

California Department Of Fish And Game

**STREAM SURVEY**

NAME: Lane Creek MARIPOSA COUNTY: Mendocino  
 STREAM SECTION: FROM: Mouth TO: 1¼ mile upstream at rock barrier LENGTH:         
 TRIBUTARY TO: West Branch of Russian River TWP:        R:        SEC:         
 OTHER NAMES: None. Lane Creek RIVER SYSTEM: Russian River  
 SOURCES OF DATA: Personal observation and local residents

<b>EXTENT OF OBSERVATION</b> Include: Name of Surveyor, Date, Etc.
<b>LOCATION</b>
<b>RELATION TO OTHER WATERS</b>
<b>GENERAL DESCRIPTION</b>
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

**EXTENT OF OBSERVATION** - February 21, 1963. Survey Time 2½ hours conducted by Mr. R. J. Hansen, by foot.

**RELATION TO OTHER WATERS** - Reported to be of minor significance as a steelhead spawning area. The flow is intermittent during the summer. Winter flow is approximately 2 c.f.s.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION - Watershed** - Topography rolling foothills, primarily brush, grasslands. Redwood trees along the stream with other conifers on the hillsides. Soil, primarily sandy loam, however some areas clay was observed.

**Immediate Drainage Basin** - Approximately one square mile. Type of basin: upper one-half portion of stream follows through a steep-sided V-shaped canyon. The lower stretch, of a little over one half mile, opens into a narrow valley. Type of channel: lens shape, stream meanders. Vegetation along the stream side primarily redwood trees. They are common.

**Altitude** - at the headwaters is approximately 1300 feet. The altitude at the mouth is 800 feet. That is we have a 500 foot drop in a distance of over one mile.

**Gradient** - moderate

**Width** - average width of stream is approximately 8 feet.

**Depth** - average depth in the riffles is about 6 inches. Average pool depth is approximately 3 feet.

**Flow (range)** - At the time of survey the waterflow was approximately 2 c.f.s. It has been reported by the owner that the stream is intermittent during the summer. The riffle areas dry up and only the major pools remain. Indications of a high torrential flow was observed. It is not known at what height the flows reached.

**Velocity** - Rapid.

**Bottom** - (beginning with the mouth and working upstream) The total distance from the mouth up to a distance upstream of 1250 yards, primarily riffle area. This is broken down as follows: The first 250 yards primarily riffle area, five pools of approximately ten feet wide, 15 feet long and three feet deep. The gravel is primarily fine and coarse rubble. Next 100 yards: primarily riffle area, 4 pools, gravel composed largely of coarse material. Next 250 yards: primarily riffle, 5 pools, gravel is composed primarily of fine rubble and coarse gravel. Next 100 yards: riffle area heavily silted in. The next 550 yards: primarily riffle area, a total of 9 pools, bottom composed primarily of fine rubble, fine gravel and coarse gravel. The upper 650 yards is primarily a pool area. Eleven major pools are in this area. These have the dimensions of ten feet wide, twenty feet long by four feet in depth. No less than 50 minor pools were observed in this area. The gravel composition was coarse. Of the 650 yards of pool area, the uppermost 350 yards is composed almost entirely of boulders.

**Spawning Areas** - The best appearing spawning area is that area which lies 350 yards upstream from the mouth and continues for a distance of 850 yards.

**Shelter**-There appeared to be very little shelter available to steelhead.

**Barriers**-One culvert barrier was observed 150 yards upstream from the mouth of Lane Creek. This barrier is a concrete road culvert, approximately 10' wide, 15' high, and 50' long. There is a vertical drop from the culvert to the pool below of 3 feet. This is definitely a barrier at low flows. It was a barrier at this flow (2 c.f.s.). At a distance upstream of 900 yards from the mouth, an old flashboard dam is a barrier at the lower flows. At high run-off flows it does not appear to be a problem. Three hundred yards above this point, a log jam barrier was observed. It appears not to be a problem at this time. Dimensions are 4' high and 10' across the stream. It was approximately 3' upstream, downstream width. At another distance of 50 yards upstream another log barrier was observed. This barrier may be a problem in the future, but is not anticipated to be a problem at this time. Another log jam which is a definite barrier to fish life was observed at a distance of 100 yards above the above reported potential log jam. Dimensions of this barrier are as follows: It is 4' high, 15' across the stream, and 6' wide in an upstream, downstream direction. At a distance of 50 yards upstream from the last log jam, another log jam was observed. It is most probably a barrier to upstream migration. The dimensions are as follows: 5' high, 20' across the stream, and 5' wide in an upstream, downstream direction. At a distance of 150 yards upstream from the last barrier, another log jam was observed. This is the fifth one in the series. This log jam is very minor and at this time appears to be no problem. In this last stretch of stream, beginning with the first log jam to the last log jam, involves a stream distance of slightly less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile. Approximately 50 yards upstream from the last log jam is a natural rock barrier. At this point there are two definite barriers to fish life. The lower falls was observed to have a vertical drop of 15 feet. Upstream, approximately ten yards, another pool involved was observed. This falls as a vertical drop of ten feet. Continuing upstream another 200 yards, another rock barrier was observed. This barrier has a vertical drop of approximately 20 feet. It is extremely doubtful that fish, even at high flows, would be able to pass the first rock barrier.

**Diversions**-None were observed, however, at a distance of 350 yards upstream from the mouth a dam constructed of earth has been proposed. This dam will inundate 250 yards of stream. It will also be a barrier to upstream migration. The proposed dam site will create a reservoir of approximately 46 acre feet.

**Temperatures**-No temperatures were taken during the survey.

**Food**-A number of rocks were overturned to determine the productivity of the stream. It was observed to be extremely poor for this time of year. Only three dragon fly larvae were observed on all the stones that had been turned.

**Aquatic Plants**-The entire streambed was covered with a brown algal slime, most likely a diatom. The algal concentration could be termed abundant.

**Pollution**-None was observed.

**Springs**-Three tributary streams, each having a flow of approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  c.f.s. was observed entering the main creek. It has been reported that the headwaters of this creek arise from springs.

**FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS**-During the survey only one three-inch fish was observed and this was in the vicinity of the old flashboard dam. Species is unknown. Steelhead runs have been reported to enter this stream, however, in all probability the run is of minor significance.

**OTHER VERTEBRATES**-A considerable number of frogs were observed along the entire stretch of surveyed stream. Few deer tracks were observed. Raccoon tracks were in great abundance.

**FISHING INTENSITY**-Light to none.

**OTHER RECREATIONAL USES** - None.

**ACCESSIBILITY** - The Tomki Road crosses the stream at a point 150 yards upstream from its confluence with the west branch of the Russian River.

**OWNERSHIP** - The ownership is private, owned by a Mr. Easterbrook, Route 1, Box 160, Ukiah.

**POSTED OR OPEN** - Stream is closed to the public.

**IMPROVEMENTS** - None.

**PAST STOCKING** - None.

**GENERAL ESTIMATE** - Since the new dam will limit upstream accessibility of migratory fish there are no management plans for this stream. In view of the small area above the dam site, accessible to upstream migrating fish, the Department does not recommend a fish passage facility to be included in the dam construction.

**SKETCH MAP** - attached. [sic]

**REFERENCES AND MAPS** - ~~The best reference is~~ the U. S. Army Corp of Engineers, California Pomo Quadrangle, Grid zone G.

R. J. Hansen:nn