

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

STREAM SURVEY

FILE FORM

No.....

NAME..... Unnamed Tributary.....COUNTY..... Mendocino.....

STREAM SECTION.....FROM..... mouth.....TO..... headwaters.....LENGTH..... 2 mi.....

TRIBUTARY TO..... South Fork Big River.....Twp..... 16N.....R..... 14W.....Sec..... 25.....

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
- 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- This tributary was walked out from the mouth upstream to .0 miles on November 8, 1958 by R.F. Elwell.

LOCATION- Heads in rugged mountainous terrain due south of Leanord Lake, flows west and south and enters the South Fork of Big River .7 miles below the Orr's Springs Resort.

RELATION TO OTHER WATERS- Although at one time this tributary may have had considerable fisheries value, in its present condition, after being logged off, it is considered to be a fairly unimportant tributary to the South Fork for spawning anadromous fishes.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION-Watershed and Immediate Drainage Basin- This tributary, located in the coastal redwood drainage, heads in a rugged, mountainous, well-wooded terrain, in a transition zone with oak-grassland-conifer association. The creek flows through a fairly broad open canyon with similar cover in the mid-section. This entire canyon had been logged in the past although there is considerable second growth cover. The lower section flows through a narrow canyon with fair streamside shade (madrone-bay-oak). There is considerable debris in the creek bottom throughout its entire length. None of these debris constituted complete barriers.

Altitude-
Gradient - Fairly steep in the headwaters section, moderate in the mid and lower sections.

Width- Average 4 ft. (2-8ft.).

Depth - Average 1 ft. (3in.-2 ft.).

Flow - Estimate .1 c.f.s. to ¼ c.f.s. intermittent.

Velocity - Sluggish throughout.

Bottom - Silt and some gravel in the upper sections, fairly large amounts of gravel in the lower ¾ mile.

Spawning Areas - Generally fair to poor. These areas are scattered throughout the entire stream, the best being located in the lower ½ and ¾ mile sections.

Pools - Fair in the lower mile, poor above.

Shelter - Being in the form of logging debris, undercut banks.

Barriers - Considerable logging debris (old) in the creek constitute partial barriers from the mouth upstream for at least two miles. None of these are considered to be complete barriers.

Diversions - None observed.

Temperatures - Probably range in the mid-70s throughout the entire stream section during the summer months.

Food - Not checked.

Aquatic Plants - None observed.

Winter Conditions - This tributary sustains a moderately heavy runoff during the winter period.

Pollution - Mainly in the form of erosion from bare stream sides.

Springs - None observed.

Fishes Present and Success - RT-SH averaging 3-5 in. in length were fairly common in the lower $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of stream. None were observed above this section. Their success is considered to be fair.

Other Vertebrates - Frogs and salamanders fairly common throughout the entire section.

Fishing Intensity - None.

Other Recreational Use - None known.

Accessibility - This tributary is accessible by a dirt road which parallels the creek upstream 1.5 miles. This road is located .7 mile below the Orr's Springs Resort. It has a locked gate a short distance up the streambed.

Ownership - Privately owned.

Posted or Open - Posted by the Ridgewood Lumber Company. Owner, Singley.

Improvements - None required at this time.

Past Stocking - None known.

General Estimate - This tributary in its present condition, appears to constitute very little to the Big River Fishery. Past logging has left the stream in its usual miserable mess. The best area for fish production is considered to be in the lower one mile. The stream above this point is not important enough to warrant rehabilitation measures.

Recommended Management - Would recommend leaving the stream as it is. Anadromous fish can utilize the lower section of the stream as a spawning and nursery area.

Sketch Map - See attached.

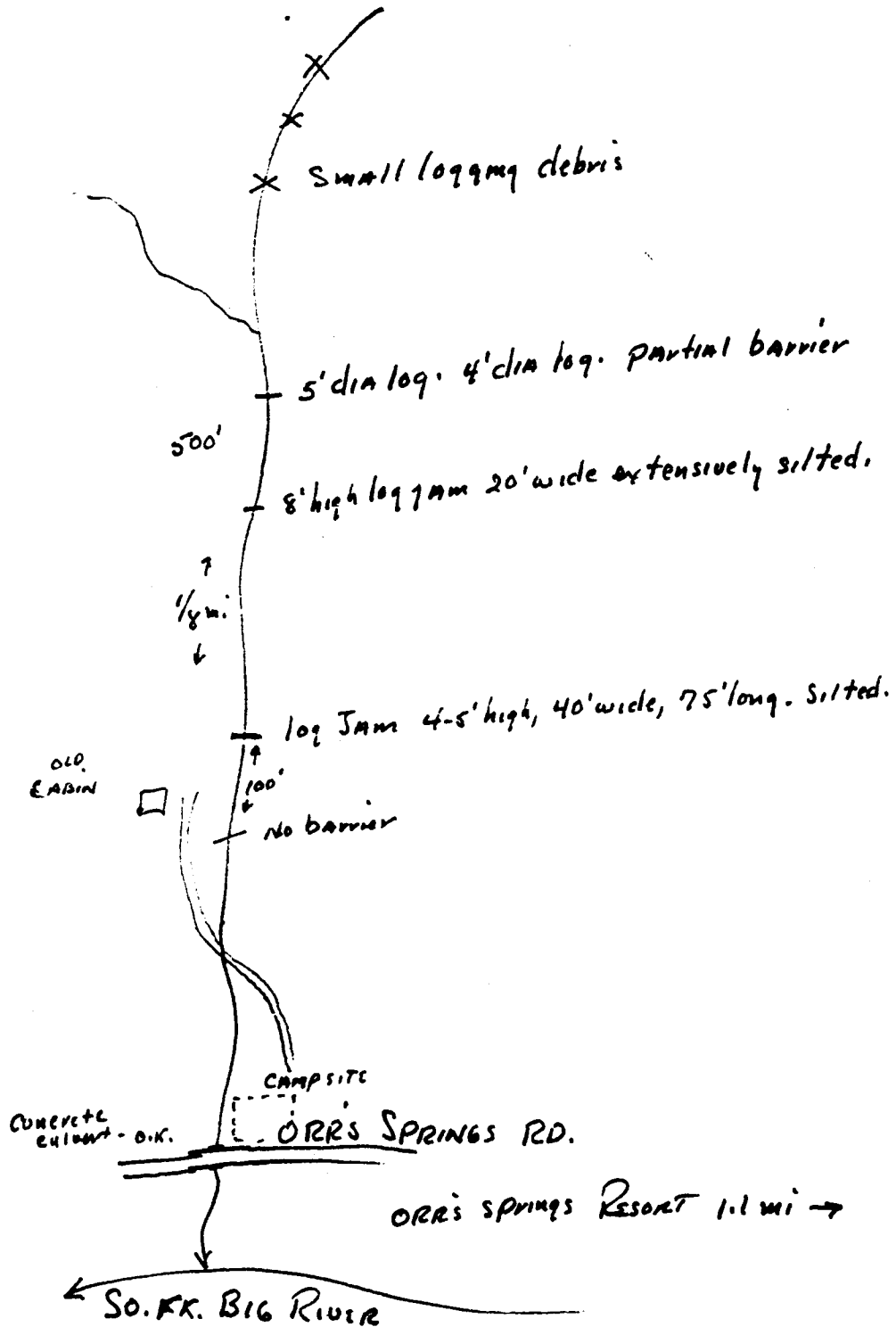
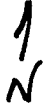
References and Maps - CDF Mendocino County south half 1948.

R.F. Elwell:cd

UNNAMED TRIBUTARY TO
SOUTH FK, BIG RIVER
MENDOCINO CO.

11-8-58

R.F.E.



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SO. FK. BIG RIVER,
MENDOCINO CO.
11-8-58

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