

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

STREAM SURVEY

FILE FORM NO.....

Date July 23, 1969

NAME...Horse..Creek.....COUNTY....Mendocino..County.....

STREAM SECTION....FROM.... mouth.....TO.....headwaters.....LENGTH.....3½ ...mi.

TRIBUTARY TO....Rancheria Creek.....Twp...13N.....R15W.....Sec...1.....

OTHER NAMES.....None known.....RIVER SYSTEM...Navarro River.....

SOURCES OF DATA....Personal observation by Dennis Peters and Doug Ayers.....

- 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

GENERAL DESCRIPTION - Section 1 - 1 ¾miles long from the mouth to the first fork, is a "V" shaped canyon with limited shade. As the rest of the stream this section is composed of Redwood, Tan oak flora, standing on a gravelly clay soil. Section 2, 1 ¾miles long, shows a slight increase of shade but still fairly open. This section is beginning to narrow into a "V" shaped canyon which is obvious above the upper forks.

Altitude - 400' at mouth to 1200' at headwaters.

Gradient - Section 1, 75 ft. per mile. Section 2, 170 feet per mile. Above the forks, 800 ft. per mile.

Width - Section 1, 3-4 feet in width. Section 2, 3 feet in width. Above the forks the width fluctuated up to 2'.

Depth - Section 1, 3-4 inches in depth. Section 2, 3-4 inches in depth. Above the forks, 2 inches in depth.

Flow - The flow in section 1, ranged from 2-3 cubic feet per second. This dropped to approximately 1 ½- 2 c.f.s. in the second section. Above the upper forks the flow was less than ¼ c.f.s..

Velocity - Generally rapid the entire length, with some short stretches being slow in the lower sections.

Bottom - The bottom was predominantly a mixture of walnut and baseball sized gravel with some bedrock at the mouth.

Spawning Areas - Generally good throughout length of creek with some sections of walnut gravel always present.

Pools - Deep pools were lacking on section one, pools present were shallow and long presenting much standing water. Pools gradually improved as gradient increased, offering few 10' x 6' x 2' pools in the forks region.

Shelter - The 2 lower sections offer little shelter with the majority of the creek being exposed to the sun. Shelter present is afforded by the usual scattered logs and larger boulders present.

Barriers - 16 jams were observed and noted with 5 of these jams rated as heavy. The majority of these heavy jams were located in section 1.

<u>Temperature</u>	Mouth	Fork(1 ¾mi.)	1/3 mile above upper fork
Altitude	400'	525'	1200'
Time	0930	1100	1230
Water	68°	68°	66°
Air	68°	74°	85°

Aquatic Plants - Algae was very abundant both on bottom and surface.

FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS - Steelhead and silver salmon were present on this creek but few in number. Roach were exceptionally abundant on the lower section and some of the section 2. On the lower section 6" - 8" salmonoids were quite common in the same pools with large numbers on roach. Salmonoid fingerlings were scarce.

OTHER VERTEBRATES - Frogs, garter snakes.

FISHING INTENSITY - Not known.

ACCESSIBILITY - The mouth of Horse Creek is accessible by road. ½ mile above the Rancheria Creek Bridge on the Mtn. View Road a road branches north. This road which has a gate (presently not locked) and owned by Masonite will cross Horse Creek 2.5 miles from the Mtn. View Road turnoff.

OWNERSHIP - Entire drainage is probably owned by Masonite.

IMPROVEMENTS - Clearance of the 16 jams and removal of roach.

GENERAL ESTIMATE - Upon removal of jams and roach this creek would be good for migrating fish to as far as the upper forks, beyond this point the gradient is a natural barrier.

REFERENCES AND MAPS - 2 USGS 15 Series. Boonville and Navarro Quadrangles.