STUDY PERFORMANCE REPORT

State: Michigan **Project No.:** F-81-R-4

Study No.: 679 **Title:** Ecological river classification as a basis for management of coldwater streams

Period Covered: October 1, 2002 to September 30, 2003

Study Objectives:

1) To complete the classification of Lower Peninsula rivers by including the remaining, smaller coastal rivers (most Lower Peninsula rivers were classified by Seelbach et al. 1997).
2) To review the classification boundaries and codings of all Lower Peninsula stream segments, in light of available data and experiences of field personnel. This revision will add major in-channel lakes, coding of individual tributary streams, current trout stocking prescriptions, and current stream classifications.
3) To develop criteria for classification of coldwater streams, and to then classify all stream segments as appropriate. Segment classifications will be compared with previous Fisheries Division Stream Classifications and changes will be recommended, if needed. Finally, a process for revision of classifications will be developed.
4) To develop stream criteria for trout stocking, and to then classify all stream segments as to their suitability for stocking to meet specific management objectives.

Summary: Work on this study was not completed as scheduled due to re-assignment of the Principal Investigator (Kevin Wehrly) to other duties. A report was written on the relationships between stream temperatures and trout distribution and abundance.

Findings: Jobs 4, 6, and 7 were scheduled for 2002-03, and progress is reported below.

Job 4. Title: Classify coldwater streams.–This job was not completed as planned due to re-assignment of the principal investigator.

Job 6. Title: Classify streams based on suitability for trout stocking.–This job was not completed as planned due to re-assignment of the principal investigator.

Job 7. Title: Write reports.–A manuscript on the relationships between stream temperatures and trout distribution and abundance will be submitted for publication by December, 2003. This annual progress report was prepared as scheduled.

Prepared by: Kevin E. Wehrly
Date: September 30, 2003