CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

STREAM SURVEY

FILE FORM

No.											
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NAME. EAST BRANCH BIG RIVER	COUNTY Mendocino						
STREAM SECTION. FROM MOUTH							
TRIBUTARY TO North Fork Big River							
OTHER NAMES None Known	- RIVER SYSTEM Big River						
sources of DATA. Personal observations							

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 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 Pollution

EXTENT OF OBSERVATION- This tributary was walked out from the mouth upstream 1 mile on 11-3-58 by R.F. Elwell.

LOCATION- This tributary rises immediately south of TWO ROCK LOOKOUT, flows south and west and enters the North Fork of Big River at North Fork Camp approximately 2 miles south of Dunlap.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Watershed and Immediate Drainage Basin- This tributary is located in a rugged, mountainous, well-wooded coastal redwood drainage. It flows through a relatively small densely wooded canyon characterized by dense conifer-tan oak stream shade throughout.

Altitud<u>e-</u>

Gradient - Moderate to shallow in the lower section.

Width- Average 6 ft. (2-15ft.).

Depth - Average 8 in. (4in.-1 ft.).

 $\underline{{\tt Flow}}$ -Estimated 2 c.f.s. throughout the one mile section above the mouth.

Velocity - Rapid throughout.

Bottom - Gravel and rubble.

Spawning Areas - Considered excellent throughout the entire one-mile lower section.

Pools - Medium-sized, scattered throughout the one mile section.

<u>Shelter</u> - Considered good, being in the form of under-cut banks and rock <u>Barriers</u> -One barrier 5 ft. high x 15 ft. long x 20 ft. wide was observed 50 ft. above the mouth of the stream. It is no barrier at the present as water has cut a channel between it and the bank. However, it may become a barrier in the future. Diversions - None observed.

<u>Temperatures</u> - Probably range well below 70° in the summer months in the well-wooded sections.

Food - Not checked.

Aquatic Plants - None observed.

<u>Winter Conditions</u> - This tributary appears to be subject to fairly heavy runoff during winter period.

<u>Pollution</u> - None observed.

Springs - None observed.

FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS - Salmonids averaging 3-4 inches in length were observed to be very common throughout the entire one mile section above the mouth. Their success and natural propagation is considered good.

 ${\tt OTHER}$ <code>VERTEBRATES</code> - Salamanders were fairly common throughout the section observed. FISHING INTENSITY - Unknown.

EAST BRACH BIG RIVER Mendocino County

OTHER RECREATIONAL USE - None known.

Accessibility - Accessible in the mid-and upper sections by a road reported to exist by Forest Service personnel. The lower section is accessible via foot from the end of road TS-3 which intersects Highway 20 several miles west of Dunlap.

OWNERSHIP - UNKNOWN.

POSTED OR OPEN - Open.

 $\overline{\text{IMPROVEMENTS}}$ - It would be desirable to have the log jam noted at the mouth removed.

PAST STOCKING - None known.

GENERAL ESTIMATE - This tributary appears to be an excellent spawning area and nursery grounds for anadromous fishes of the Big River drainage. Although a small amount of silt was noted along the stream on this date, there was no evidence of extensive logging operations

<u>RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT</u> - The removal of the log jam noted at the mouth of this tributary should be considered. It is possible personnel from the Perlin Honor Camp, working in the immediate vicinity, might remove this barrier. Otherwise, this tributary should continue to be managed as a spawning and nursery grounds for andromous fish.

SKETCH MAP - See attached.

REFERENCES AND MAPS - Mendocino County south half CDF 1948.

R.F. Elwell:cd

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EAST BRANCH BIG RIVER

(Tributary to North Fork Big River)

Jams and Barriers

1. One barrier \$ ft high x 15 ft long x 20 ft wide was observed 50 ft. above the mouth of the stream. It is no barrier at the present as water has cut a channel between it and the bank. However, it may become a barrier in the future.