

## CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF FISH AND GAME - SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET

No. \_\_\_\_\_

Name of stream or lake PRAIRIE CREEK Tributary to REDWOOD CREEK River system \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other names \_\_\_\_\_ County HUMBOLDT Township 11N Range 1E Section 27  
 Stream section: \_\_\_\_\_ From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_ Length of stream section: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sources of data: \_\_\_\_\_

11/11/37 - The egg collecting station in connection with the Prairie Creek Hatchery is located immediately below the junction of Prairie Cr. and Lost Man Cr. Racks are located at this point.

Holding pens at the present location are not really satisfactory, but tanks are liable to be swept away by high water. The water has gone 4 ft. over the racks. The flood racks, now installed, should prevent this, according to Pollitt.

Pollitt says that Lost Man Creek clears up after a rain much quicker than does Prairie Creek.

At the racks Pollitt showed me a female sea-run Cutthroat Trout that had come into the trap. These fish are spotted - the coloration of the female was not brilliant - the red marking on the "throat" was rather pale, but visible. Pollitt says that these fish come in early, with the Silver Salmon, but do not ripen up for several months. Holding for ripening is a problem with these fish, too. The cutthroats that come in here run about 12 to 14 inches in length and weigh  $1\frac{1}{4}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pounds. A two pound fish is exceptional.

About 500 Silver Salmon had been taken to date at the racks. Many of the fish (males) had extremely red sides, the whole side of the body being a flaming brick red, and quite hooked snouts. Both Clarence Chansler and Pollitt think that the "dog salmon" of the Eel River, although running early with the King Salmon, are Silver Salmon. They may be an early run of Silver Salmon. Some Silver Salmon entered Prairie Creek with the October rains. First came about 9 or 10 fish, which were held for a while and then released because no regular run was appearing. Following this, one or two kept coming every day or few days. Most of the fish seen now had been in the creek for some time, some in addition to their coloration being scarred up with gashes and worn snouts. Silver Salmon coming in now are ripe, according to Pollitt.

Over 50% of the

The local residents around Prairie Creek are unable to distinguish the fish accurately. They think that the red-sided, hook-nosed male Silver Salmon are one species and call them "dog salmon", and that the females, which are not hook-nosed and paler, at first silvery and then becoming bronzed, are another species.

Only a few King Salmon come in each year, perhaps 7 or 8. This year about four had come in to date, including one female.

No steelhead had yet come in. - Leo Shapovalov.