

RIFLE RIVER NATURAL RIVER PLAN

OGEMAW AND ARENAC COUNTIES

MAY 1980



FISHERIES DIVISION

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES
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It is the intent of this plan to develop management recommendations for the Rifle River system that will help to protect its many natural qualities under Michigan's Natural River Act. Protection will include not only the mainstream, but the significant tributaries as well.

This report: (1) provides a physical description of the river and the watershed as a whole; (2) reviews values of the river and factors affecting its future nature and use; and (3) provides a plan for the protection of the river's natural qualities.

This plan is the result of a joint effort between the Department of Natural Resources and the "Rifle River Advisory Group". This advisory group consisted of riparian property owners, elected township and county officials, canoe livery owners, and representatives of property owners associations, sportsman's groups, and other interested citizens and groups. Except for the recommendation on building setbacks, the plan has the general consensus of the advisory group. Many local citizens and officials on the advisory group felt that the recommended 150 foot building setback is too restrictive.

