



Adapted from USGS Wichita Falls, Texas. Original Scale 1: 250,000.

**Figure 8. Map Location of Clear Creek**



**Figure 9. Clear Creek west of FM 2450**

### **Clear Creek**

Clear Creek begins about 4 miles west of Saint Jo in Montague County and flows southeasterly about 40 miles into the Elm Fork of the Trinity River about 5 miles northeast of Denton in Denton County (TPWD, 1998). The creek is within the Central Texas Plateau ecoregion, which is characterized by tablelands with moderate relief, plains with high hills, and open high hills (Bayer et al., 1992). The creek's watershed lies within the Silver Bluestem-Texas Wintergrass Grassland association (Bauer et al., 1991). Stream bend development is moderate to high with flow occurring in large deep pools, shallow runs, and riffles. The substrate is dominated by sand in pools, gravel in riffles, and either almost all sand or all gravel in runs (Bayer et al., 1992). A biological survey conducted in August of 1989 found 40 species of benthic macroinvertebrates and 17 species of fish utilizing habitat within the stream. Among the fish species found were largemouth bass, bluegill, central stoneroller, red shiner, river carpsucker, yellow bullhead, channel catfish, freckled madtom, western mosquitofish, orangethroat darter, and several sunfish species (Bayer et al., 1992). The candidate segment is from the confluence with the Elm Fork of the Trinity River northeast of Denton in Denton County upstream to the Denton/Cooke County line.

High Water Quality/Exceptional Aquatic Life/High Aesthetic Value- designated as an Ecoregion Reference Stream by the TPWD River Studies Program due to high dissolved oxygen and diversity of benthic macroinvertebrates (Bayer et al., 1992) (Davis, 1998).