

The combination of a low drainage area, extensive ditching, and a highly agricultural landscape appears to be limiting biological integrity in the extreme headwaters of the NF Crow. The fish communities at these sites displayed a lack of sensitive taxa, low overall fish abundance, and were dominated by species that are tolerant of degraded chemical and physical habitat conditions (e.g. central mudminnow, fathead minnow, white sucker). Many of the fish species present were omnivores and very few benthic insectivores were observed. These observations are an indicator that benthic habitat quality may be poor in these stream reaches.

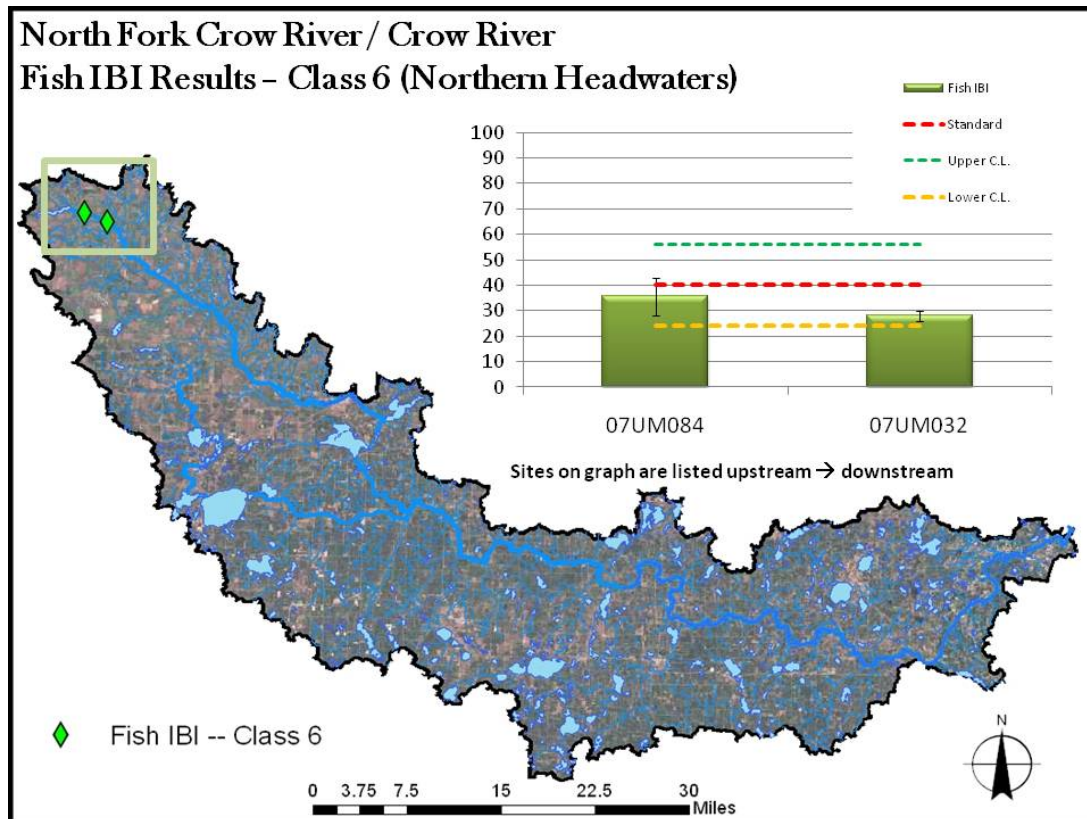


Figure 13: Location of Class 6 fish IBI sites in the NF Crow watershed