

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

STREAM SURVEY

File form No _____

NAME: Finley Creek COUNTY: Sonoma

STREAM SECTION: entire FROM: Mouth TO: Headwaters Area LENGTH: 2.6 miles

TRIBUTARY TO: Salmon Creek TWP: 6N R: 11W SEC: 13

OTHER NAMES: Not Known RIVER SYSTEM: Salmon Creek

SOURCES OF DATA: Personal observation & interviews with local ranchers

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 - Finley Creek surveyed on foot front mouth at Salmon Creek to .2 miles above streams fork in headwaters drainage, which is 2.4 miles from mouth, at end of stream side logging road, a total distance of 2.6 miles, on 2 August, 1965, by E.R.J. Primbs.

LOCATION – Finley Creek flows into Salmon Creek at the point approximately .2 miles south of the bridge crossing of Finley Creek by Salmon Creek Road, a bridge marked by a locked gate at its entrance, the bridge being approximately 3.8 miles west of Bodega on the Salmon Creek Road.

RELATION TO OTHER WATERS – Contributes unpolluted winter and summer flow to Salmon Creek and extends SH-SS spotting and nursery grounds of Salmon Creek system by 2.4 miles.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION -

WATERSHED AND IMMEDIATE DRAINAGE BASIN – Size: 1.8 square miles; Finley Creek flows from springs issuing throughout its drainage due south; no current logging, logged out in 1959-60; fire burned major portion of Finley drainage in 1962. Section 1 (upstream 1.1 miles from mouth) 45° inclined narrow valley; stable, shallow wide stream channel with soil root banks; shade-85%; red alder dominant, with California Laurel and western black willow also common; wild black berry exceedingly abundant, numerous patches of poison oak; streamside vegetation extremely thick, but scarce on grass covered slopes and summits. Section 2: (from 1.1 miles from mouth to 1/2 mile upstream) 45° "U" shaped canyon; shade-50%; poison oak abundant. Section 3: (from .1.6 miles from mouth

to .1 mile upstream) 60° "V" shaped canyon; shade-10%; poison oak abundant, some big leaf maple and cedar. Upper fish value point: (2.4 miles from mouth) summer flow underground 20%; "V" shaped canyons; average streambed width-3 feet; stream channel in size.

ALTITUDE – At mouth-25 feet, at upperfish value-200 feet.

GRADIENT – 73 feet per mile to upper fish value.

WIDTH – Average 4 feet with range from one foot to eight feet.

DEPTH – Average 4 inches with range from one inch to four feet.

FLOW – .8 cfs at mouth; .7 cfs at first west tributary .8 miles from mouth; .2 cfs at old logging derrick 2.3 miles from mouth.

VELOCITY – Slow to moderately rapid.

BOTTOM – Section 1 (from mouth to fourth west tributary 1.6 miles from mouth) course gravel-30%; fine gravel-35%; sand-35%. Section 2 (from fourth west tributary to upper fishery value .8 miles) course rubble-10%; fine rubble-30%; coarse gravel-30%; fine gravel-20%; sand-10%. Upper fish value point (at 2.4 miles from mouth) rubble-60%; coarse gravel-20%; fine gravel-10%; and sand-10%.

SPAWNING AREAS – Section 1 (see under subheading Bottom) 70% of winter bed (21,600 square feet) excellent. Section 2 (see under subheading Bottom) 20% of winter bed (9,200 square feet) Good. Upper fish value point (2.4 miles from mouth) spawning gravel negligible.

POOLS – 70% of summer flow, caused by digging action of winter current.

SHELTER – Almost continuous; overhanging vegetation, exposed roots, undercut banks.

BARRIERS – Partial (1) Twelve small log jams and/ accumulations number one to number ten and number 13 and number 14-see attached map. Number 2 one large log jam 100 feet long, 50 feet wide, 10 feet deep. Number 12, see attached map. Number 3, one bedrock older and log jam. Number 11, see attached map. No log jams or other barriers from mouth upstream .8 mile.

DIVERSIONS – None in area surveyed.

TEMPERATURES – Maximum at first west tributary at 1540 on 2 August: Air-64°F Water-59°F;
Weather: Fair; no wind; altitude-100 feet.

FOOD – Caddis fly larva: 10 per square foot. Stone fly nymph: 5 per square foot. May fly nymph: 20 per square foot. Mosquitoes larva: 20 per square foot. Other unidentified insects.

AQUATIC PLANTS – None noted.

WINTER CONDITIONS – Natural signs of maximum level of two feet above summer level.

POLLUTION – None noted.

SPRINGS – Five springs observed in 2.4 miles.

FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS – :(1) SH (2 inches to 3 inches size) 175 per 100 feet. (2) SS (3 inches to 4 inches size) 75 per 100 feet. (3) Three spined stickleback *Gasterosteus aculeatus* (2 inches size) one caught.
NOTE: Actual count and examination in representative 10 foot area: 17 SH, 8 SS.

OTHER VERTEBRATES – Red legged frogs, newts (both numerous).

FISHING INTENSITY – Mrs. George Welling, owner of ranch at end of Salmon Creek Road, stated that occasionally they are compelled to ask trespassers who are fishing to leave.

OTHER RECREATIONAL USES – None. according to Mrs. Welling.

ACCESSIBILITY – Accessibly at mouth 3.8 miles west of Bodega on the Salmon Creek Road. A bridge with locked gate at entrance marks this location. One hundred feet east of this bridge a logging road joins Salmon Creek Road, a locked gate barring access here also. (Mrs. Pedruzzi, ranch owner, telephone no. 876-3140 Bodega, may have key). The logging road parallels stream to headwaters. Except for one small wash out (see map). Road is in fair condition.

OWNERSHIP – West of Finley Creek: Robertson, who has leased the property. East of Finley Creek: Mrs. Pedrazzi.

POSTED OR OPEN – Posted and apparently in force.

IMPROVEMENTS – :(1) First .8 mile from mouth: no improvement needed. (2) After first .8 mile to upper fishery value: removal of 14 log jams (1.6 miles)

PAST STOCKING – Not known.

GENERAL ESTIMATE – Finley Creek has suffered logging damage and fire damage: this damage is not to the streamside vegetation, however, which remains excellent; rather, damage is (1) the handicapping of fish traffic by log jams (2) the reducing of the velocity of summer water by log/and jams thus increasing water temperature and reducing oxygen content and (3) the massing of fine gravel and coarse gravel behind log jams in upper regions and thus causing preponderance of sand in lower regions. In spite of this damage, Finley Creek is an excellent spawning and nursery stream for SH and SS. While the larva of any one insect species is not abundant, larva is extremely varied and apparently sufficient for current population, which appears to be at a maximum for this stream. A favorable temperature of the water is assured by numerous springs, extremely thick vegetation, and the climate of the coastal area.

RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT – Finley Creek should be managed for silver salmon and steelhead Spawning and nursery. The slash and few log jams should be removed to improve traffic, increase summer flow, and further enhance the present spawning gravel by release of the fine and coarse gravel held by log jams.

Finley Creek
Sonoma Creek

-3-

September 22, 1965

SKETCH MAP – See attached.

REFERENCES AND MAPS– (1) U.S.T.S. (Bodega and Duncan Mills) 7½ minute series (1942 and 1943)
(2) Division of Forestry (Sonoma Ranger Unit) (1956).

Edward R. J. Primbs

ERJP:ls

9/22/65

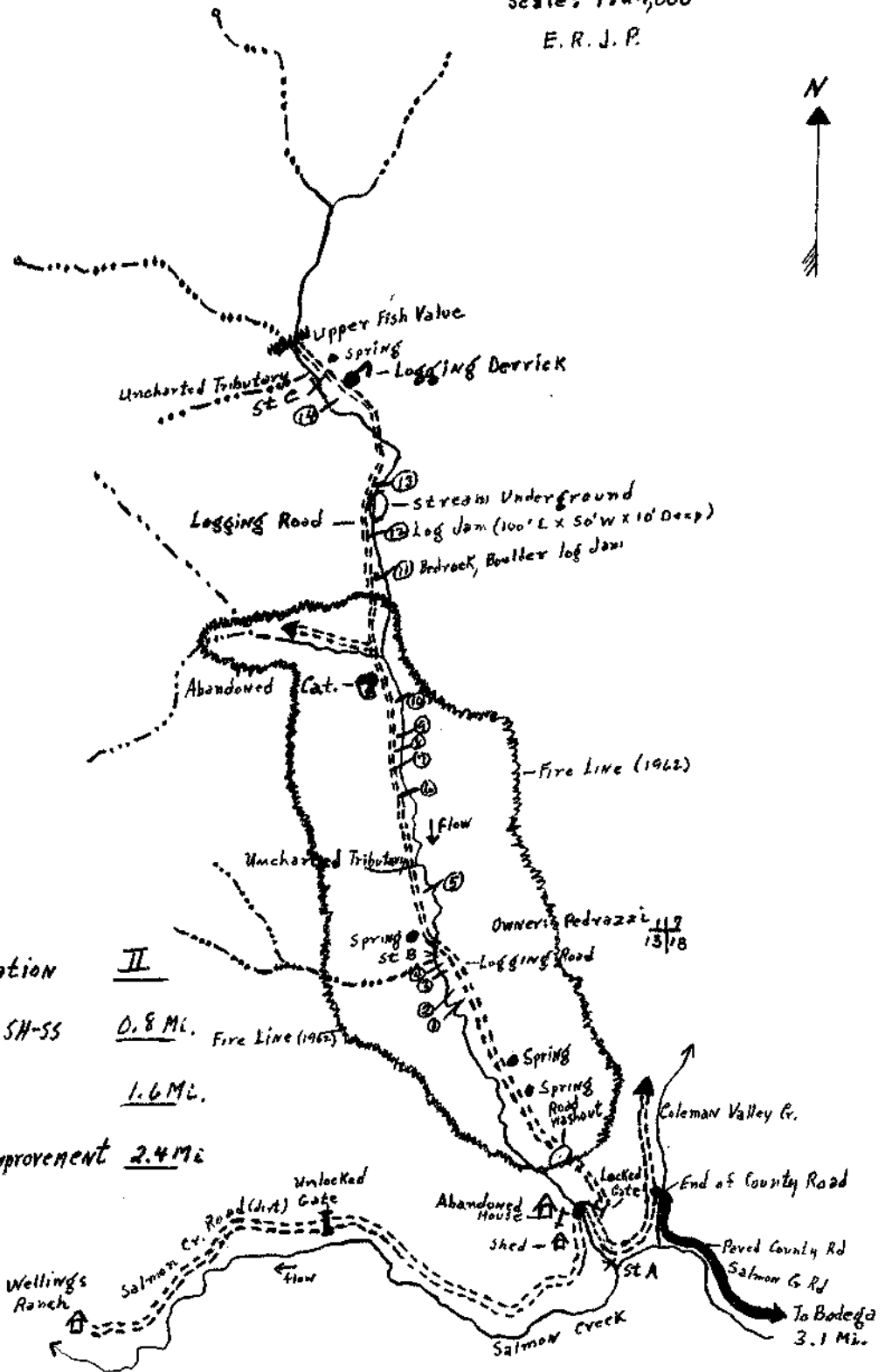
FINLEY CREEK

T-6-N R-11-W Sec 13



Scale: 1:24,000

E. R. J. P.



1. Stream Classification II

2. Now Satisfactory SH-SS 0.8 Mi.

3. To Be Improved 1.6 Mi.

4. Available After Improvement 2.4 Mi.

II

0.8 Mi. Fire Line (1962)

1.6 Mi.

2.4 Mi.