

## CREEL CENSUS INSTRUCTIONS

Garcia River  
1976-77 Season

### General Procedure

The Garcia River, fall-winter salmon and steelhead fishery is to be sampled every "fishable" day from December 1, 1976, through February 28, 1977.

A fishable day is defined as any day when stream turbidity as measured in the lower river is 30 JTU (Jackson Turbidity Units) or less. Thirty (30) JTU corresponds to a Secchi Disk reading of about 30 cm. A Secchi disk reading of 30 cm or more, therefore, is considered a fishable day.

On unfishable days, the river is not sampled and the census taker either performs other duties as previously instructed, or does not work.

On fishable days, the sampler will refer to the attached Creel Census Schedule and will sample the appropriate Creel Census Station. Census Station Instructions follow:

#### Station 1 Instructions

Station No. 1 includes all the lower river, reachable via Miner Hole Road. On these sample days, all anglers leaving the river via Miner Hole Road are to be interviewed for effort and catch data. A complete (100%) sample of catch and effort is expected.

Work hours are one hour after sunrise to sunset (Table attached), or until all Station No. 1 anglers have left the river.

Angler interview data are recorded on the special census forms provided (example attached).

#### Station 2 Instructions

Station No. 2 includes the area from Eureka Hill Bridge to 101 Bridge, plus any anglers that might have gained access to the lower river (below Hwy 1) from the north side of the river (did not use Miner Hole Road).

Station 2 work hours are one hour after sunrise to sunset (Table attached).

Divide each Station 2 sample day into 3 equal time periods. Near the middle of each time period count all the anglers in Station 2 and record these counts by fishing area on the special Use Count Forms provided. Start and end each count from whatever point on the river you happen to be when the time to start that count arrives.

When not making use counts, walk and/or drive the entire length of Station 2, interviewing anglers (either while they are still fishing or as they have just completed the fishing day) as you proceed. Do not, however, repeat your sample of any given area of the river more often than every two hours.

Start each sample day at a different location, and alternate travel direction. Use the same travel direction, however, throughout each day.

Record fisherman census data on the special Daily Census Forms provided (Example attached).

Please note any anglers that are interviewed more than once.

#### Rainbow (Steelhead) Trout Sampling

All rainbow trout encountered during creel sampling are to be measured to the nearest 1/2 cm fork length (tip of snout to shortest ray of tail fin), with the fish layed flat on the ruler; sexed; examined for marks, tags, and/or brands. Take scale samples from all marked fish.

Sex of the smaller fish may be difficult to determine. Ask to examine the gonads of questionable fish (you will, therefore, need a knife), or ask the fisherman about this information, if the fish had been cleaned. If sex cannot be determined enter "?" on your records.

Marks and brands which might be anticipated are as follows:

<u>Fin-clip</u>	<u>Expected Size</u>
Right Ventral (RV) plus "IC" brand on side	50 to 75 cm
Left Ventral (LV)	50 to 75 cm

- Also (Released in Gualala River) -

Left Pectoral (LP)	50 to 75 cm
Right Pectoral (RP)	50 to 75 cm
Right Ventral (RV)	60 to 95 cm
Left Ventral (LV)	60 to 95 cm
Right Pectoral (RP)	65 to 95 cm

The dorsal fin (D) of some fish may show irregularities (deformity) indicating a hatchery fish from some other river, or that it had a regenerated fin-clip. Note this condition the same as a bona-fide fin-clip.

The clarity of the "IC" brand on RV marked fish is of considerable interest. All RV steelhead should be examined very carefully for brand legability. Note your observations on your records.

Should any tagged fish be recovered, note the number and enter it on your records. All rainbow trout over 32.5 cm FL are regarded as steelhead (SH); all smaller ones as trout (TR) (Trout are all salmonids under 33 cm FL).

All rainbow trout sampling data are recorded on the daily census forms. When taking scale samples from marked fish. Place 20-30 scales inside a scale envelope.

Take scales from the right side of the fish, from the area between the dorsal fin & the lateral line. Use a knife and be sure to wipe the sample area clean of slime & dirt before removing the scales.

Other species of salmonids you may encounter include silver salmon, king salmon, and pink salmon. Silvers are quite common, the other are rare.

#### Tagged Steelhead

Any sport-caught, tagged steelhead you might encounter had probably been tagged by us, and will be worth \$5.00 to the fisherman. The tag information we seek are as follows:

- 1) Tag number,
- 2) Date caught,
- 3) How caught,
- 4) Where caught (name hole),
- 5) Fish length,
- 6) Spawning condition (fresh or spent),
- 7) Tag security in fish, and
- 8) Fisherman's name and address.

Note tag number on daily census form and indicate if you encountered it randomly or not. Have the fisherman send tag with the appropriate data to:

California Department of Fish and Game  
1001 Jed Smith Drive  
Sacramento, California 95819

We must have the tag to pay the reward.

#### Water Sampling

Every morning before 9 a.m. a water sample and Secchi Disk measurement are to be taken at a prescribed area of the river. Record river name, date, time, and Secchi disk measurement on a piece of transparent tape, stuck to the outside of each water sample bottle provided. Store all bottles in a dark box or area and make sure your supervisor receives them at least once each month.

### Regulations

Have a supply of regulation booklets handy to hand out and one to refer to should you be posed with an unfamiliar question. The general regulations in your area are as follows:

Season: Salmon--October through February;  
Salmon and Steelhead--November through February.

Open area: October--mouth to Bend Hole (tidewater);  
November through February--mouth to Eureka Hill  
Bridge.  
All tributaries are closed.

Limit: 3 salmon (October) or 3 salmon and steelhead  
(November through February) in combination.

Size limit: None.

The pertinent regulations in your area are found in the following sections of the 1975 California sport fishing regulations booklet: 1.17 (Bag and Possession Limit), 2.05 (Fishing Methods--General), 2.10 (Multiple Hook Restriction), 20.55 (Fishing Hours), 23.10 (Garcia River--closure), 23.15 (Garcia River Fall-Winter Trout and Salmon Season and Limit).

### Sampler Appearance

The length of your hair and general neatness were considered acceptable when you were hired. You will be expected to at least maintain this same general "look" throughout your term of employment with us. No "pony-tails" (males) please.

Your Creel Census work uniform will be as follows:

Shirt: Khaki, with official Fish and Game shoulder patch (provided) sewn on the left sleeve, 1/2 inch below the shoulder seam. Sew the entire perimeter of the patch to the shirt.

Trousers: Green, no blue jeans please.

Hat and Jacket: Optional, must not be far out, sloppy or decorated to attract attention.

Shoes: Leather or rubber boots.

Rainwear: Will be provided.

GARCIA RIVER CREEL CENSUS SCHEDULE,  
"FISHABLE" DAYS, 1976-77 SEASON

Week Days				Weekends Plus Holidays 1/			
Fishable Day No.	Station	Completed 2/		Fishable Day No.	Station	Date Completed	
1	1	_____	_____	1	1	_____	_____
2	1	_____	_____	2	1	_____	_____
3	1	_____	_____	3	1	_____	_____
4	1	_____	_____	4	1	_____	_____
5	1	_____	_____	5	1	_____	_____
6	2	_____	_____	6	2	_____	_____
7	1	_____	_____	7	1	_____	_____
8	1	_____	_____	8	1	_____	_____
9	1	_____	_____	9	1	_____	_____
10	1	_____	_____	10	1	_____	_____
11	1	_____	_____	11	1	_____	_____
12	2	_____	_____	12	2	_____	_____
13	1	_____	_____	13	1	_____	_____
14	1	_____	_____	14	1	_____	_____
15	1	_____	_____	15	1	_____	_____
16	1	_____	_____	16	1	_____	_____
17	1	_____	_____	17	1	_____	_____
18	2	_____	_____	18	2	_____	_____
19	1	_____	_____	19	1	_____	_____
20	1	_____	_____	20	1	_____	_____
21	1	_____	_____	21	1	_____	_____
22	1	_____	_____	22	1	_____	_____
23	1	_____	_____	23	1	_____	_____
24	2	_____	_____	24	2	_____	_____

1/ Recognized Holidays: Christmas, December 25; New Years, January 1; Lincoln's Birthday, February 12; Washington's Birthday, February 21.

2/ Repeat this schedule as often as necessary, starting in the first column.

TABLE 1. GUALALA RIVER & GARCIA RIVER CREEL CENSUS  
SUMMARY 1975-76.

		GUALALA RIVER		GARCIA RIVER	
		1975-76	3-Year Mean 1972-75	1975-76	3-Year Mean 1972-75
<u>EFFORT</u>	Angler Hours	27,899	13,565	5,778	3,176
	Angler Days	5,936	3,663	1,926	1,096
	Mean Angler Day (Hours)	4.7	3.75	3.0	2.9
<u>CATCH</u>	Steelhead	1,418	927	242	199
	% Released	17%	20.5	3%	14.8
	Silver Salmon	10	31 *	3	38
	Trout	--	428	85	165
<u>SUCCESS</u>	Steelhead Catch Per Angler Hour	0.051	0.068	0.042	0.062
	SH Harvest Rate	22.6%			

\* Includes 1974-1975 Seasons Only.

DEC. 1977

GARCIA RIVER CREEK CENSUS 1977-78  
DECEMBER Summary

WEEKDAYS Area I

N=3  
 $f.p.c = 0.62$   
 $N^2 = 109$

DATE	ANG'	HRS	SH		SS		TRACT	
			Kept	Rel.	K	R	K	R
1	0							
5	15	50.5	0	0		1	1	
9	4	15.0	-	-				
13	11	29.5	-	-				
29	15	22.5	-	-				
	45	117.5	0	0	0	1	1	0

WEEKENDS AREA I

N=5  
 $f.p.c = 24$

DATE	ANG'	HRS	SH		SS	Kept	Rel.
			Kept	Rel.			
3	24	65.0	-	-			
4	18	58.5	1	0	0	1	6
11	6	13.0	-	-			
	48	136.5	1	0	0	1	6

GARCIA CREEK JANUARY, 1978

ZONE 1 Weekday

DATE	ANG	HRS	SH		SS		TROUT	
			K	R	K	R	K	R
24	5	12	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	11	26.5	0	1	0	0	0	0

N=6

N=9  
N=81  
Epc=0.44

ZONE 1 Weekend

1	16	56	0	1	0	0	0	1
28	40	143	4	4	0	0	0	0

N=3

Zone 2 Weekday

30	4	9	0	0	0	0	0	2
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N=6

N=9  
N=81  
Epc=0.78

Zone 2 Weekend

29	18	48	3	0	0	0	4	0
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N=3

GARCIA RIVER 1977-78

-- December --

Weekdays: Zone 2

	DATE	ANG	HRS	SH		SS	TROUT
				Kept	Rel		
N=13	21	2	8.0	-	-	-	

N=18  
N<sup>2</sup>=324  
f.p.c.=0.83

Weekends

	DATE	ANG	HRS	SH		SS	TROUT
				Kept	Rel		
N=5	10	3	4.5	-	-	-	-
	31	18	63.0	-	-	-	-
		21		67.5	-	-	-

f.p.c.=0.6  
N<sup>2</sup>=25

GARCIA CREEK

FEBRUARY 1978

ZONE 1 - Weekdays

N=10  
f.p.c.=0.5  
N<sup>2</sup>=100

DATE	ANG	HRS	SH		SS		TROUT	
			K	R	K	R	K	R
1	17	20.5	0	0	0	0	0	1
3	5	13.5	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	12	24.0	1	0	0	0	0	0
23	8	35.0	1	2	0	0	0	1
28	18	62.0	3	1	1	0	2	0

ZONE 1 - Weekends

N=5  
f.p.c.=0.2

4	18	45.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	11	42.5	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	30	109.0	4	1	0	0	0	3
26	28	82.5	1	0	0	0	0	0

Zone 2 Weekdays

N=10

17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27	12	34	4	0	0	0	2	1

Zone 2 Weekends

(N=15)  
N<sup>2</sup>=225  
N=5  
f.p.c.=0.8

19	24	52	0	0	0	0	0	0
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