

George Young Creek		August 14, 1969
		Sonoma
Entire	Headwaters	Confluence with Sausal Creek
Sausal Creek hence	Russian River	10N 8W 19
Merreti Creek		Russian River

Personnel observations of Jim Thompson and Jim Michaels. In addition, information was obtained from local residents.

Extent of Observation: George Young Creek was surveyed on July 2, 1969. The entire stream was walked out.

Location: George Young Creek enters Sausal Creek approximately 1½ miles upstream from Jimtown.

Relation to other Waters: George Young Creek is a major tributary to Sausal Creek. Contributing both summer and winter flow. The stream is used by steelhead for both spawning and nursery purposes.

General Description

Watershed and Immediate Drainage Basin: George Young Creek drains about 4 square miles of mountainous terrain. The stream is located in a steep V shaped canyon which discharges in a southwest direction. Vegetative cover on the drainage includes open stands of oak, bay and madrone. Grass is present in open areas. Riparian cover includes oak, willow bay and alder. About 40% of the stream has riparian cover.

Altitude: Range from 400 feet to 1600 feet.

Gradient: Approximately 600 feet per mile.

Width: Range 3 inches to 6 feet, average 5 feet.

Depth: Range ¼ inch to 5 feet, average 4 inches.

Flow: George Young Creek was estimated to contribute about 0.4 c.f.s. to Sausal Creek. Flow was intermittent in George Young Creek about mile upstream from the confluence with Sausal Creek.

Velocity: Generally rapid, sluggish areas were observed in the lower portion of the stream.

Bottom: The stream bed was composed generally of 50% gravel, 30% bedrock, 10% boulders, 5% sand, 5% silt.

Spawning areas: 70% of the stream bed appeared suitable for steelhead spawning use.

Pools: Pools averaged 6 feet wide, 4 feet deep and 15 feet long. Pools were generally wider and shallower in the lower section of the stream.

Shelter: Composed primarily of undercut banks, boulders, deep pools, and to some extent by overhanging vegetation.

Barriers: A 15 foot and an 8 foot falls were observed in the headwater section of the stream. However, because of the steepness of the terrain in the falls area removal is not recommended.

Diversions: None observed.

Temperature: At the confluence with Sausal Creek: air 85°F., water 75°F.
Temperature recorded in the headwater was air 76°F., water 60°F.

Food: Caddis fly larvae were observed in numbers of about 2 per 10 inch rock. Stonefly larvae were observed numbering about 5 per 10 inch rock.

Aquatic Plants: Algae was observed.

Winter Conditions: The water level is believed to raise about 3 feet near the confluence with Sausal Creek.

Pollution: None observed.

Springs: One spring located about 1 mile upstream from the confluence of Sausal Creek was observed.

Fish Present and Success: Juvenile steelhead and/or rainbow trout, squawfish and roach. Rainbow trout and Steelhead were observed ranging in size from ½ to 16 inches and numbered 75 to 100 fish per 100 feet of stream. Squawfish were observed ranging in size from 2 inches to 5 inches and averaged about 3 inches. Squawfish numbered about 10 per 100 feet of stream. Roach were observed ranging in size from ¼ to 3 inches and numbered about 75 per 100 feet of stream.

Other vertebrates: Deer, quail and cattle were observed.

Fishing Intensity: None observed.

Other Recreational Use: Swimming.

Accessibility: George Young Creek is accessible via Pine Mt. Road which parallels the stream.

Ownership: Private.

Posted or Open: All land was posted against trespass.

Improvements: None observed nor recommended.

Past Stocking: According to local residents, the headwater area of the stream has been planted with young trout.

General Estimate: George Young Creek is a major tributary to Sausal Creek, contributing both summer and winter flow. Approximately 75% of the stream appears suitable for steelhead spawning. Nursery habitat appears limited.

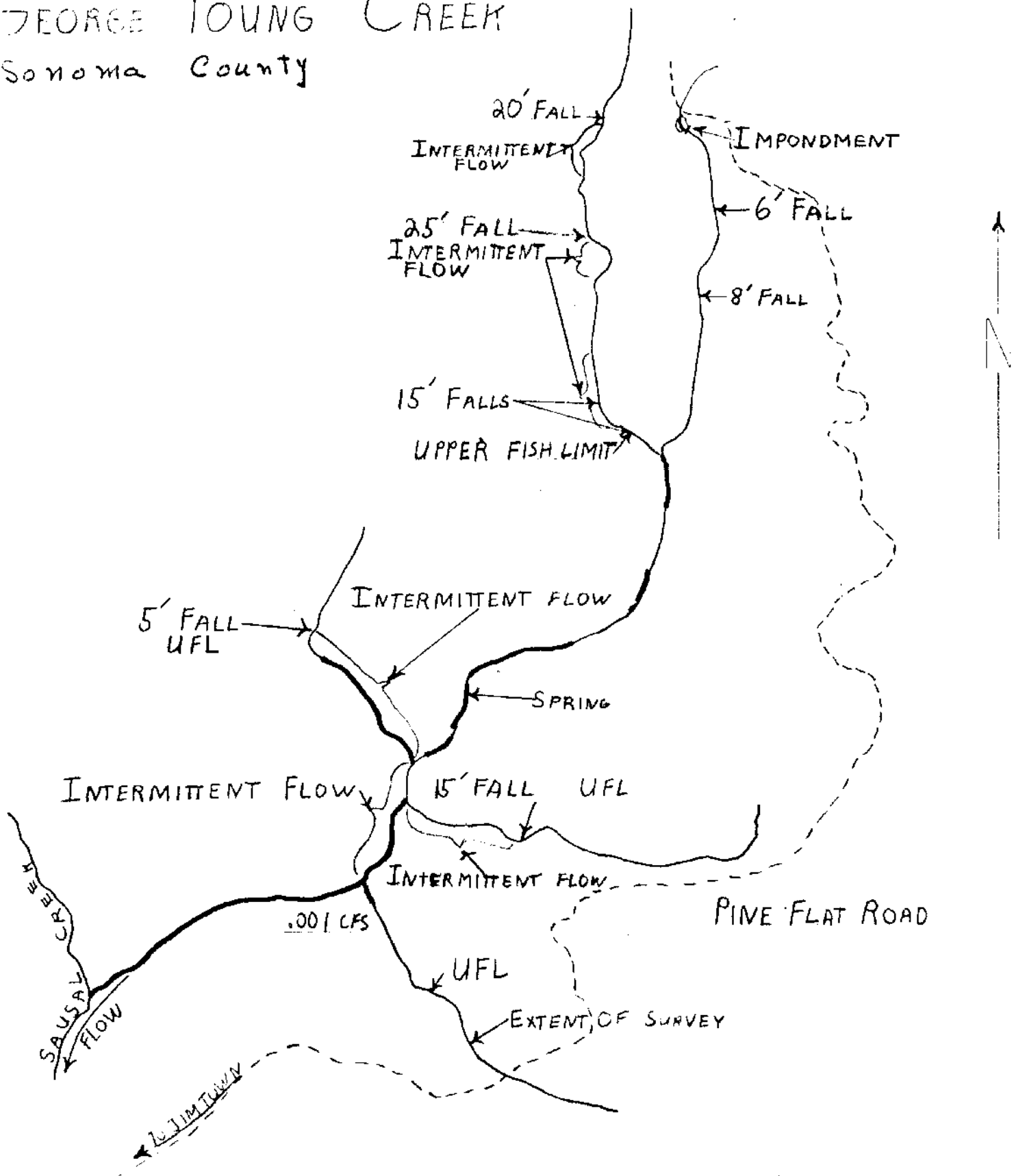
Recommended Management: George Young Creek should be managed as a steelhead spawning and nursery stream.

Sketch Map: See attached map.

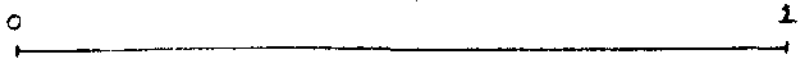
References and Maps: U.S.G.S., Jimtown Quad., 7½ minute series - 1955.

GEORGE YOUNG CREEK

Sonoma County



POTENTIAL SPAWNING AREAS



SCALE IN MILES

July 2, 1969

UFL - upstream fish limit