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Eureka File
CDFG

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LITTLE LOST MAN CREEK

Aug 17, 1961

Tributary to: Prairie Creek - Humboldt County

Mouth Location: T. 11N, R. 1E., Section 23 NW. Quarter - Orick Quad.
1952

Accessibility: Four miles north of Orick on Highway 101 a logging road on the east side of the highway crosses the stream about one-half mile above the mouth.

DRAINAGE

Little Lost Man Creek drains approximately 3,200 surface acres of densely forested mountainous terrain. From its origin at 2,000 feet the stream flows for 5 miles in a northwesterly direction to confluence with Prairie Creek at an elevation of 70 feet.

In this area the humidity is high, there is frequent fog, and the rainfall averages between 80-90 inches per year.

STREAM CONDITIONS

Physical Profile: In this stream there is sufficient gravel for spawning; about 3,500 feet of suitable spawning area was observed. The stream width was estimated at 3 to 6 feet; depth 5 inches; 2 to 3 cfs; pool-riffle ratio 2:1.

HABITAT DESCRIPTION

Dense vegetation (willows, alders, berryvines, etc.) coupled with abundant pools and undercut banks afford ample shelter and nursery area for young fish. Large amounts of aquatic life were observed.

STREAM OBSTRUCTIONS

Log Jams: Fourteen log jams, totaling 63,600 cubic feet, were observed.

Natural Barriers: Approximately 2 miles from the mouth a series of falls ranging from 8 to 17 feet were encountered.

Culverts: The culvert under Highway 101 does not impede fish migration.

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FISHERIES

Salmonids in small numbers were observed in the area below the falls - nothing reported above the falls. This stream probably adds sufficiently to the fisheries in Prairie Creek.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In the lower portion of the stream small amounts of domesticated trash were encountered.

SUMMARY

Little Lost Man Creek drains approximately 3,200 surface areas of mountainous area.

Stream width 3-6 feet; depth 5 inches; cfs 2-3.

Sufficient spawning area available.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Remove log jams.

Manage as an anadromous fish stream.

Surveyed by: Ervine Martindale

Surveyed on: August 17, 1961

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