DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
STREAM SURVEY

NAME..……..Ham Canyon Creek.....…….....….COUNTY.....Mendocino.....
STREAM SECTION.....FROM.....mouth.....TO...extreme headwaters.....….LENGTH.....3.8 MI.
TRIBUTARY TO.....Rancheria Creek.....……....TWP....14N...R..14W.....SEC....30.....
OTHER NAMES.....unknown…….....RIVER SYSTEM.....Navarro River....……
SOURCES OF DATA....personal survey and information from local residents and loggers……..

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
- Pools
- Shelter
- Barriers
- Diversions
- Temperatures
- Food
- Aquatic Plants
- Winter Conditions
- Pollution
- Springs

FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS
OTHER VERTEBRATES
FISHING INTENSITY
OTHER RECREATIONAL USE
ACCESSIBILITY
OWNERSHIP POSTED OR OPEN
IMPROVEMENTS
PAST STOCKING
GENERAL ESTIMATE
RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT
SKETCH MAP
REFERENCES AND MAPS

EXTENT OF OBSERVATION - The entire creek was both surveyed by truck where possible in that, the main logging road was made right up the section of the stream bed, and the rest was walked out by S. Nye and D. Stuart on Sept. 17, 1962.

LOCATION - Ham Canyon Creek rises just north of Faulkner County Park and flows northwest to enter Rancheria Creek approximately 2 air-line miles due south of the town of Philo.

RELATION TO OTHER WATERS - Ham Canyon Creek is a small and rather unimportant tributary providing some water to Rancheria Creek but very little spawning and nursery area due to the extreme logging damage it has received.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION - Watershed and Immediate Drainage Basin - A coastal transitional zone, heavily logged over in past and present, covered with second growth redwood and Douglas fir with some minor growth of oak seen on the slopes. Soil consist of loam-sand-gravel mixture. The basin drains an estimated 6 sq. miles. Ham Canyon Creek forms a V-shaped canyon which is normally incised, but now filled in due to logging operations, and flows northwest in a meandering manner. Stream side vegetation consist of alder, oak, willow, and some bay located near the stream. Cover was common to abundant but now is mostly open due to logging operations.

Altitude -Range from 200 to 800 ft. with a 600-ft. spread over a 2.6 mile range.

Gradient - The upper gradient area is approximately 260 ft. per length mile, and the lower gradient area is approximately 180 ft. per length mile area.

Width - Range 0 to 3 ft., average 2 ft. (Pools up to 10 ft. wide).

Depth - Range 1 to 2 inches with average of 1 to 2 inches (Pools ranged from 6 inches to 2 feet with average of 1 foot.).

Flow - Range 1/8 to ¼ to ½ cfs; average of ¼ cfs.

Velocity - Sluggish throughout with average of ½ to 1 foot per second.

Bottom - The average overall bottom has received extensive damage from road building an other heavy logging damage. In many instances, the road has been built right up the creek bed, with landings built wherever loggers desired and at every confluence of every small tributary. Percentage basis is broken down as follows: organic debris and logging wood material 70%, silt 10%, sand 5%, gravel 10%, rubble 2%, boulders 2%, bedrock 1%.

Spawning Areas - 1% of total stream available and this 1% is located in a few scattered riffle areas which are heavily silted in and generally located behind log jam areas. Stream sections where caterpillar tractors have used the stream bed as a road are heavily packed and unusable to fish. Other sections of stream where spawning areas or gravels are located are fairly loose and silted in. Gravel sizes ranged between ½ inch to 2½ inches for the gravels observed.

Pools - Scattered throughout the drainage and consist of an average of 8 ft. x 10 ft. x 1 foot. Range of pools is 5 ft. x 7 ft, x 2 ft., to 30 ft. x 10 ft, x 6 inches. Overall stream section would average 1 pool per 100 yards. Ratio of riffles to pools will be roughly 2 to 1. Very few natural pools present, mostly consisting of log jams and rubble.

Shelter - Shelter is considered open for the majority of the stream. One small section of the East Branch has fair overhanging growth, otherwise the rest of the stream is open. Shelter consist largely of log jams and some rubble,

Barriers - No actual considered barrier falls were present. See attached log jam and barrier survey.

Diversions - One small earthfill dam approximately 30 ft. wide by 4 ft. high is constructed in the upper reaches of the East Branch to provide a water truck loading point. A 2-inch plastic hose runs approximately 200 ft. down the road to provide gravity loading for the water truck.

Temperatures - Air temperatures ranged from 85° F, to 88° F.; water temperatures ranged from 61° F. to 62° F.

Food - Food was considered scarce in the middle and upper stream sections. Lower stream section from bridge crossing on Craig Mountain road down to the mouth was the only section which afforded any fish food. Caddis fly are present, approximately 3 per sq. foot; stonefly were present approximately 1 per sq. foot, a few backswimmers, considerable mosquitoes, gnats, other flies, other bugs were observed.

Aquatic Plants - Very few horsetails were observed throughout the drainage and these only behind heavily silted in log jams. Considerable extensive heavy growth of algae were present in slow-moving and quiet water areas.

Winter Conditions - Indications are of a rapid high runoff with winter banks up to 30 ft. wide and 4 ft. high.

Pollution - Only logging damage of an extensive nature was observed.

Springs - Considered common throughout the drainage.

FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS - Species: steelhead-rainbow trout, size 2 to 4 inches, considered scarce. Only 70 seen in all. Success considered good for the conditions present. Condition of fish are considered good. Natural propagation, yes. Only other species of fish identified were roach. Size 4 to 5 inches; abundance considered scarce. Only 6 to 10 in all seen. Success is fair, condition is good, natural propagation, yes. Other remarks: only 80 fish approximately were seen in the entire Ham Canyon Creek drainage. Only 2 pools in the lower 1/3 section of the stream and few in a few scattered pools above the main forks were observed. No fish were seen in the East Fork. Due to the conditions present, it is impossible to determine the number of fish for 100-yard sections of stream being that fish were confined to the few pools, as stream flow was intermittent in many places.

OTHER VERTEBRATES - Snakes, frogs, salamanders, squirrels, deer, racoons,

FISHING INTENSITY - Unknown.

OTHER RECREATIONAL USE - Hunting only.

ACCESSIBILITY - From Highway 128 at Boonville, continue 4.3 miles north of the Standard Station to Craig Mill road which is located near a small shake mill. Turn west and continue 4.1 miles to bridge crossing on Ham Canyon Creek. New access road, headwater access is by county road past the Boonville High School and then to the Philbrook Mill road down to the headwater of Ham Canyon Creek. This road was not taken or checked out by the surveyor and this information was learned from a Mr. Philbrook.

OWNERSHIP -Refer to the master survey ownership list,

POSTED OR OPEN - This area is posted.

IMPROVEMENTS - No improvements were observed in the stream.
PAST STOCKING - Unknown.
GENERAL ESTIMATE - Ham Canyon Creek has received extensive damage by past and recent logging. Flow is intermittent in many places. Logging is presently being done. Loggers are Bernie Jack Lumber Company of Branscomb with Robert Thomas doing the hauling. The bridge at the stream crossing on Craig Mill road should be replaced. Ham Canyon Creek is practically useless at this time to anadromous fish due to the heavy damage received. Area immediately near the mouth has a possible barrier of bedrock and boulders plus a log jam with a 10% gradient in 10 ft. There are enough pools in bedrock area to permit fish to use this area for passage if the jams are removed.
RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT - Recommend a complete stream and barrier removal. After complete removal of damage stream material, logging damage, etc., recommend that the stream be restocked with RT-SH and/or silver salmon to reestablish the run of anadromous fish in this area. After this has been accomplished, recommend the final management of this stream to be as an anadromous spawning and nursery area.
SKETCH MAP - See attached.
REFERENCES AND MAPS - USGS Boonville 15-minute series 1959; California Department of Water Resources, 7½-minute series, 1959. Other information from loggers.

S. Nye/cd 11-14-62

Ham Canyon
T 14 N R 14 W S 30

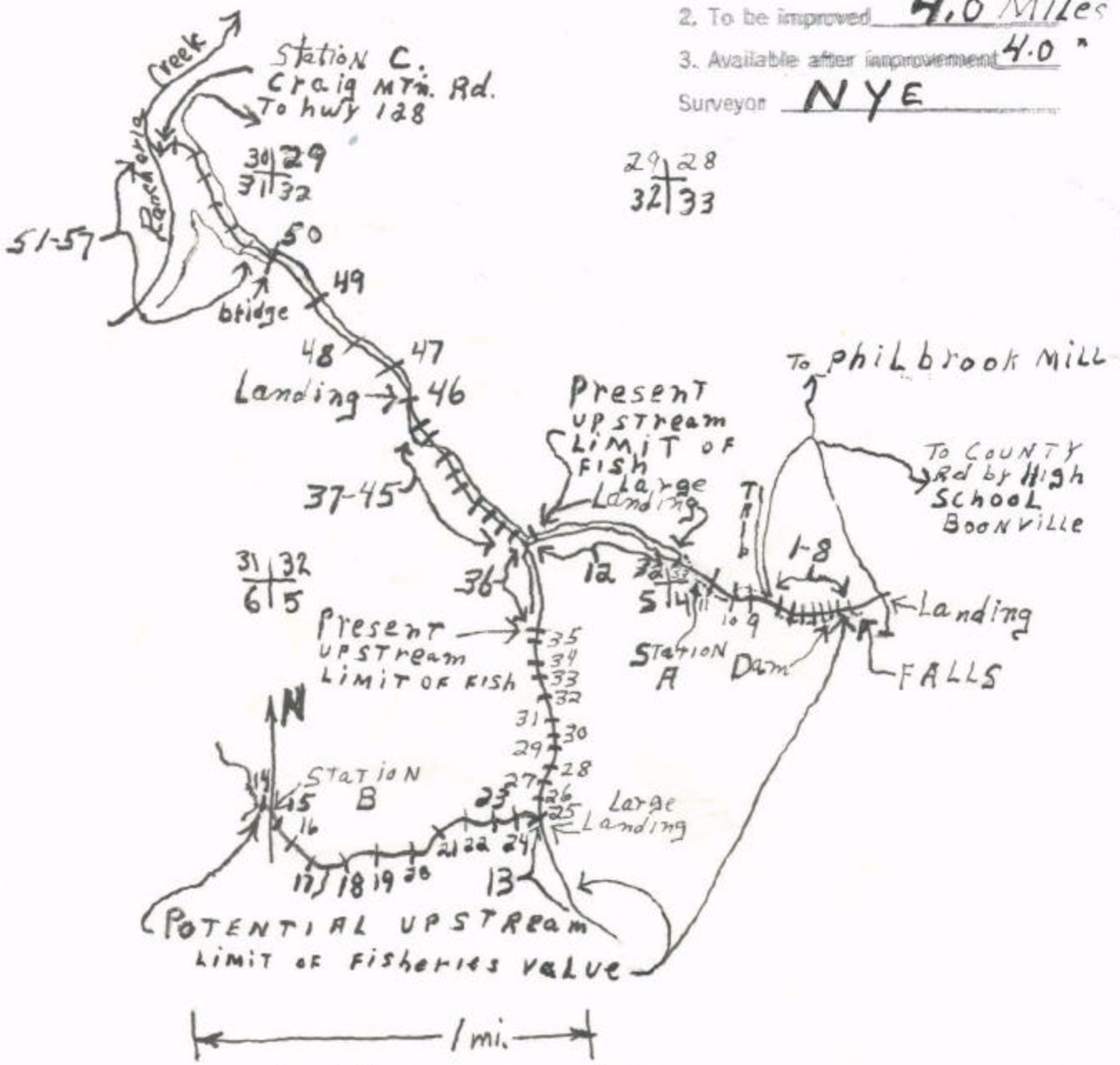
1. -(Fossa - 10 X 8 X 9' - 98%)
2. (12)
3. dam (15 X 25 X 6')
4. (78 X 3 X 2 - 98%)
5. (54' X 8 X 5 - 95%)
6. (6)
7. (4)
8. (20)
9. (42 X 8 X 3 - 98%)
10. (18)
11. (80 X 12 X 8 - 99%)
12. (.35 mile X 30 X 5 - 99%)
13. (800ft X 30 X 4' - 99%)
14. (50 X 15 X 4) (98%)
15. (30)
16. (70 X 20 X 4 - 98%)
17. (30)
18. (50 X 12 X 6 - 99%)
19. (30)
20. (10)
21. (10)
22. (50 X 15 X 3 - 98%)
23. (20)
24. (20)
25. (20)
26. (30)
27. (100 X 10 X 3) (-98%)
28. (12)
29. (15)
30. (15)
31. (10)
32. (100 X 8 X 5 - 98%)
33. (20)
34. (10)
35. (15)
36. (1,050 X 30 X 4 - 98%)
37. (500 X 40 X 5 - 98%)
38. (200 X 30 X 6 - 95%)
39. (300 X 35 X 5 - 98%)
40. (100 X 20 X 4 - 95%)
41. (50 X 25 X 6 + 98%)
42. (200 X 75 X 7 - 98%)
43. (75 X 20 X 5 - 90%)
44. (20) - 20w x 3h - Dam
45. (60 X 30 X 10 - 95%)
46. (20) dam -
47. (240 X 60 X 10 - 95%)
48. (200 X 60 X 8 - 95%)
49. (25w X 4h) Dam
50. (70 X 30 X 6 - 95%) Bridge
51. (18)
52. (20)
53. (60 X 30 X 7 - 98%
54. (80 X 25 X 17 - 0%) 12' Barrier S.I.
55. (40) X 20 X 25 - 96%) 20' Barrier SI.
56. (50 X 20 X 25 - 30%) 20' Barrier SI.
57. (6)

Ham Canyon
T14N. R14W S-30

Spawning and Nursery Area in miles

1. Now satisfactory for SH & SS 0 Miles
2. To be improved 4.0 Miles
3. Available after improvement 4.0 "

Surveyor NYE



Add 3% For debris
between Jams NOT Listed

Stream Survey Supplement

REDWOOD CREEK
Mendocino County

EXTENT OF OBSERVATION - This stream was surveyed from its mouth to a point approximately ½ mile above the Daniels and Ross Lumber Camp, total 3½ mi. of stream by G. Holman, Stan Nye and Jim Morehouse on Jan. 20, 1959. Barriers - Many log jam barriers exist throughout this 3½ mile section of stream. For further detail see the log jam survey data.
GENERAL ESTIMATE - The lower 3 miles of stream from its mouth to the Daniels and Ross lumber mill was logged off many years ago and since it has become very stable. In this section many log jams, some barriers, exist. Above the sawmill a more recent logging situation has taken place. In this upper section the stream has undergone considerable damage through logging operations. The stream has a potential of becoming a very good salmon stream if the log jams are removed.

GRH:cd