

Ficklin, J. 1981.

Simpson

Simpson Timber Company
California Operations POST OFFICE DRAWER V
ARCATA, CALIFORNIA 95521 (707) 822-0371

May 22, 1981

RECEIVED
MAY 27 1981
Department of Fish & Game
Eureka

Mr. Steve Sanders
Humboldt County Prairie Creek Hatchery
Orick, California 95555

Dear Mr. Sanders:

I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for your interest, cooperation and assistance in making our recent fish egg incubation project a success.

As you are aware, most northcoast streams are critically under-populated with anadromous fish even though stream conditions, habitat, food organisms, and water quality are generally in good shape. Our fish egg incubation project could, if expanded, significantly increase the anadromous fish populations in northcoast streams.

I am enclosing a copy of Dave Miller's report of our pilot project for your information. Of the 13,724 Steelhead eggs you provided for the project, we had 11,040 fish hatch, emerge and which were subsequently released to Coyote Creek.

In our opinion, a low-keyed joint project such as this could have tremendous future fishery benefits. As we would like to continue and expand the project, perhaps we can work out an arrangement to insure a supply of eggs.

Again, your assistance has been sincerely appreciated and we look forward to working with you on an expanded basis.

Very truly yours,

SIMPSON TIMBER COMPANY


Jerry K. Ficklin
Manager, Environmental Services

jlh
enclosure

cc: Chairman, Humboldt County Board of Supervisors
Fish Action Council, Eureka
Humboldt Fisherman's Marketing Association
Department of Fish & Game, Eureka
Assemblyman Douglas Bosco
State Senator Barry Keene
David G. Miller
R. L. Watts

RECEIVED
MAY 27 1981
Department of Fish & Game
Eureka

Dad

REDWOOD CREEK FISHERY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

In the fall of 1980, Simpson Timber Company initiated a pilot fishery enhancement project to benefit the salmon and steelhead resources of Redwood Creek, a major coastal stream in Northern California (T11N, R1E, S32). The project consists of a streamside gravel incubator system which was installed on Coyote Creek (T8N, R2E, S2), a tributary stream approximately 22 miles from the mouth of Redwood Creek (see map). The following report discusses the trials, tribulations and eventual success of the project during the first year of operation; the incubator system in theory and practice; and, possible future applications.

THE PROJECT: A Preliminary Survey.

A survey of the lower 2 miles of Coyote Creek was conducted in September, 1980 in order to identify possible sites for the placement of a streamside incubator, assess the present population status of salmonids (salmon and steelhead fry) and estimate future carrying capacity based upon food availability and habitat.

A suitable site for the project was found adjacent to a small stream which feeds into Coyote Creek at a point half-a-mile above the confluence with Redwood Creek. This feeder stream was later tapped for the gravity water supply (see map).

Primary and secondary productivity within Coyote Creek is high, as was evidenced by significant populations of stream insects, frogs and salamanders. Yearling steelhead were observed in several pools but overall numbers were low. This lack of significant salmonid population may be due to a shortage of useable spawning gravels in the creek. Other fish habitat features, such as pools, riffles, and shelter, were abundant.

Installation of the System.

Installation of the gravel incubator system began in early October with the first attempt to secure a gravity fed water supply. An experimental well, consisting of several sections of perforated plastic pipe, sand screens and necessary plumbing fixtures to accommodate a gravity water supply was buried in the channel of the feeder stream and a siphon established to the proposed incubator site. Two man-days were required to place the well due mainly to difficult conditions for excavation within the stream channel.

The buried well operated satisfactorily for several weeks but failed during high flow conditions experienced from 11/7-9. The well was cleaned and the siphon re-established 11/13 but failure occurred in high flows on 11/21.

A new water intake, similar to the type used successfully for Simpson's continuous water monitoring stations at Korbek, was installed on 12/16th. It consists of an exposed polypipe hose, supported by a float-ball pivot and braced with metal fence posts. A plastic screen foot-valve was placed on the open end of the intake hose to prevent debris fouling and loss of siphon. The system was positioned at the tail of a deep pool and oriented parallel to the streamflow. Two hours were necessary to install the new system. Operation of the exposed intake has been continuous and trouble-free to-date and has survived several major stormflow events.

The peak emergence rate occurred from 4/22nd to 4/24th. Irregular times of fry collection and days of incomplete recovery were necessary due to work priority conflicts.

Due to a gap in the false bottom screening, several hundred fry passed into the main outlet drain well where they were recovered. All fish netted from the incubator were immediately placed into Coyote Creek. A total of 11,040 steelhead were recovered during the collection period. This corresponds to slightly over 80% successful hatching and emergence.

1981 COYOTE CREEK INCUBATOR DATA

1. Prairie Creek Hatchery Data

- a. Three batches of steelhead (*Salmo gairdneri gairdneri*) recovered from Lost Man Creek (tributary to Redwood Creek at (T11N, R1E, S23).

<u>Fish Identification</u>	<u>Weight (lbs)</u>	<u>Fork Length (in.)</u>	<u>Number Eggs per ounce</u>	<u>Total Ounces</u>	<u>Total Eggs</u>
2-22A	8.5	27¼	168.2	23 ¾	3,990
2-22B	6.5	25¼	176.8	23	4,048
2-22C	7.5	24½	238.8	23 ¾	5,686
				70.5	13,724

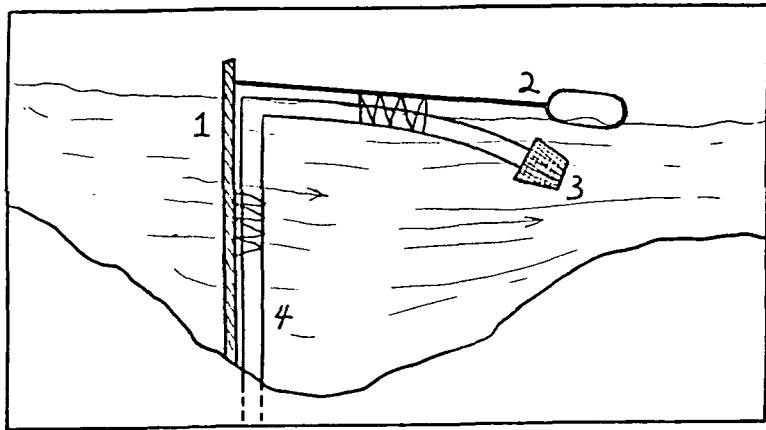
2. Steelhead Fry Collection Data

<u>Collection Date</u>	<u>Number of Fry*</u>
4/19/81	80
4/20	174
4/21	604
4/22	2,320
4/23	2,525
4/24**	500
4/26	1,665
4/27	800
4/28	800
4/30	950
5/02	300
5/03	190
5/06	50
5/08	82
TOTAL	11,040

*Combined fish count from capture well and main outlet well. Not all fish were taken on collection days; during heavy emergence period counts were taken until less than 100 fish remained.

**Incomplete collection due to darkness.

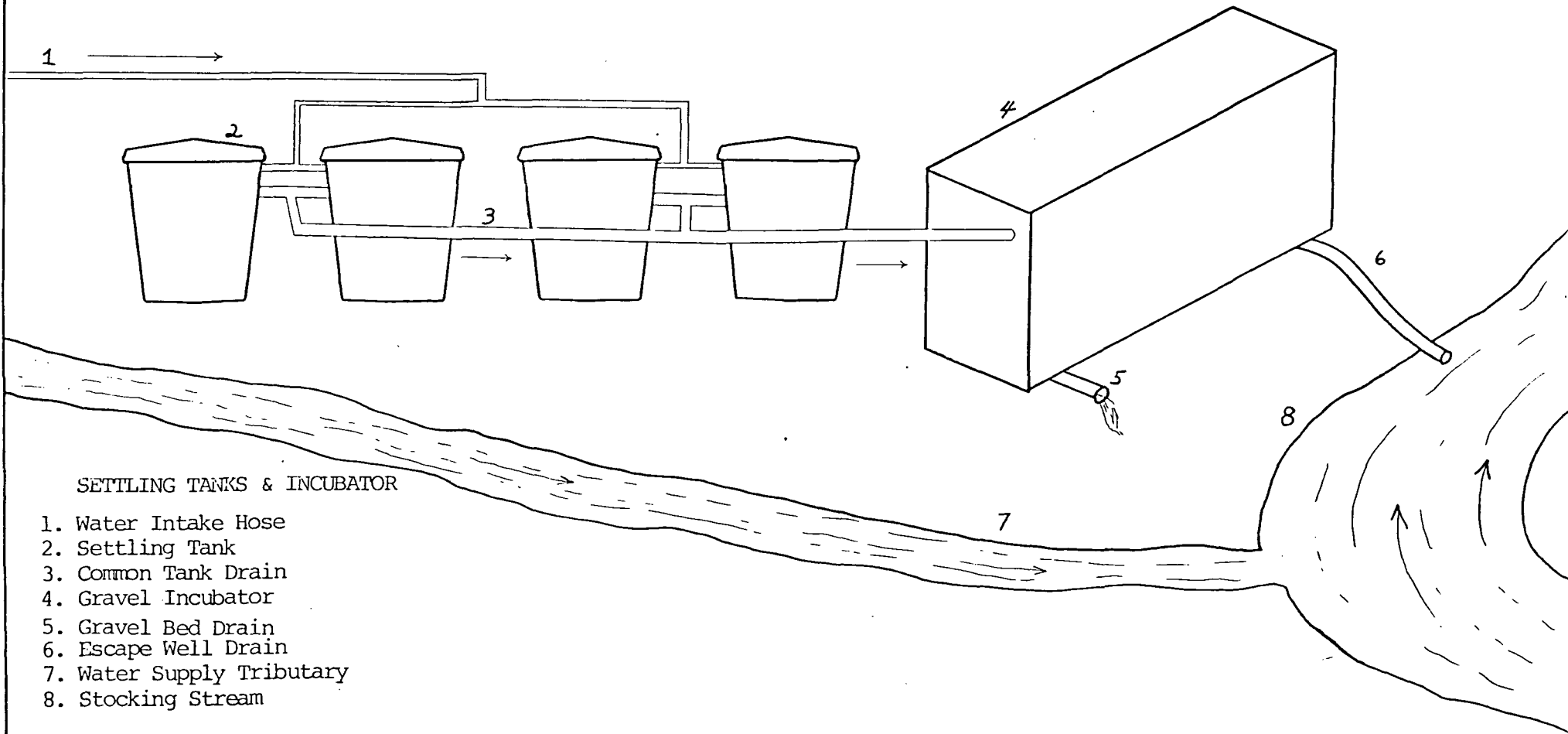
DGM/jlh
5/20/81



GRAVITY WATER INTAKE

1. Support Stake
2. Float-ball Pivot
3. Screened Foot-valve
4. Poly Pipe Hose

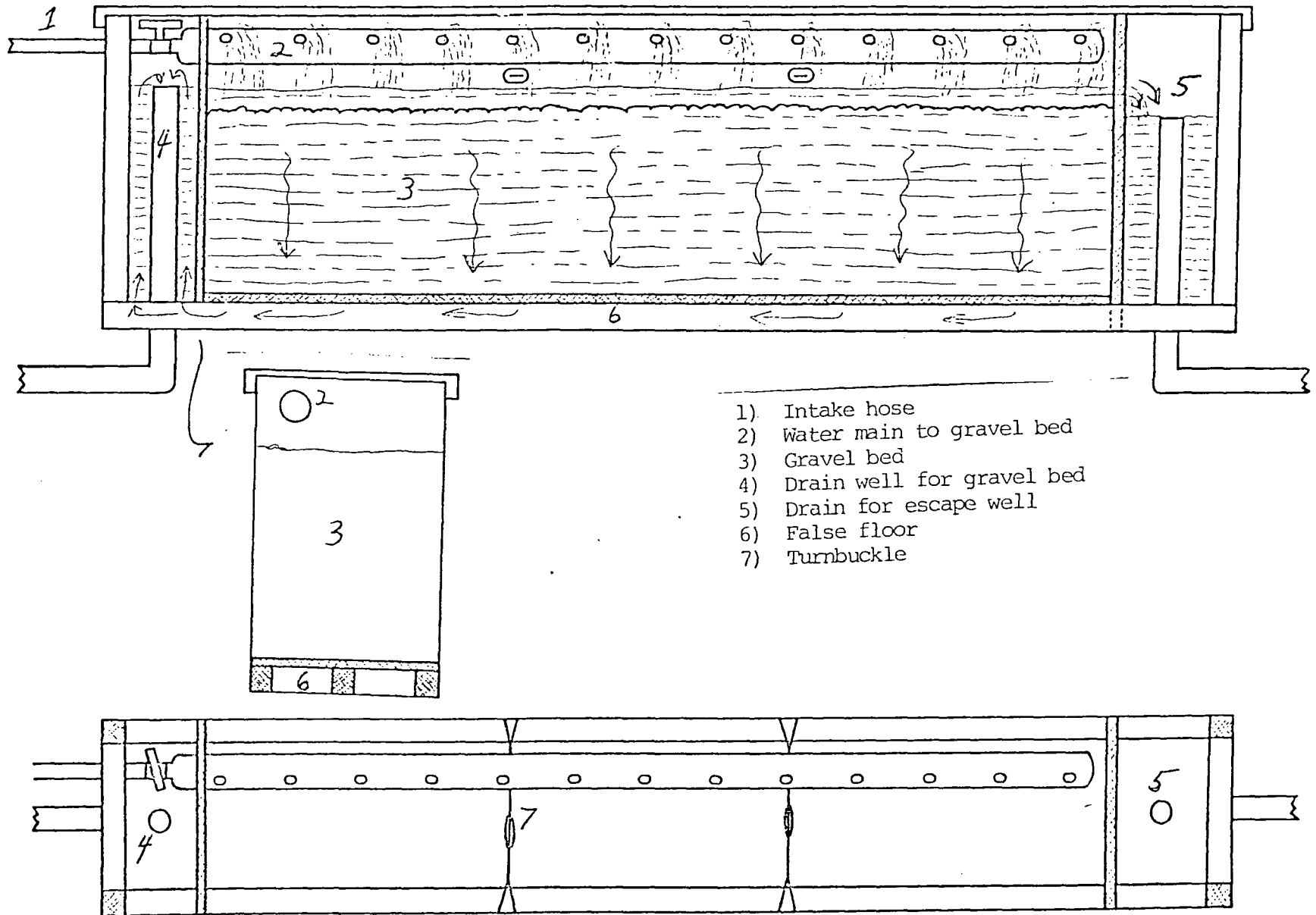
STREAMSIDE
GRAVEL
INCUBATOR
SYSTEM

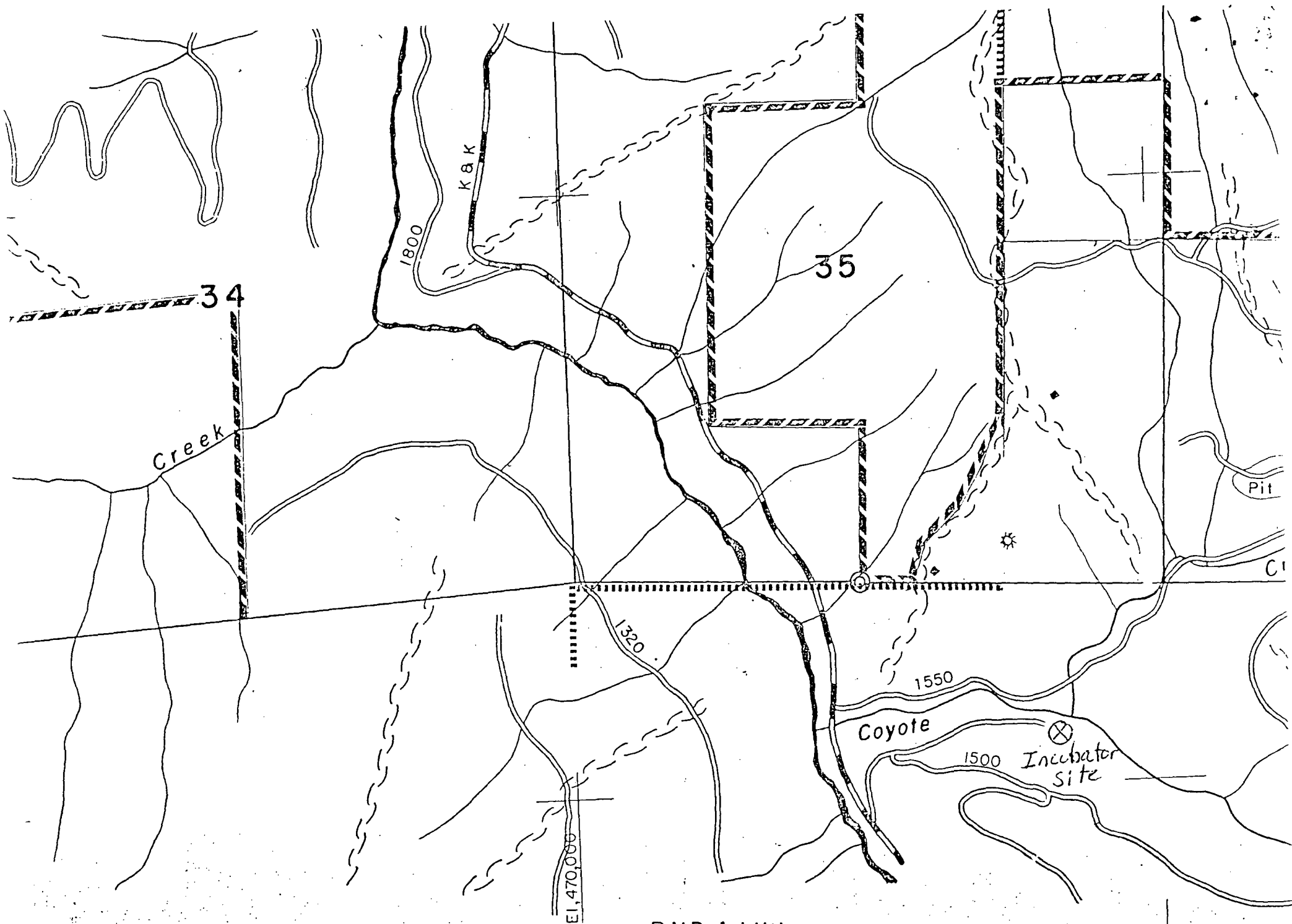


SETTLING TANKS & INCUBATOR

1. Water Intake Hose
2. Settling Tank
3. Common Tank Drain
4. Gravel Incubator
5. Gravel Bed Drain
6. Escape Well Drain
7. Water Supply Tributary
8. Stocking Stream

Gravel Incubator





34

Creek

K&K

1800

35

1320

1550

Coyote

1500 Incubator site

Pit

Cl

El. 470,000



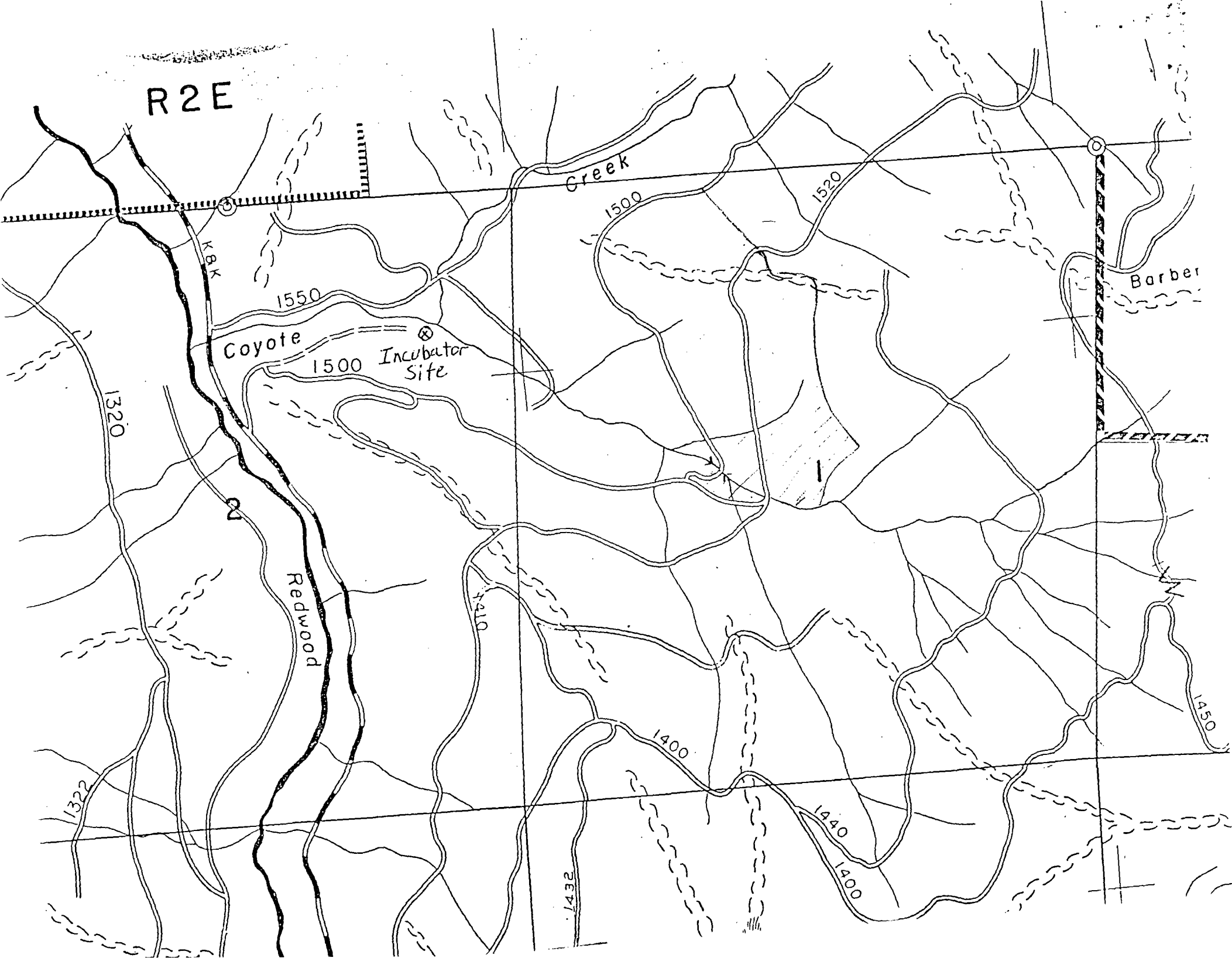
RNP Additions 1978



STCo. Bdry.

1,000

R2E



Creek

Coyote

1550

1500

Incubator site

Redwood

1410

1400

1440

1400

Barber

1450

1432

1320

1322

24

KBK

1500

1520

THE RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
Department of Fish and Game

STREAM SURVEY

FILE FORM No.

Date June 16, 1975

NAME Mill Creek COUNTY

STREAM SECTION FROM Mouth To .75 miles upstream LENGTH 1.75 mile

TRIBUTARY TO Redwood Creek Twp. 7 N R. 3E Sec. 8

OTHER NAMES RIVER SYSTEM

SOURCES OF DATA personal observation

EXTENT OF OBSERVATION: Mill Creek was surveyed on June 16, 1975 by Dennis P. Lee, Asst. Fishery Biologist, and Trisha Edgerton, Fish and Wildlife Seasonal Aide. It was surveyed from its mouth to a point .75 miles upstream.

LOCATION: Mill Creek is located 6.3 miles north of Highway 299 on Redwood Creek Road.

RELATION TO OTHER WATERS: Mill Creek is used for spawning and as a nursery area. It contributes significant flows to Redwood Creek in the winter and spring.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Redwood Valley is a dry open valley characterized by oak trees and vegetation such as coyote bush, madrone and deerbrush. Douglas fir and alders predominate in the higher elevations towards the headwaters. Huckleberry and thimbleberry were the predominate riparian vegetation.

Immediate Drainage Basin - The first 75 yards of Mill Creek are open and flat. The creek then rises steadily and becomes heavily shaded by the overhanging canopy of trees. The total length of the creek is choked with logs and slash. Mill Creek drains approximately 1.39 square miles.

Altitude - Mouth 600 feet, m.s.l.
Barrier(.66 miles upstream) ... 1000 ft., m.s.l.
Headwaters (1.75 miles upstream) 2850 feet, m.s.l.

Gradient - From mouth to barrier (.66 miles upstream) ... 606.1 feet/stream mile
From barrier to headwaters (1.09 miles upstream) ... 1697.2 feet/stream mile.

Width - Range 2 - 10 feet
Average .. 5 feet.

Depth - Riffle (Range) 2-16 inches
Riffle (Average) 12 inches

Pool (Range)..... 1-4 feet
Pool (Average) 1.5 feet

Flow - Mouth 4 c.f.s.
Barrier 5 c.f.s.

- 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

Velocity - Entire stream rapid to slow

Bottom - 25% boulders
40% rubble
15% gravel
15% sand
5% silt

Spawning areas - Spawning areas account for 15% of the total stream habitat. The gravel in Mill Creek is very silty and the spawning habitat was rated marginal to good.

Pools - Pools comprise 30% of the stream habitat.

Shelter - Shelter is provided by low overhanging branches and large boulders.

Barriers - A 12 foot high rock and log jam exists 0.7 miles upstream from the mouth.

Diversions - None observed

Temperatures - Water 57^oF at 1300
Air 75^oF

Food - Numerous caddis fly larvae, stone fly and may fly nymphs were present in Mill Creek.

Aquatic Plants - None observed

FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS: Fingerling steelhead were abundant below the barrier, approximately 200 fish per 100 feet of stream. The number dwindled upstream. Above the barrier, no fish were observed. A few four inch fish were seen below the barrier. All fish were in good condition.

OTHER VERTEBRATES: Deer tracks and many garter snakes were observed.

FISHING INTENSITY: There were no signs of any fishing activity.

ACCESSIBILITY: - Mill Creek is accessible directly from Redwood Valley Road, 6.3 miles north from Highway 299. There are no roads to any other portion of the stream.

OWNERSHIP: - The entire drainage is owned by Barnum Timber.

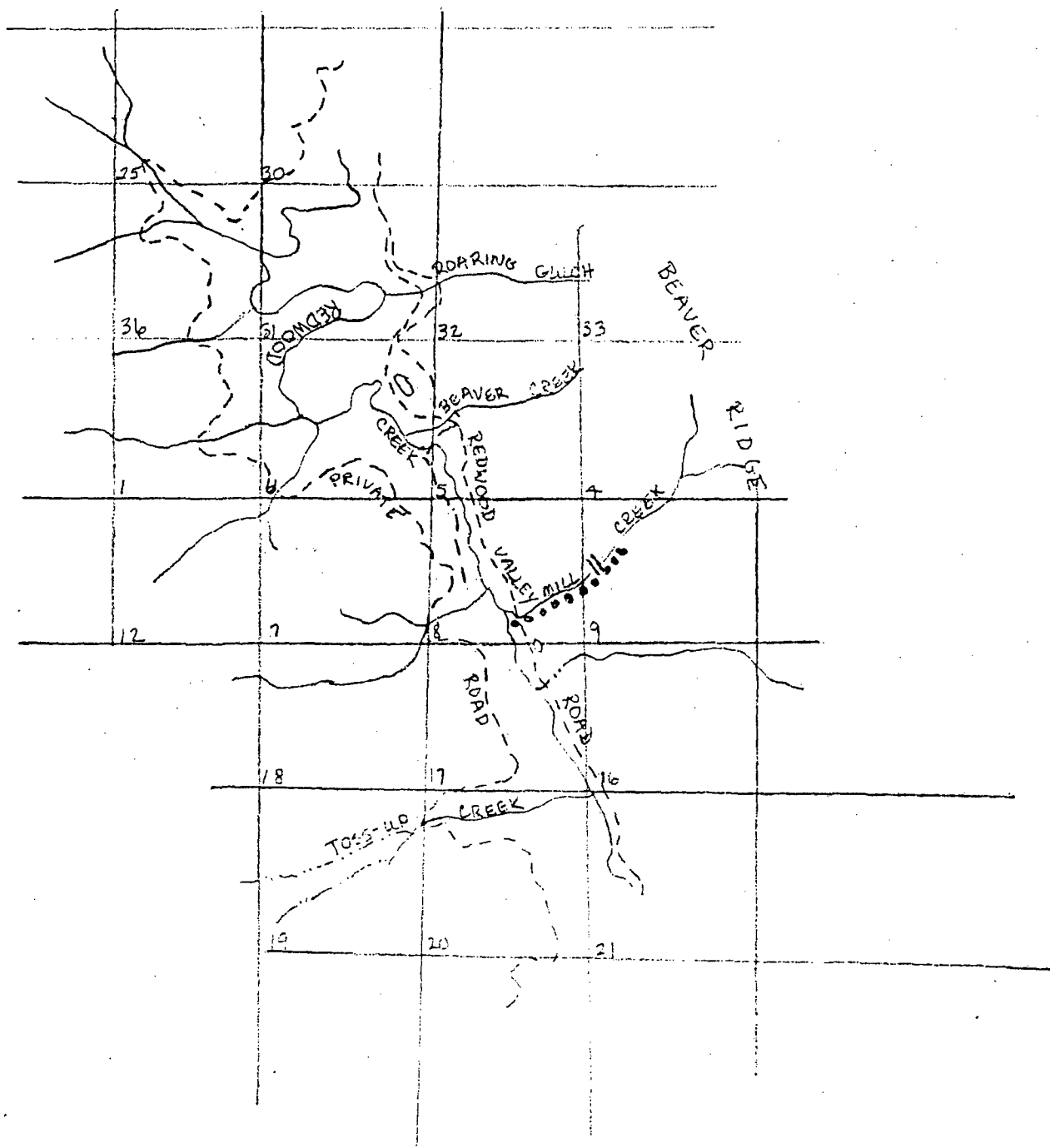
POSTED OR OPEN: - No signs of closure were seen.

RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT: Mill Creek should be maintained as an anadromous fish stream below the barrier.

MILL CREEK HUMBOLDT COUNTY

- ROAD
- ... AREA SURVEYED
- // BARRIER

T. 7 N.



R2E

R3E

THE RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
Department of Fish and Game

STREAM SURVEY

FILE FORM No.

Date June 19, 1975

NAME Panther Creek COUNTY Humboldt

STREAM SECTION FROM Mouth To 1.25 mi. upstream Total 6.8
LENGTH

TRIBUTARY TO Redwood Creek Twp. 8N R. 2E Sec. 11

OTHER NAMES RIVER SYSTEM Redwood Creek

SOURCES OF DATA Personal observations

- 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
- Spring
- FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS
- OTHER VERTEBRATES
- FISHING INTENSITY
- OTHER RECREATIONAL USE
- ACCESSIBILITY
- OWNERSHIP
- POSTED OR OPEN
- IMPROVEMENTS
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- SKETCH MAP
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EXTENT OF OBSERVATION: Panther Creek was surveyed on June 19, 1975 by Trisha Edgerton, Michael Jonckheere, and John Grondalski, F.W.S.A.'s. The survey was conducted on foot from the mouth to 1.25 miles upstream.

LOCATION: The mouth of Panther Creek is bordered to the north and south by two unnamed tributaries of Redwood Creek. These tribs are in turn bordered by Coyote Creek on the northern side and Garrett Creek to the south.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Watershed - The entire area surrounding Panther Creek is owned by timber companies. With the exception of the headwaters, all of the land adjacent to the creek has been logged.

Immediate Drainage Basin - Panther Creek has two distinct habitat types. The undisturbed virgin redwoods and douglas fir of the headwaters contrast sharply with the open, alder dominated terrain of the lower creek. A moderate amount of logging debris clogs the stream in its lower reaches while

the upper portion is totally free of log jams and land slides.

Altitude - Mouth	300 feet m.s.l.
1 mile from mouth	400 feet m.s.l.
2 miles from mouth	800 feet m.s.l.
headwaters	1,600 feet m.s.l.

Pools - Pools account for approximately 30% of stream habitat. They ranged in depth from 1-6 feet and averaged 2-3 feet deep.

Shelter - Shelter is provided in the logged portion by numerous logs and boulders in the creek bed. In the upper reaches, a dense, overhanging canopy of redwoods and Douglas fir and large boulders provide shelter.

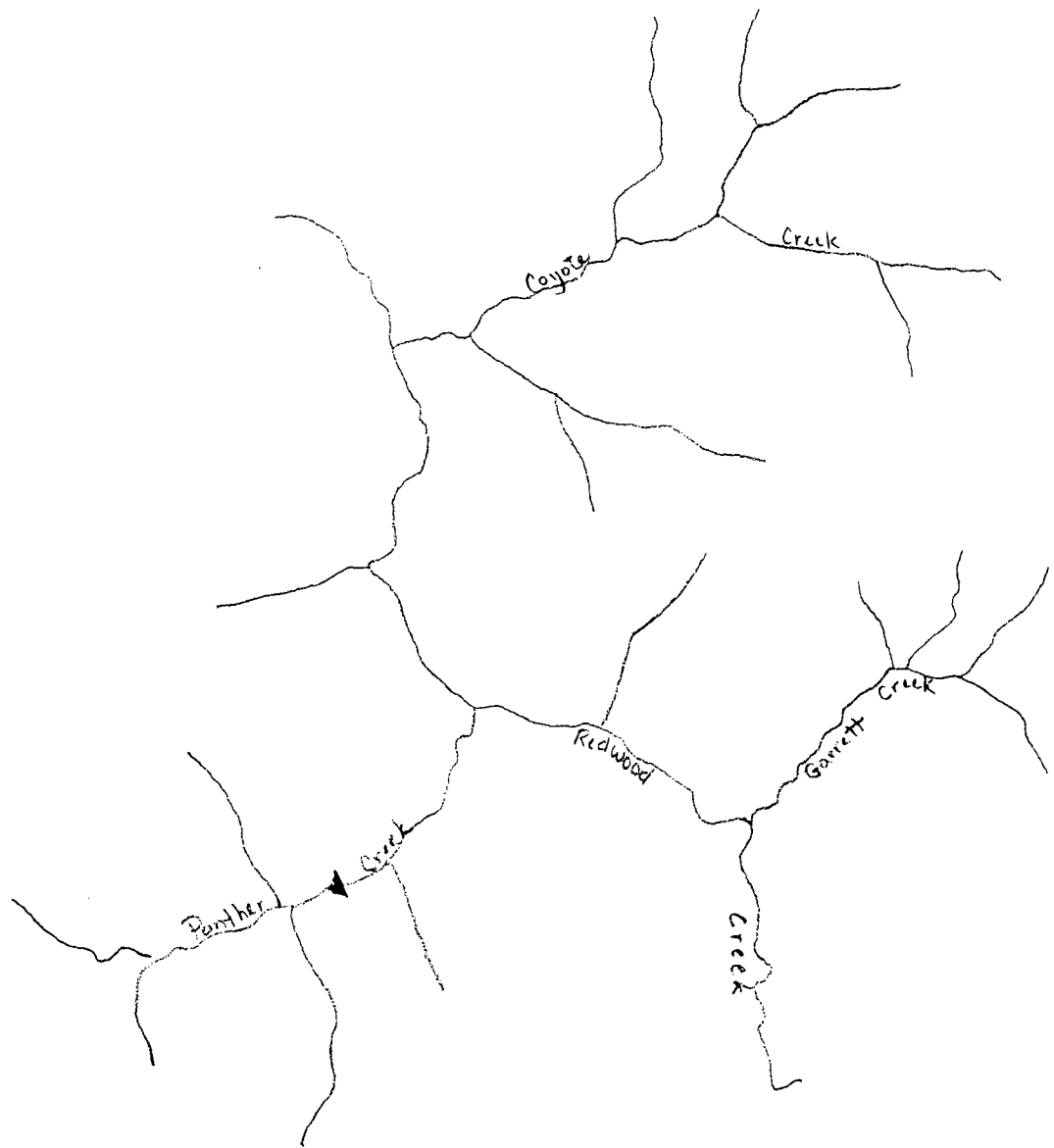
Barriers - A 25 foot log jam is located approximately 1.25 miles up from the mouth. No fish were seen above this barrier. Numerous juveniles were seen below.

- Gradient - Mouth to one mile upstream 100 feet/stream mile
One mile upstream to two miles upstream 400 feet/stream mile
Two miles upstream to headwaters 800 feet/stream mile
- Width - Lower stream 10-12 feet
Upper stream 4-6 feet
- Depth - Pools 3-4 feet
Riffles 12 inches
- Flow - Mouth 15 cfs (estimated)
2/3 mile upstream. 11 cfs
- Velocity - Mouth 3.5 feet/sec.
2/3 mile upstream. 2.5 feet/sec.
- Bottom - Logged area - many large boulders alongside stream. Main bottom material was pea-sized gravel, slightly silty.
Unlogged area - fewer boulders in streambed than logged areas and much cleaner gravel.
- Spawning areas - Due to the large quantity of gravel deposited in long flat stretches of the stream, Panther Creek has excellent spawning potential along its entire length.
- Diversions - None were observed.
- Temperatures - 1 mile up from mouth 54°F
- Food - Caddis fly larvae, stone fly and mayfly nymphs, and terrestrial insects were abundant.
- Winter conditions - Debris in the stream channel indicated a moderate to heavy winter flow.
- Pollution - Logging activities have left slash and debris in the stream channel. Landslides are frequent in the logged section of the stream depositing silt. Upstream in the unlogged section, the banks are stable, and the stream is free of debris and the gravel noticeably cleaner.
- Fish Present and Success: Numerous fingerling silver salmon and steelhead were observed and estimated at approximately 300 fish per 100 feet of stream.
- Other Vertebrates - Four deer and one Pacific Giant Salamander were observed.
- Fishing Intensity - T. Healy reported in a previous survey, that Panther Creek was ~~utilized by many steelhead fishermen.~~ Present fishing pressure is unknown. Logging operations in the area restrict trespassing.

- Accessibility - The mouth of Panther Creek may be reached by the K.K. road of Simpson Timber Company. A logging road follows the stream.
- Ownership - Simpson Timber Company owns the land surrounding Panther Creek.
- Posted or Open - Permission from Simpson Timber Company is required to drive on the K.K. road and to trespass on Panther Creek.
- Recommended Management - Panther Creek should be maintained in its present condition and no additional earthen or organic material allowed to enter the stream. Removal of the anadromous fish barrier should be investigated and potential advantages evaluated.

Panther Creek Humboldt County

◀ barrier
creek surveyed from mouth to barrier (1.25 miles)



THE RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
Department of Fish and Game

STREAM SURVEY

FILE FORM No.

Date June 26, 1975

NAME Unnamed Tributary COUNTY Humboldt

STREAM SECTION FROM Mouth To .75 miles upstream LENGTH 2 miles

TRIBUTARY TO Redwood Creek Twp. 7N R. 3 E Sec. 17

OTHER NAMES..... RIVER SYSTEM Redwood Creek

SOURCES OF DATA.....

EXTENT OF OBSERVATION: This creek was surveyed on June 26, 1975 by Trisha Edgerton, Fish and Wildlife Seasonal Aid and Dennis Lee, Asst. Fisheries Biologist. It was surveyed from its confluence with Redwood Creek to a point .75 miles upstream. Observations were made on foot.

LOCATION: Redwood Valley Road crosses the creek 5.5 miles from Highway 299.

RELATION TO OTHER WATERS: Toss Up Creek borders this unnamed creek to the south; Mill Creek borders to the North.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Watershed - The watershed is characterized by oak and grass lands. Patches of Douglas fir interrupt this pattern in the stream gulches accompanied by ferns, alder, huckleberry, and in general, mesophytic vegetation. Dru prairies tend to dominate the area along Redwood Creek. As the terrain increases in elevation, coniferous forests predominate.

Immediate Drainage Basin: The creek's mouth lies in dry, open, flatland. It starts climbing steadily after the first 100 yards. The lower 100 yards of the stream is full of green filamentous algae which disappears as the overhead canopy increases upstream. The stream is littered with logging debris and landslides. The immediate drainage basin is 0.81

square miles.

Altitude - Mouth 600 feet, m.s.l.
log jam (0-6 miles above mouth) 1000 feet, m.s.l.
headwaters (1.8 miles above mouth) 2500 feet, m.s.l.

Gradient - Mouth to one mile above mouth 550 feet per stream mile
One mile above mouth to headwaters (.8 miles 1687 feet per stream mile

Width - Entire stream 4 - 6 feet

Depth - Riffle (range 2 - 8 inches
Riffle (average 6 inches

Pool (range) 1 - 4 feet
Pool (average 2 feet

Flow Mouth 2.5 c.f.s.
Log jam (.6 miles above mouth)... 3.5 c.f.s.

- EXTENT OF OBSERVATION
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Velocity - Entire stream rapid to slow

Bottom - 50% rubble
5% organic debris
25% boulders
15% gravel
5% sand

Spawning areas - Spawning areas accounted for 5% of the total stream habitat.

Pools - Pools accounted for 35% of the total stream habitat.

Shelter - Overhanging riparian vegetation and large boulders provide shelter from 100 yards above the mouth to the creek's headwaters. Below this, there is no shelter.

Barriers - A rock jumble with logs approximately 0.5 miles upstream from the mouth is an impassable barrier to anadromous fish.

Diversions - None were observed

Temperatures - Water 57°F at 1000
Air 70°F

Food - Caddis fly larvae, mayfly nymphs and hemiptera were abundant.

Aquatic Plants - Filamentous algae in the lower 150 yards of stream was the only aquatic plant observed.

Springs - A small spring running off a five foot bank was present 0.7 mile upstream from the mouth.

Fish Present

and Success - Numerous steelhead fingerlings were present below the barrier. Larger trout, approximately 4-6 inches were also observed. No fish were seen above the barrier. The fish appeared to be in excellent condition.

Other Vertebrates - Deer tracks and garter snakes were present alongside the stream.

Fishing Intensity - Fishing activity is extremely light or nonexistent.

Accessibility - The creek is accessible from Redwood Creek Road.

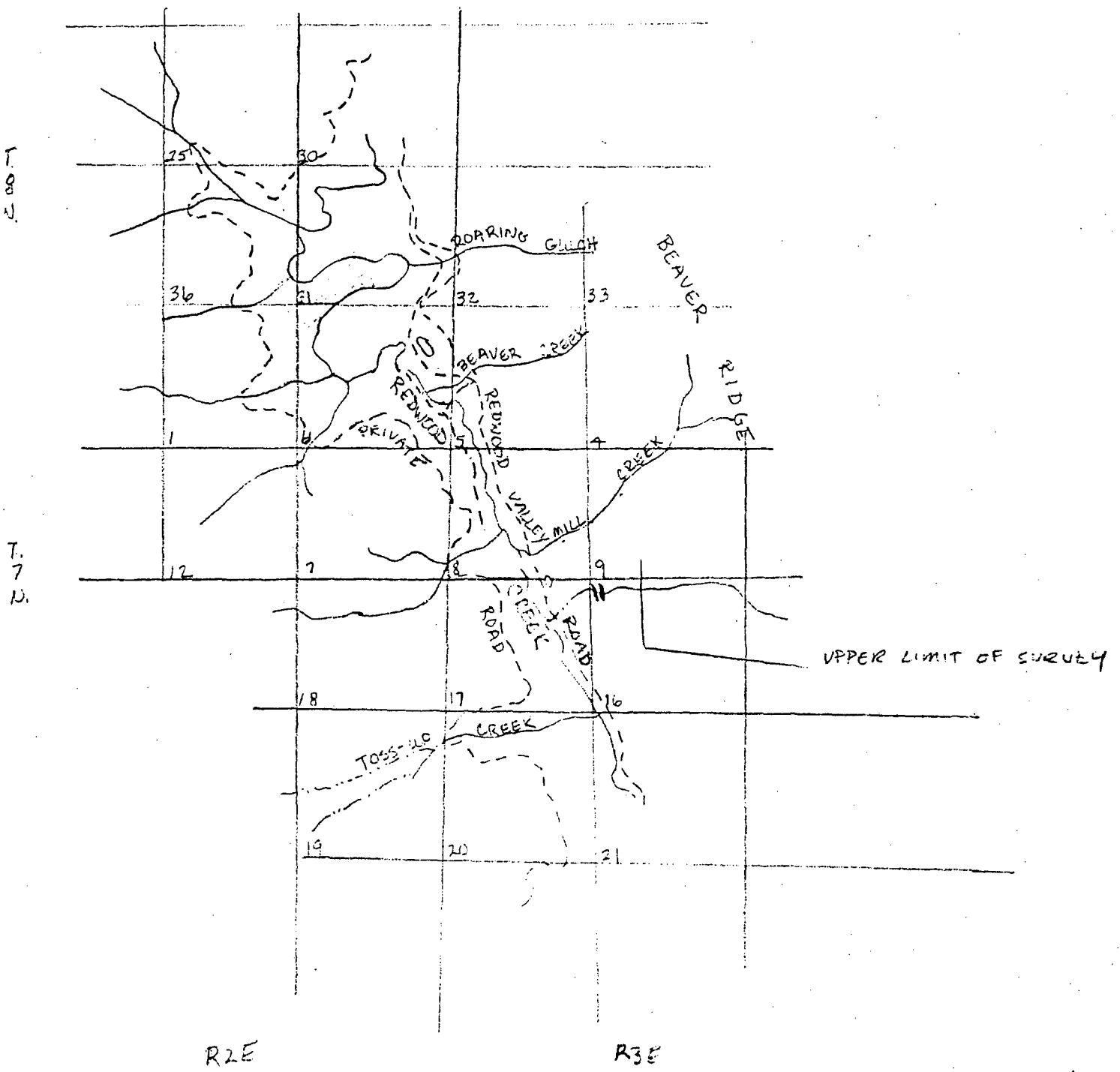
Ownership - The entire drainage basin is owned by Barnum Timber.

Posted or Open - No signs of closure were seen.

Recommended Management - The unnamed creek should be managed as an anadromous stream below the barrier and a resident trout stream above.

UNNAMED TRIBUTARY of Redwood Creek
 HUABOLDT COUNTY
 (T. 7 N., R. 3 E., SEC. 17)

// BARRIER
 --- ROAD



112

STREAM SURVEY

FILE FORM No. _____

Date 7-12-76

NAME Mae Creek COUNTY Humboldt

STREAM SECTION FROM mouth To 2.5 mi. upstream LENGTH 2.5 mi.

TRIBUTARY TO Prairie Creek thence Redwood Creek Twp. _____ R. _____ Sec. _____

OTHER NAMES May Creek RIVER SYSTEM Redwood Creek

SOURCES OF DATA Personal observation, old stream surveys, USGS map

- EXTENT OF OBSERVATION
Include Name of Surveyor, Date, Etc.
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EXTENT OF OBSERVATION: Surveyors were Len Rudder and Finn Garaas. Stream was walked from Highway 101 bridge crossing to a point upstream approximately 2.5 miles and from 101 crossing to mouth. Stream was surveyed at access points where logging roads either crossed the creek or came near it.

RELATION TO OTHER WATERS: Mae Creek is a tributary to Prairie Creek which in turn is a tributary to Redwood Creek.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Watershed and Immediate Drainage Basin: Section survey flowed through recovering redwood forest. Stream was heavily overgrown with alders and considerable logging debris in channel. Heavy streambed siltation due to past logging and road construction in watershed.

Altitude: Headwaters-1000 ft. m.s.l., mouth-50 ft. m.s.l.

Gradient: Slight gradient, 350 ft/linear stream mile.

Width: Range 2-4 feet

Depth: Range 0.25-0.5 feet

Flow: Estimated at 0.1 cfs

Velocity: Slow

Bottom: 10% gravel, 5% sand, 85% silt, organic debris at a point 2.5 miles upstream from Highway 101 bridge crossing.

Spawning areas: Good spawning areas were observed from Highway 101 bridge crossing to mouth of Mae Creek.

Pools: Pool to riffle ratio was 9:1. Several pools observed were created by logging debris and beaver dams. Several dead water pools were also observed.

Shelter: Log jams, debris etc. caused pools to be frequent.

Barriers: Several barriers created by logging debris and beaver dams were observed which could restrict fish passage above Highway 101 bridge crossing.

Temperatures: None taken

Pollution: Logging debris and slash along with heavy siltation was observed in streambed.

FISH PRESENT: Young of the year silver salmon were observed from Highway 101 bridge crossing to mouth of Mae Creek. Size - 0.75-2.0 inches; Abundance - few; Success - fair; Condition - good.

FISHING INTENSITY: None

OTHER RECREATIONAL USE: Hiking

ACCESSIBILITY: Accessible by Arcata Redwood Company logging road which takes off to the right from the north end of the Highway 101 bridge crossing on Mae Creek.

OWNERSHIP: Present ownership is mostly by Arcata Redwood Company.

POSTED: Against trespass by ARCO

RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT: Removal of barriers and logging debris would help further rehabilitation of the stream and make fish passage and spawning possible in the future.

Additional Data: Area was logged in 1951, relogged in 1955 and 1964.