

Michigan Trout Unlimited: Current Conservation Work

Schrem's West Michigan Trout Unlimited

May 11, 2021



Overview



- 🐟 MITU conservation paradigm
- 🐟 Current projects
- 🐟 Requests for work



Project Selection



- 🐟 Strategic versus opportunistic
 - Strategic
 - Science based
 - Thorough evaluation of benefits
 - Address limiting factors
 - Opportunistic
 - Good projects that pop up
 - Haven't been compared to other options
 - Still benefit the resource
 - Strive for a balance weighted towards strategic



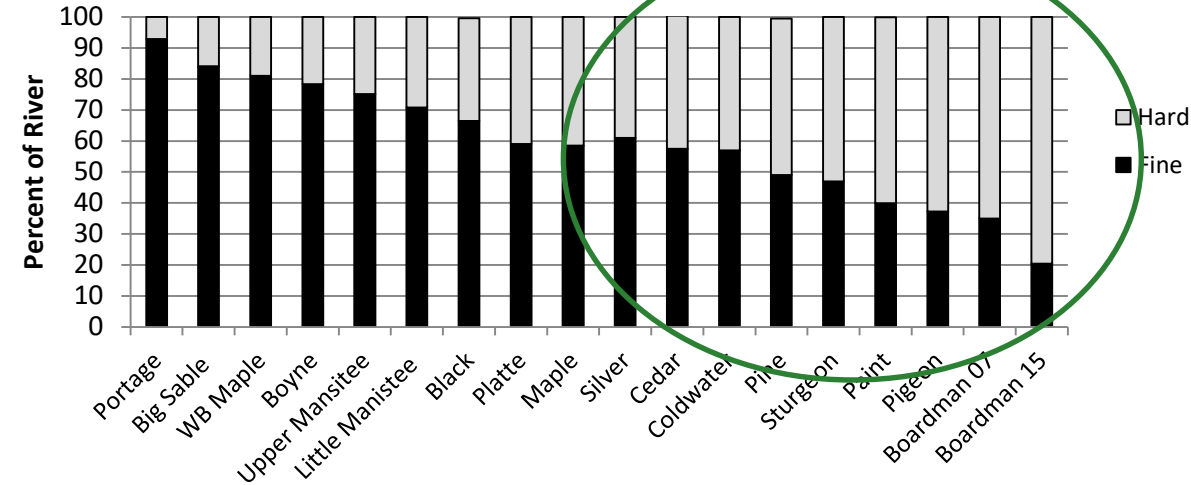
Strategic Project Selection



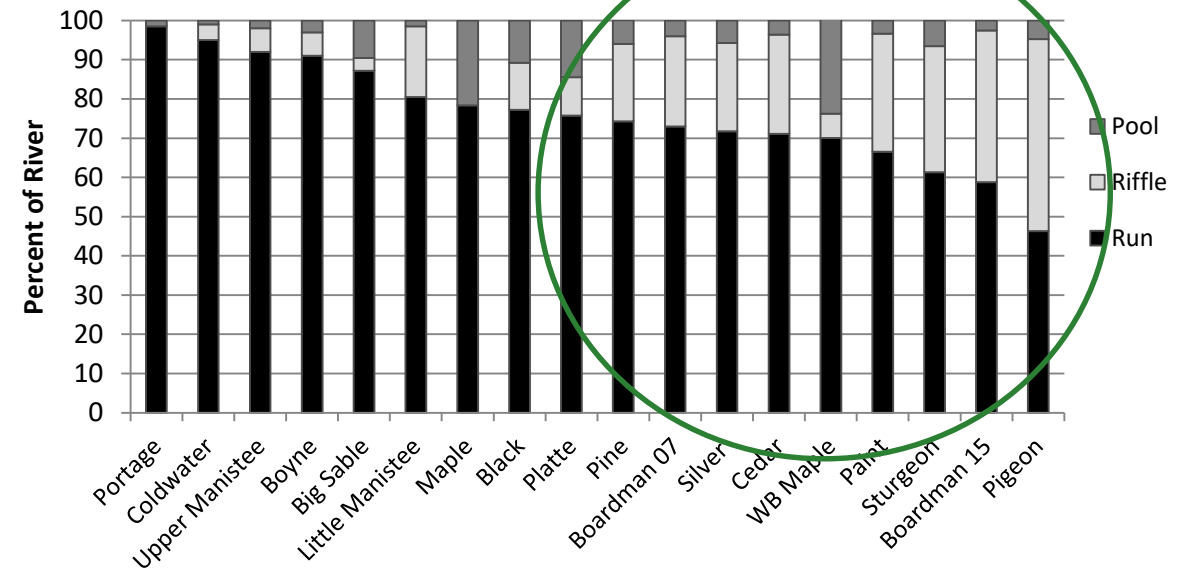
River Stewards Program [link to program page](#)

- Data collection to identify limiting factors
 - Temperature
 - Habitat
 - Fish
 - Bugs
- Habitat data for 18 coldwater streams around Michigan
 - Focus on diversity of habitat

Substrate Composition - Hard & Fine Groups



Bedform Delineation



Opportunistic Project Selection



- ❖ Opportunistic projects – project identified and presented without thorough review of existing conditions of watershed
 - Partner identification
 - Owner identification
 - Available funding
- ❖ Strive for a balance between strategic and opportunistic
 - Great projects happen in both categories



Opportunistic Work

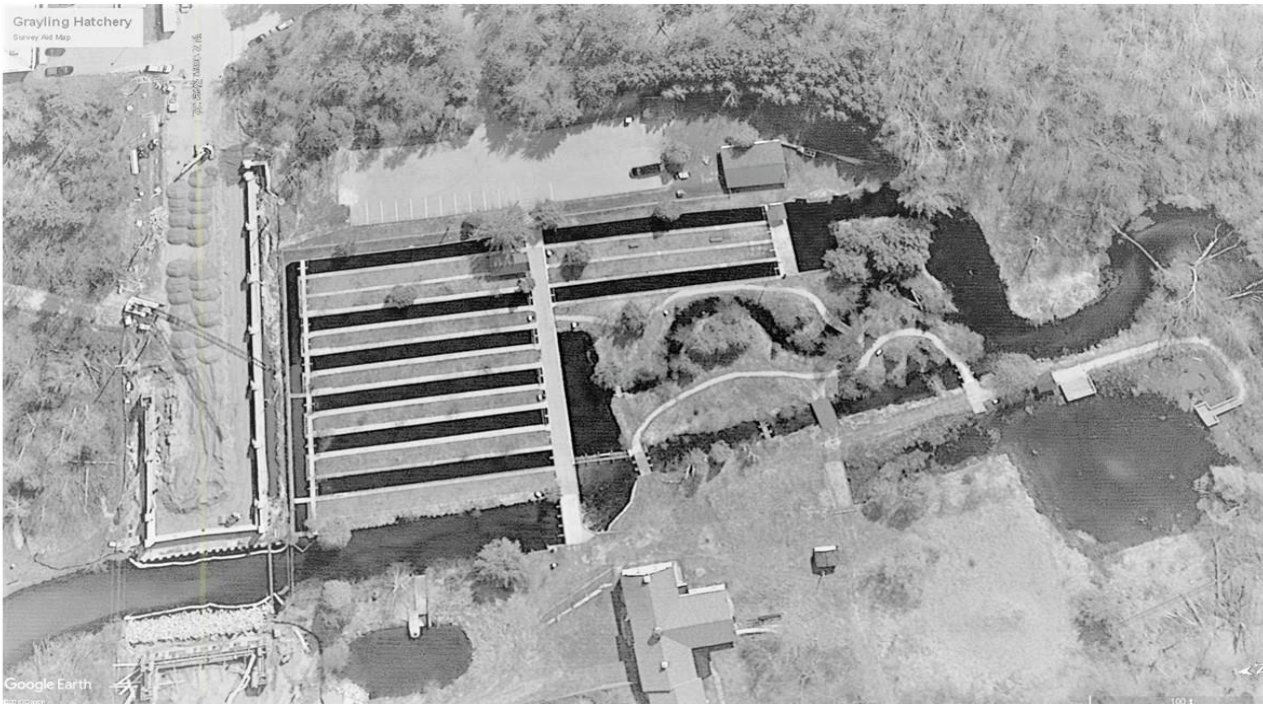


Hunt Creek Dam removal – opportunistic/strategic

- Family interested in work
- Identified huge temperature impact due to dam

Grayling Fish hatchery fish passage – opportunistic/strategic

- Desire for fish passage, high priority for state funding



Request for Work



- ✍ It is our job at Michigan TU to support chapters
 - Just ask!
 - Granting
 - Project management
 - Monitoring
 - Permitting
 - We're happy to help as much or little as needed!

Kristin Thomas
kthomas@michigantu.org
616.460.0477