STATE OF CALIFORNIA—RESOURCES AGENCY RONALD REAGAN, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
1001 Jedsmith Drive
Sacramento, California 95819

May 3, 1973

Mr. Don A. La Faunce
Associate Fishery Biologist
Department of Fish and Game
Post Office Box 4598
Eureka, California 95501

Dear Don:

Your candlefish pictures are great. I expect I will be running two of them. (Dave with a net full of fish and the closeup of fish in the water.) There is a real good long shot of schools of fish headed upstream and another of fish spread out on the bank. I would think those 4 and perhaps one more would make swell illustrations for a short Outdoor California or California Fish and Game article--but if you want to try it ask Doug Martin (for Outdoor California) or Carol Ferrel (for CF&G) before going to work.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Donald H. Fry, Jr.
Senior Marine Biologist

DHF:alg

Give my thanks to Dave too.

RECEIVED
MAY 7 1973
Department of Fish & Game
Eureka

Dear Mr. Cox

Yours very faithfully,

Donald H. Ely, Jr.
Section Medicine Biologist

DHE:lr

RECEIVED
[illegible]
Department of Public Health

Redwood Creek, Humboldt County

(Field Note)

Tributary to: Pacific Ocean

Date of Survey: April 23, 24, 25, 1973

Purpose of Survey: Obtain needed information on candlefish Thaleichthys pacificus from mouth to upstream end of Redwood National Park boundary.

Method of Survey: Observations and photography.

Equipment Used: Camera

Surveyors: Don La Faunce, Dave Rogers, Len Rudder

Observations: On April 19, 1973 word reached Fish and Game, Eureka that candlefish were running in Redwood Creek and that a commercial fisherman had made a 2500 lb. delivery to one of the local fish processors. On April 23, La Faunce and Rogers observed the fishery and took pictures in the vicinity of Orick and downstream to the mouth. The fish were running in such numbers that can only be described as "millions".

On April 24 and 25 the run was slowing down and great numbers of fish were seen drifting downstream.

An attempt was made to determine the upstream limits of their migration. They were found to be passing Tom McDonald Creek, a tributary 12.5 miles above the mouth, in greatly reduced numbers. They were not observed 4.0 miles farther upstream and it was assumed that they probably got as far as Bridge Creek, 15 miles from the ocean.

The bulk of the sport fishery was occurring immediately below the mouth of Prairie Creek, along the levee. Anglers reported a male to female ratio on the order of 100:1 and all of the fish were at least partially spent. Fish caught near the mouth of Redwood Creek comprised about ½ females and were all ripe.

None of the fish were observed in the tributaries.

The last large run of candlefish in Redwood Creek occurred in 1967.

Written by: Dave Rogers

DR:vmc
5-1-73