Illustrations of Logging Operations and Practices Which Protect North Coast Salmon and Spawning Streams — and Those That Don’t!

In three previous bulletins, the department has endeavored to inform timber owners, operators and fishermen of the mutual problems resulting from logging operations which damage or destroy salmon and steelhead spawning streams in California.

Cooperation of all concerned has been asked to prevent further damage to spawning streams.

Field surveys indicate that many of the “old” log jams and damaging erosive actions exist on private land whose owners sold the timber but retained title in the land. Under Section 482.5 of the Fish and Game Code, the property owner is responsible for conditions which prevent passage of fish up or down stream or which are harmful to fish.

Many landowners have sold their timber and at the same time have protected themselves from future legal action as well as preserved their soil and watershed for future productivity. In such cases, spawning streams have also been preserved.

Key to this situation has been timber sales contracts which incorporate provisions requiring that adequate protection be given to the
MAY CREEK, tributary to Prairie Creek, Humboldt County, Feb. 14, 1956. Abnormally heavy rains and runoff failed to move this jam. (Fish and Game photo.)
MAY CREEK, tributary to Prairie Creek, Humboldt County, Feb. 14, 1956. (Fish and Game photo.)
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