

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
STREAM SURVEY**

FILE FORM No _____

NAME Yale Creek COUNTY Mendocino

STREAM SECTION Entire FROM Mouth TO Headwaters LENGTH 1.2 mi.

TRIBUTARY TO Rancheria Creek Twp 12N R 13W Sec 14

OTHER NAMES Not known RIVER SYSTEM Navarro River

SOURCES OF DATA Personal observation

- EXTENT OF OBSERVATION
- Include Name of Surveyor, Date, Etc.
- LOCATION
- RELATION TO OTHER WATERS
- GENERAL DESCRIPTION
- Watershed
- Immediate Drainage Basin
- Altitude (Range)
- Gradient
- Width
- Depth
- Flow (Range)
- Velocity
- Bottom
- Spawning Areas
- Bols
- Shelter
- Barriers
- Diversions
- Temperatures
- Food
- Aquatic Plants
- Water Conditions
- Pollution
- Springs
- FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS
- OTHER VERTEBRATES
- FISHING INTENSITY
- OTHER RECREATIONAL USE
- ACCESSIBILITY
- OWNERSHIP
- POSTED OR OPEN
- IMPROVEMENTS
- FAST STOCKING
- GENERAL ESTIMATE
- RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT
- SKETCH MAP
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EXTENT OF OBSERVATION -From headwaters downstream to mouth at Rancheria Creek on September 19, 1962 on foot by Dick Moore and Bob Keller.

LOCATION - Yale Creek is a tributary to the headwater area of Rancheria Creek, It is located approximately 12 miles southeast of Boonville.

RELATION TO OTHER WATERS - Yale Creek is a minor tributary to the headwater section of Rancheria Creek. It is a fair to good spawning and nursery area and provides summer as well as winter flows to the upper Rancheria Creek area.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION - Watershed - Immediate Drainage Basin - Yale Creek is located in a semi "V" shaped canyon with loose soil and an incised stream bed. Redwood is present throughout the drainage being abundant in the headwaters section. Grass and some brush cover the southern slopes. This stream is in excess of 1.2 miles long and drains approximately 3.5 square miles of area. Stream side vegetation is dense in the headwater section becoming scarce downstream as the stream becomes more incised.

Altitude - Altitude is 880 feet at mouth 1,000 feet in headwaters area.
Gradient - Slight to moderate in downstream section and moderate in headwaters section.

Width - Stream bed width - Average 30' Range from 5-60': Riffle- Average 2', Range 0-8'; Pool - Average 5', Range 2-12'.

Depth - Riffle- Average 3/4", Range 0-3"; Pools- Average 3", Range 1-6"

Flow - Moderate to slight flow estimated at headwaters -1/4 cfs. At mouth -1/3 cfs.

Velocity - Slow throughout.

Bottom - Appears in good condition. Estimated to be 70% gravel-sand; 15% bedrock and 15% rubble. Pool areas contain larger percentages of sand and less bedrock and rubble. Headwater section and riffle section contained more rubble with bedrock area present in headwaters.

Spawning Areas - Appear good throughout stream. Estimated at 25%. The downstream area has 80% of the available spawning gravel which is fair spawning gravel. The upstream section contains 20% of the available gravels forming good spawning gravel. Pools - Yale Creek has good pool development comprised of undercut banks, fallen trees and stumps. There are few log jams. Pools approximately 3/100' of stream comprise 60% of streambed. Riffles make up 35-40% of streambed.

Shelter - Good except in headwater area. Shelter is the result of undercut banks and log debris in stream. Terrestrial plants also present in headwater section.

Barriers - No barriers were noted. Numerous log jams in headwater area.

Diversions - No diversions noted.

Temperature - Headwater section at 1400 September 19 with weather clear and sunny, Air-81° Water-68°. Temperatures at mouth at 1500 hours, Air-81°, Water 63°.

YALE CREEK
Sonoma County

Food - Adequate caddis fly larvae abundant downstream, May fly and other immature insects present. May fly and caddis fly larvae present upstream area.

Aquatic Plants - Scarce with some filamentous green algae present.

Winter Conditions - Appear moderate with high water marks indicating depth does not exceed 2'.

Pollution - Some logging damage present in headwater section. Sheep are being pastured at present in streambed.

Springs - Abundance scarce, as expected during summer.

FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS - Roach and salmonids are present. Rainbow trout and/or steelhead vary from 1 1/2" to 7" with an estimated population of 30 per 100 feet of stream. Roach sizes range from 1-5" with overall population estimated at 100 per 100 feet of stream with decreasing numbers up in the upstream area. Success, condition and natural propagation appear good for both roach and salmonids. Rainbow trout and/or steelhead are present throughout areas containing good shelter and water flow. Rainbow trout-steelhead average size is 3". Roach average size is 2 1/2 to 3".

OTHER VERTEBRATES - Frogs, salamanders, snakes, deer and sheep were seen. Evidence of raccoons was noted.

FISHING INTENSITY - Fishing believed to be nil due to poor accessibility and small numbers of catchable fish.

OTHER RECREATIONAL USE - Deer hunting.

ACCESSIBILITY - Downstream section accessible via road through Fred Galbreath ranch. This ranch is reached via road crossing Rancheria Creek at Yorkville. Upstream section is reached via this same road. Distance approximately 4 1/2 miles. Upstream section accessible on this date by logging road.

OWNERSHIP - Fred Galbreath - Address: 140 Sansome Street, San Francisco. POSTED OR OPEN - This area posted to trespass. Galbreath Ranch has locked gate approximately 1/2 mile from Highway 128.

IMPROVEMENTS - No improvements noted at present. Numerous log jams in headwaters area should be removed. Recent logging in part of headwaters area. Two log landings located in stream.

PAST STOCKING - Not known.

GENERAL ESTIMATE - Yale Creek is a minor tributary to the headwater section of Rancheria Creek. It provides fair to good spawning and steelhead and both winter and summer flow to Rancheria Creek. Recent logging damage within 3 years has occurred in the headwaters section. Rainbow Trout and/or steelhead population estimated 30 per 100 ft. of stream. Shelter good, but limited to headwaters section. Low flow and shortage of shelter during summer appear to be limiting factors.

RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT - Recommend management of this stream for rainbow trout and/or steelhead spawning and nursery area. 2.) Recommend stream clearance to remove log jams present. 3.) Recommend that the periodic checks for future logging damage and contacting parties responsible for recent logging damage in headwater section. 4.) Recommend minimum downstream release so that flow at bridge near mouth does not become intermittent during low flow periods. Flow estimated at 1/6 to 1/3 cfs.

SKETCH MAP - See attached

REFERENCES AND MAPS - USGS 7 1/2 minute series topographic map or Ornbau Quadrangle advance sheet, 1962.

DM: cm

Yale Creek

T 12 N R 13 W Sec 14

1. 10'
2. 50' (landing) GRAVEL & SILT
3. 40'
4. 40'
5. 15'

6. # 6 through # 18
are 7 feet in length
or less. Average
5 feet LONG

19. 15'
20. 20'
21. 70'

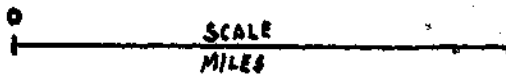
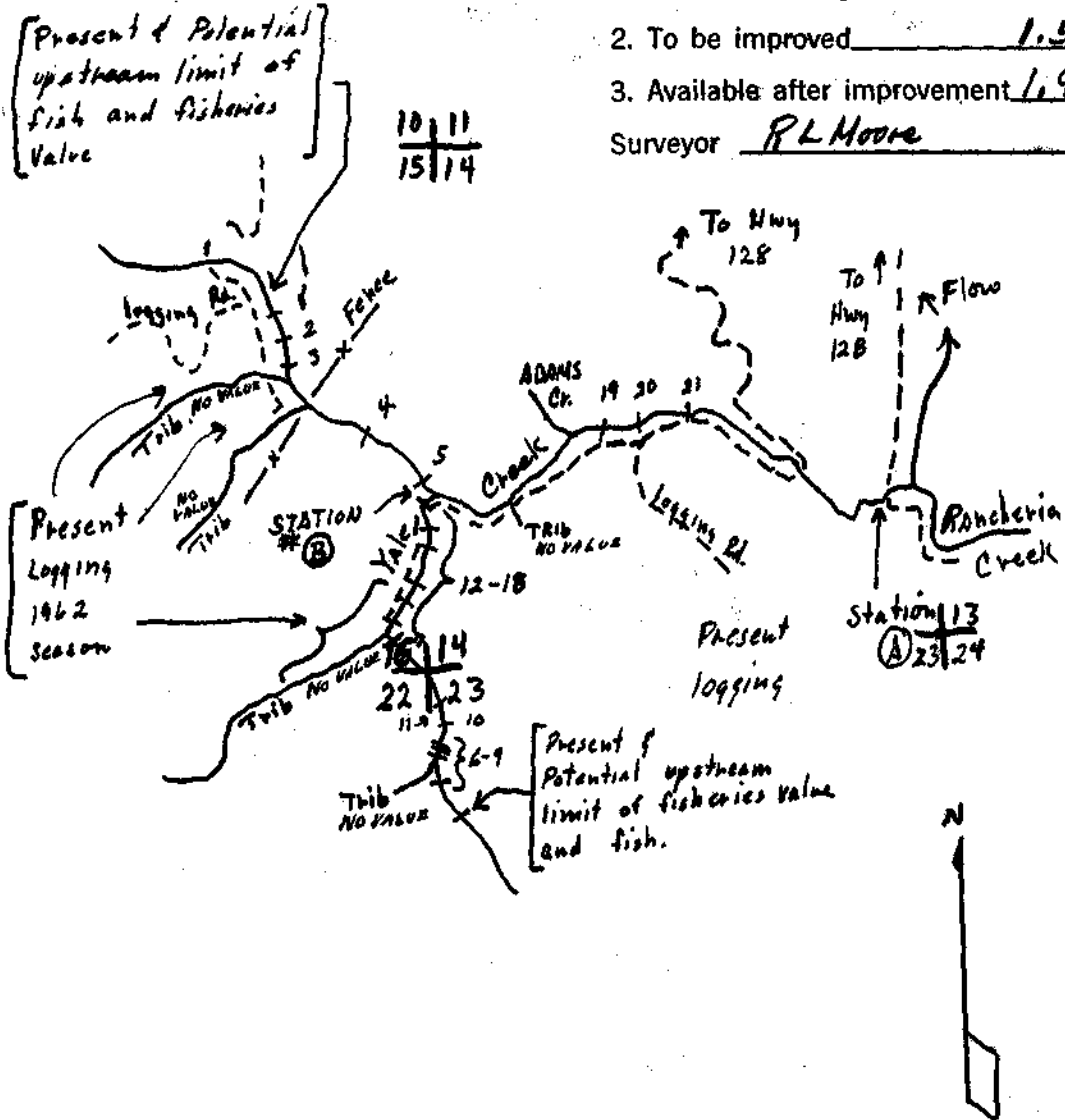
Yale Creek

T12N R13W Sec. 14

Spawning and Nursery Area in miles

1. Now satisfactory for SH & SS 0.4
2. To be improved 1.5
3. Available after improvement 1.9

Surveyor R L Moore



Add 10% for debris not listed between numbered forms.