

THE RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA
 Department of Fish and Game
STREAM SURVEY

FILE FORM No.

Date....July 8, 1969.....

NAME... WEST BRANCH INDIAN CREEK.....COUNTY..Mendocino.....

STREAM SECTION.....FROM.....Mouth...TO Headwaters & Bullock Cr. To forks with Gschwend LENGTH..2½ mi.

TRIBUTARY TO.....Indian Creek.....Twp. 14N...R....14W...Sec. ...8.....

OTHER NAMES.....RIVER SYSTEM.....Navarro River.....

SOURCES OF DATA.....Personal observation of Dennis Peters and Doug Ayers.....

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
 Temperature
 Food
 Aquatic Plants
 Water 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

LOCATION: West Branch of Indian Creek enters the main creek approximately 2½ miles up stream from where highway 128 crosses Indian Creek.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: A "V" shaped with short sections 1 open hill side offering little cover or shade to the creek. Predominately covered with Redwoods, Douglas fir and Madrone. Various shrubs line the creek bed offering fair shad. The soil was generally packed clay.

Altitude: Mouth - 350 feet
 Forks - 720 feet
 Headwaters - West Branch - 800 feet
 Bullock Creek and Gschwend Creek - 1040 feet

Gradient: 275 feet/mile.

Width: Maximum of 3-4 feet near the mouth and decreasing to 1-1½ feet in upper section where water present.

Depth: Maximum of 4-6 inches where even flow is present along lower section decreasing to 2 inches in upper section.

Flow: 2-3 cfs below Bullock Creek forks decreasing above to less than ½ to ¼ cfs.

Velocity: Below Bullock Creek forks a rapidly flowing creek above becomes a slow flowing creek.

Bottom: Predominately in the baseball size range, with section of 3'-4' boulder to bedrock. Limited stretches of walnut sized gravel.

Spawning Areas: Generally poor to fair. The size of bottom composition is too large for good spawning condition.

Pools: Scattered along the stream generally 6x4x2.

Shelter: Fair, formed from undercut banks and rocks or logs. Cover from overhanging trees or brushes is limited along the creek.

Barriers: Approximately ¼ mile upstream from mouth a barrier formed by scattered logs and fill, bay be limit. Generally light to moderate jams present along the creek.

Bullock Creek blocked for migratory fish by a 25 feet bedrock fall. Main fork of West Branch limited by steep gradient beyond Bullock Creek's mouth.

Temperature:	Mouth	Bullock Cr. Mouth	Upper Forks Bullock Cr.
Altitude	350'	720'	1040'
Time	1030	1135	1200
Water Temp.	63°F	66°F	72°F
Air Temp.	74°F	75°F	73°F

Aquatic Plants: Algae present but not abundant.

Pollution: None noted.

Fish Present: Steelhead and silver salmon present ranging from fry to 3-4 inches in length. The creek supports only a small population of fish and appears to have limited success as a spawning stream.

OTHER VERTEBRATES: Frogs and salamanders.

FISHING INTENSITY: Not known.

OTHER RECREATIONAL USES: At present West Branch appears to have no uses other than fishing.

ACCESSIBILITY: Passable road to the forks of West Branch and Bullock Creek, leaves Highway 128 across from Jack's Valley Store north of Philo.

OWNERSHIP: Unknown.

IMPROVEMENTS: Removal of log jams.

GENERAL ESTIMATE: West Branch offers a fair tributary to Indian Creek and can be improved to support a larger population of fish. A total distance of 1½-2 miles can and should be improved.

REFERENCES: U.S.G.S. 15 minute series, Boonville Quad.