

THE RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

**STREAM SURVEY**

File form No \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_.

Name: NORTH FORK OF FULLER CREEK County: SONOMA.

Stream Section: ENTIRE From: mouth To: headwaters Length: 3mi.

Tributary To: Fuller Creek Twp: 10N R: 13W Sec: 17 Proj. \_\_\_\_\_.

Other Names: Not known River system: Gualala.

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

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 North Fork of Fuller Creek was surveyed on foot and from a vehicle by way of a paralleling road on 8/18 and 19, 1964, by J. Rowell, C. Parker, and B. Fox in eight hours, from its mouth to the headwaters.

**LOCATION** -- The North Fork of Fuller Creek joins Fuller Creek at a common junction with the South Fork, one mi. north and east of Nob Hill.

**RELATION TO OTHER WATERS** -- The North Fork of Fuller Creek is an important tributary to Fuller Creek and contributes a summer and winter flow. It also provides an SH - SS spawning and nursery area.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**

**Watershed** -- The region consists of steep slopes and V-shaped canyons.

The forest is a heavily logged redwood-fir type, with scatterings of deciduous trees and brush patches on the lower slopes. The soil is porous and contains large amounts of fine shale from many shale slides in the region.

**Immediate Drainage Basin** -- The North Fork of Fuller Creek drains an eight square mile area and flows west through steep-sided V-shaped canyons and a bowl-shaped channel. Streamside vegetation is abundant, consisting of willow, alder, grasses, blackberry and raspberry vines, ferns, oak and ash trees.

**Altitude** -- Range 300 feet at the mouth to 1200 feet at the headwaters.

**Gradient** -- Steep gradient, with a fall of 200 feet per mile.

**Width** -- Range two feet to four feet, with an average of three feet.

**Depth** -- Two inches to six inches, with an average of four inches.

**Flow** -- Summer flow one cfs-, winter flow 20 cfs+.

**Velocity** -- Rapid, speeds over many riffles.

**Bottom** -- Bottom consisted of 10 percent coarse rubble, 30 percent fine gravel, 20 percent gravel, 30 percent sand, and 10 percent silt.

**Spawning Areas** -- Fair, about 30 percent of total stream area is available for spawning. The gravel bed is approximately three miles long and five feet wide. Of this bed, 30 percent or better is available for spawning.

**Pools** -- Pool/riffle relationship ran 30 percent pools, 70 percent riffles. Pool length ran four feet to eight feet, with an average of five feet. Pool width ran two feet to six feet, with an average of three feet. Pool depth ran six inches to three feet, with an average of one foot.

**Shelter** -- Good. Logs, rocks, undercut banks, and overhanging vegetation.

**Barriers** -- Thirty + partial barriers, consisting of log jams and slash.

**Diversions** -- None noted.

**Temperatures** -- Water temperature ranged from 66 degrees at the mouth to 63 degrees at the headwaters. Air temperature ranged from 83 degrees to 87 degrees. Temperatures were taken between 30 and 1330 on 8/19/64 under a clear sky.

**Food** -- Common, consisting of stonefly and caddisfly nymphs, and many streamside flying insects.

**Aquatic Plants** -- Abundant, with large stands of joint grass throughout the stream area, and mosses.

**Winter Conditions** -- Stream is subject to high winter flows and scouring.

**Pollution** -- Pollution consisted of silt and slash from logging operations.

**Springs** -- Common, three per mile observed.

**FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS** -- SH - RT, SS, roach and sticklebacks were present. Size ranged from one inch to four inches, with an average of three inches. Abundance was good, with 100 per 100 feet of stream section. Success good. Condition of the fish good. Natural propagation good.

**OTHER VERTEBRATES** -- Snakes, lizards, deer, raccoons, feral hogs, quail, kingfishers, doves, and hawks were observed.

**FISHING INTENSITY** -- Unknown.

**OTHER RECREATIONAL USES** -- Slight hunting, due to private ownership of the property.

**ACCESSIBILITY** -- The area is accessible by a paralleling road.

**OWNERSHIP** -- Private and closed to the public.

**POSTED OR OPEN** -- Posted and closed by a locked gate when logging operations are not in progress

**IMPROVEMENTS** -- Removal of barriers consisting of log jams and slash would improve passage of salmon and steelhead to spawning areas and would open up a larger spawning area.

**PAST STOCKING** -- Not known.

**GENERAL ESTIMATE** -- The North Fork of Fuller Creek makes up a large percentage of Fuller Creek's SH - SS spawning and nursery areas. This area is not being fully utilized because of log jams and other logging debris. The North Fork area contains a large amount of spawning gravels, with over 30 percent of the stream area being suitable for spawning. In general, the North Fork is one of the better spawning areas of Fuller Creek.

**RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT** -- Removal of log jams and debris to enhance fisheries value and improve passage of SH - SS on spawning runs is recommended. Erosion control to keep silt from washing into the streambed is also recommended. Planting of SS to re-establish a run is suggested.

**SKETCH MAP** -- See attached. (sic)

**REFERENCES AND MAPS** -- U. S. Geological Survey Topographical Map, 7-1/2 minute series, Quadrangle Annapolis.