

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.
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

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.

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