

Big River Files  
Electrofishing Sample

December 19, 1994  
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State of California

The Resources Agency

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Files

Date : April 27, 2001  
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From: Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
Coast-Cascade Region

Subject: FISH COUNT, Big River near Chamberlain Camp,  
Mendocino County

On November 16, 1994, I conducted two 10-minute time-constrained electrofishing efforts on Big River south of the rest stop area across highway 20 from Chamberlain Camp ( T17n, R15w, boundary between Sections 5 and 8).

Site 1 was a fast flowing pool, then upstream into a riffle. The pool was bounded on both sides by bedrock. Substrate was bedrock, boulder, and cobble.

Site 2 was about 30 m upstream and passed through some shallow water with small cobble and gravel substrate and into a deep pool with fine sediment substrate. The deep pool was not fished because time ran out, and its depth was prohibitive.

No amphibians were captured. The results for fish are:

Variable	Site 1	Site 2
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Time

Stopwatch (min.)	10	10
Electrofisher (sec.)	389	439

Fish Species			Length (mm)	
			<u>Min.</u>	<u>Max.</u>
Steelhead (number)	21	18	45	164
Stickleback (number)	1	2	35	39
Sculpin <sup>1</sup> (number)	1	3	78	100
Lamprey (number)	1	1	74	112

<sup>1</sup> *Cottus asper*, *C. aleuticus* and/or *C. gulosus*.

This information can be used as a rough estimate of abundance and documentation of a species' presence. It does not provide density, nor in the limited effort applied here, does it document absence.

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Region Chief

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Fig. 1. Frequency distribution by length of Steelhead trout captured at two 10-minute time-constrained sites on Big River, Mendocino Co., California. Numbers along the x-axis is the last value of 5 mm length classes.

