



Division of Fish & Wildlife
Lake City Area Fisheries Office
1801 S Oak St,
Lake City MN, 55041

December 1, 2025

Dear Goodhue County Board Members:

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Division of Fish & Wildlife is updating the list of designated trout streams throughout the state. This letter is being provided to partner organizations, agencies, local governments, and legislators to inform you of our intention to designate Wells Creek in the listed sections in Goodhue County.

Landowners with parcels adjacent to the stream will be sent a letter on December 8th informing them of their opportunity to comment in writing within 90-days. Please see the attached map with the proposed designated stream reaches colored red in the first panel and sections containing those stream reaches outlined in red on the second panel.

If you have any questions regarding the planned designation, please feel free to reach out to me at the contact information listed below.

Sincerely,

Nick

Nicholas Schlessler | Lake City Area Fisheries Supervisor

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(651) 299-4030

CC: Area File



Trout Stream Designation – Quick Facts

Angler Access: Trespass law still applies. Anglers must ask permission to access a stream via your property.

Fishing Regulations: Trout stamp purchase would be required of anglers (see regulations booklet).

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Public Waters Work Permits: Designated trout streams have enhanced protection under this program (all construction activities within the stream channel).

Minnesota DNR Water Appropriation Permits: Water appropriations from designated trout streams are not allowed under Minnesota law, except for temporary permits determined not to harm the stream.

Minnesota DNR Silica Sand Mining Permits: New silica sand mines within one mile of a designated trout stream must be reviewed by the DNR.

State of Minnesota Buffer Rule: The rule has been adopted by Minnesota counties differently and contacting your county soil and water conservation district is recommended. Red lines on the enclosed map will most likely require an agricultural buffer or best management practice.

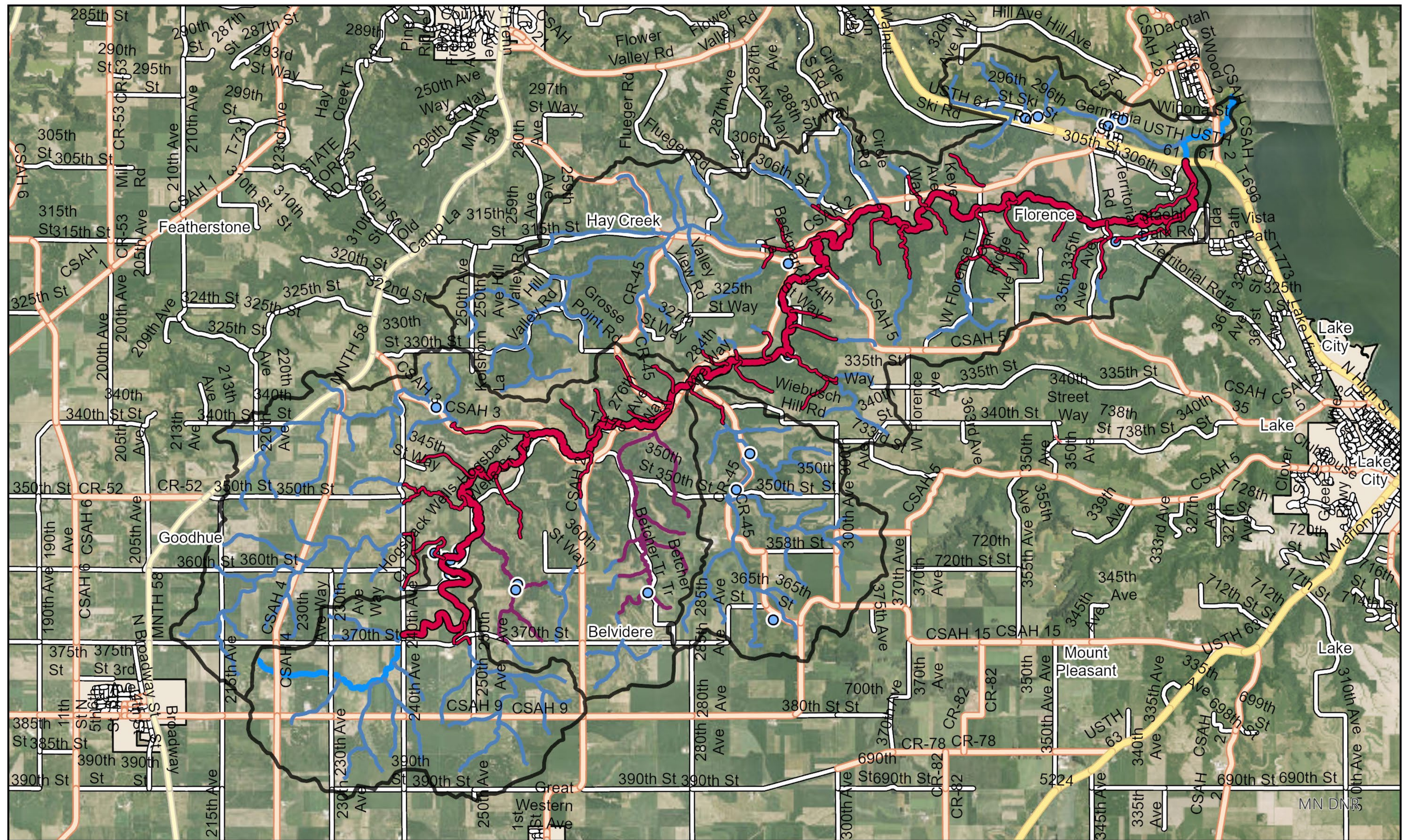
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) water quality standards: Generally, coldwater (2A) water quality standards apply to DNR-designated trout streams (Ex. water temperature and dissolved oxygen). Manure application may be restricted to >300 feet from a designated trout stream and its tributaries.

Minnesota Environmental Quality Board environmental review requirements: Any project that realigns, diverts, or channelizes a designated trout stream may require completion of an Environmental Assessment Worksheet.

US Army Corps of Engineers Permits: An individual permit with a more thorough review period may be required for any construction work within 300 feet of a designated trout stream.



Wells Creek



0 1.25 2.5 5 Miles

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| — Wells Creek segment to designation | ● Well Creek Springs | — County Highway |
| — Wells Creek tributaries to designate | Wells Creek Watershed | — Municipal Road |
| — Designated Tributaries to Wells Creek | — Interstate Trunk Highway | — Township or Other Road |
| — Wells Creek | — U.S. Trunk Highway | — Ramp |
| — Tributaries to Wells Creek | — MN Trunk Highway | |

Wells Creek

