent or direction expressed in the original Forest Plan. This amendment does provide greater specificity regarding National Forest System lands within the rier corridors, their potential and interim management.

There is a growing awareness on the part of all publics that Missouri's river resources are at risk and in need of deliberate management. The most appropriate solutions are not clearly evident. Each interest group has their own solution. In time, this growing awareness and concern may set the stage for effective river study, particularly if other

management options prove inadequate. The Mark Twain National Forest will remain involved in the dialogue surrounding the river management issue. River studies will be scheduled as warranted based on the evaluation of this issue and its socio-political ramifications.

Interim management under Forest Plan standards and guidelines will provide for public use while ensuring the National designation option remains viable.