

THE RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

**STREAM SURVEY**

FILE FORM NO:..... DATE:.....

**NAME**.....Navarro River.....**COUNTY**....Mendocino.....  
**STREAM SECTION**..Entire.. **FROM**..Confluence of Anderson & Rancheria Creeks. **To**..Mouth.. **LENGTH**...28 mi..  
**TRIBUTARY TO**.....Pacific Ocean..... **TWP**...15N... **R**...18W..... **SEC**.....4.....  
**OTHER NAMES**.....None.....**RIVER SYSTEM**.....Navarro River.....  
**SOURCES OF DATA**..Personal Observation, information from Masonite Corporation,..Foresters;.....  
.....California State Beaches and Parks Personnel.....

- 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 - John Rowell and Robert Keller spot checked the area between the mouth of Anderson/Rancheria Creeks and the Greenwood Ridge Road crossing from the road on September 12, 1962. The section from the Greenwood Ridge Road to the tidewaters was walked out on September 13, 1962.

LOCATION - The Navarro River roughly parallels State Route 128 beginning about 1/2 mile south of Philo and ending in the Pacific Ocean at the intersection of the State Routes 1 and 128.

RELATION TO OTHER WATERS - The Navarro River is a major coastal river with extensive steelhead and/or rainbow trout spawning and nursery areas.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**

Watershed and Immediate Drainage Basin - The Navarro River flows in a steep sided U-shaped canyon within the coastal Redwood belt, flowing in a northwesterly direction. It drains approximately 400 square miles. From the mouth to approximately the Greenwood road, the terrain is steep sided and U shaped. From the Greenwood road upstream rolling grassland hills are to the north. Fairly steep, evergreen covered hills to the south. Soil is mostly sandy loam. Cultivation consists of apple and pear orchards plus some grass pasture in the upper third of the drainage; none in the lower 2/3. Redwood, fir, beech, oak, madrone and poplars are the predominant cover.

Altitude - 240 feet ,at the upper end dropping to sea level at the mouth.

Gradient - Slight dropping at the rate of 75 feet per mile.

Width - Summertime 3-4' throughout the entire stream. Winter time 20-50' throughout. Dimmick State Park the Navarro River widens out to about 40 feet.

Depth - Summertime 4-8" with an average of 6" throughout.

Flow - 3 cfs at the upper end measured by the float method. 5 cfs near the lower end.

Velocity - Sluggish throughout.

Bottom - 60% gravel, 20% rubble and 20% sand. Proportions were consistent throughout.

Spawning Areas - 90% of the Navarro River was very good for silver salmon, king salmon, steelhead and/or rainbow trout. Gravel was loose, with some sand mixed in.

Pools - Pools were well developed throughout. They are created by current action around boulders and river bends. The upper area contained 50% pools measuring 10x20x3' deep. lower area pool development was 75% with an average size of 20x60x4' deep.

Shelter - Good in the form of rubble and boulders and overhanging terrestrial plants.

Barriers - There were no barriers found, however, there were several seasonal gravel dams impounded water for swimming purposes. The swimming pool dams are located at the : ' the county roads leading south from Philo

Diversions - None observed.

Temperatures - Taken at mid-day and midafternoon, temperatures tend to stabilize between 65-70°F. The air temperature was 75° maximum for these two days in September.

Food - Caddis fly larvae were quite; abundant in the riffle areas. May flies were numerous throughout.

Aquatic Plants - a few snort, sections at the river bottom was covered with green algae.

Winter Conditions - Generally mild throughout its entire length, however, because of the extensive tributary drainage any heavy rainfall would result in flood stages in the Navarro River.

Pollution - None observed.

Springs - None observed.

**FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS** - The success of steelhead and/or rainbow trout was very good. Their condition was good and the natural propagation was good. They ranged in size from 4 to 10". In the upper third of the river the steelhead numbered approximately 90 per 100 feet. In the lower section they numbered approximately 50 per 100 feet. Roach were abundant throughout the entire stream section. They ranged from 2"-4". Their success was good, their condition was good and natural propagation was good. They numbered approximately 200-300 per 100 feet. A few suckers were present at the rate of 20 per 100 feet. They ranged in size from 1-6". Their success was good, their condition was good and natural propagation fair, A few sticklebacks were noted approximately 10 per 100 ft. section. They ranged in size from 1-3". No silver salmon were found throughout the Main Navarro River. All species of fish seemed more numerous above the Greenwood Ridge bridge. The average size of the fishes present was as follows:

Steelhead	6"
Roach	2.5"
Suckers	4"
Stickleback	1.5"

**OTHER VERTEBRATES** - Deer were quite numerous. A few raccoons, snakes and some sheep were observed.

**FISHING INTENSITY** - Seemed to be light and mostly by local people. The river is closed to fishing the year round from Greenwood Ridge Road (river's rest) to the tidewaters.

**OTHER RECREATIONAL USES** - Much of the stream is utilized, for swimming, picnicking and camping.

**ACCESSIBILITY** - Access in the area between the confluence of Anderson/Rancheria Creek: to Hendy State Park is by county road from Philo through several resorts on the river. A road through Hendy State Park provides access at several points from the Greenwood Ridge road bridge a Masonite Corporation logging road runs parallel to the river throughout most of its remaining length. . A road paralleling Tramway Gulch connects this logging road with Highway 128. The gate is on the east side of the north fork Navarro River Ridge. Permission for access and keys can be obtained from Masonite Corporation, Ukiah.

**OWNERSHIP** - California Dept. of Parks, Masonite Corporation, Ukiah and various private land owners.

**POSTED OR OPEN** - Private land and parts of Masonite Corporation land are posted. In the lower area where Highway 128 runs quite close to the river it is not posted.

**IMPROVEMENTS** - This river is in excellent shape, therefore, no improvements are needed.

**PAST STOCKING** - None known.

**GENERAL ESTIMATE** - The Navarro River is a wide bottom stream capable of carrying large amounts of water during winter months. This river runs in a general northwest direction through the Coastal Redwood Belt. With its numerous tributaries the Navarro River encompasses 400 square miles. The bottom is composed of good salmonoid spawning gravel. There were no log jams or debris present in the river. This is due to the wide streambed and large winter flows. Steelhead and/or rainbow trout were present in the upper areas. Roach were very numerous throughout. A few suckers and stickleback were also present. Summertime flows were adequate and the water temperature was in the mid 60's.

**RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT** - This river should be managed for salmon and trout fisheries. Both spawning and nursery. No stocking or rough fish control is needed at the present time.

**SKETCH MAP** - Attached

**REFERENCES AND MAPS** - Three maps were used for reference:

- 1) USGS 11½ minute series Topographic map, Boonville Quadrangle Advance Sheet 1962.
- 2) Masonite Corporation, Ukiah, California Property and Topographic Map based on War Department maps 1943
- 3) US Dept. of Interior Geological Survey 15 minute series. Topographic map Boonville quadrangle. 1959.

NAVARRO RIVER  
 T. 15 N. R. 18 W. SEC. 4  
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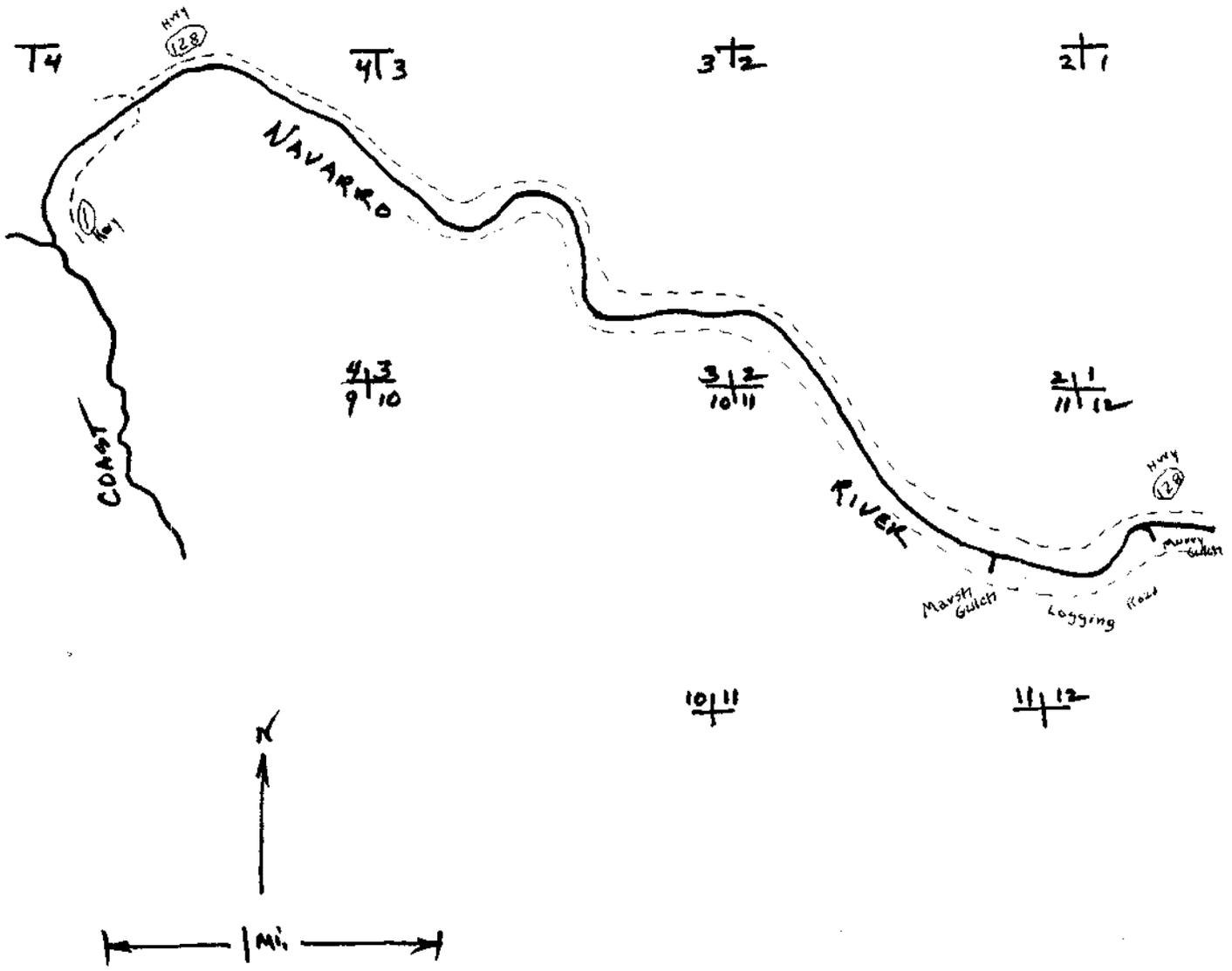
Spawning and Nursery Area in miles

1. Now satisfactory for SH & SS 28

2. To be improved 0

3. Available after improvement 28

Surveyor: Rowell + Keller



Add 0% for dabs not listed  
 between Numbered Barriers

NAVARRO RIVER  
 T. 15 N. R. 18 W. SEC. 4  
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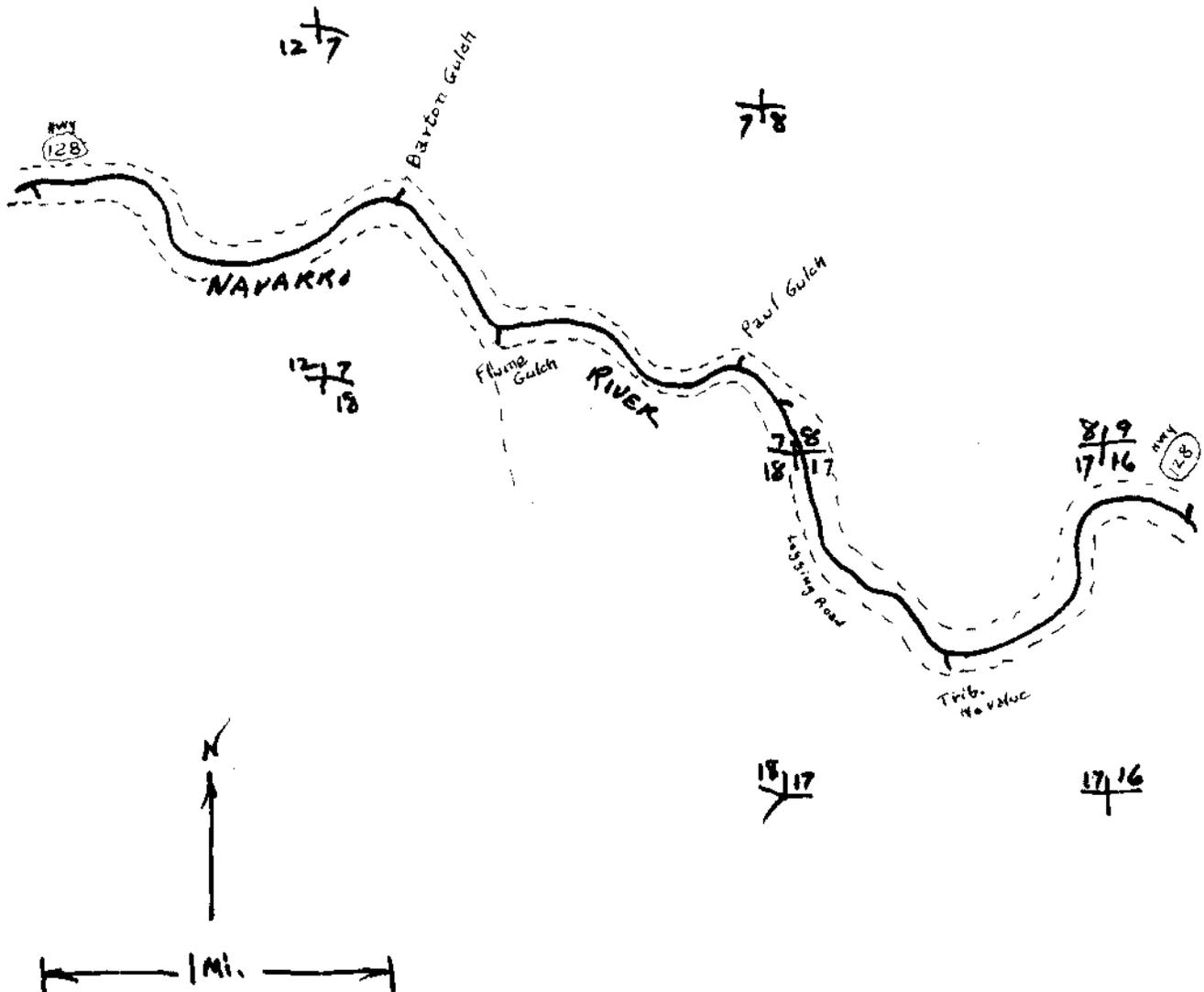
Spawning and Nursery Area in miles

1. Now satisfactory for SH & SS \_\_\_\_\_

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Surveyor \_\_\_\_\_

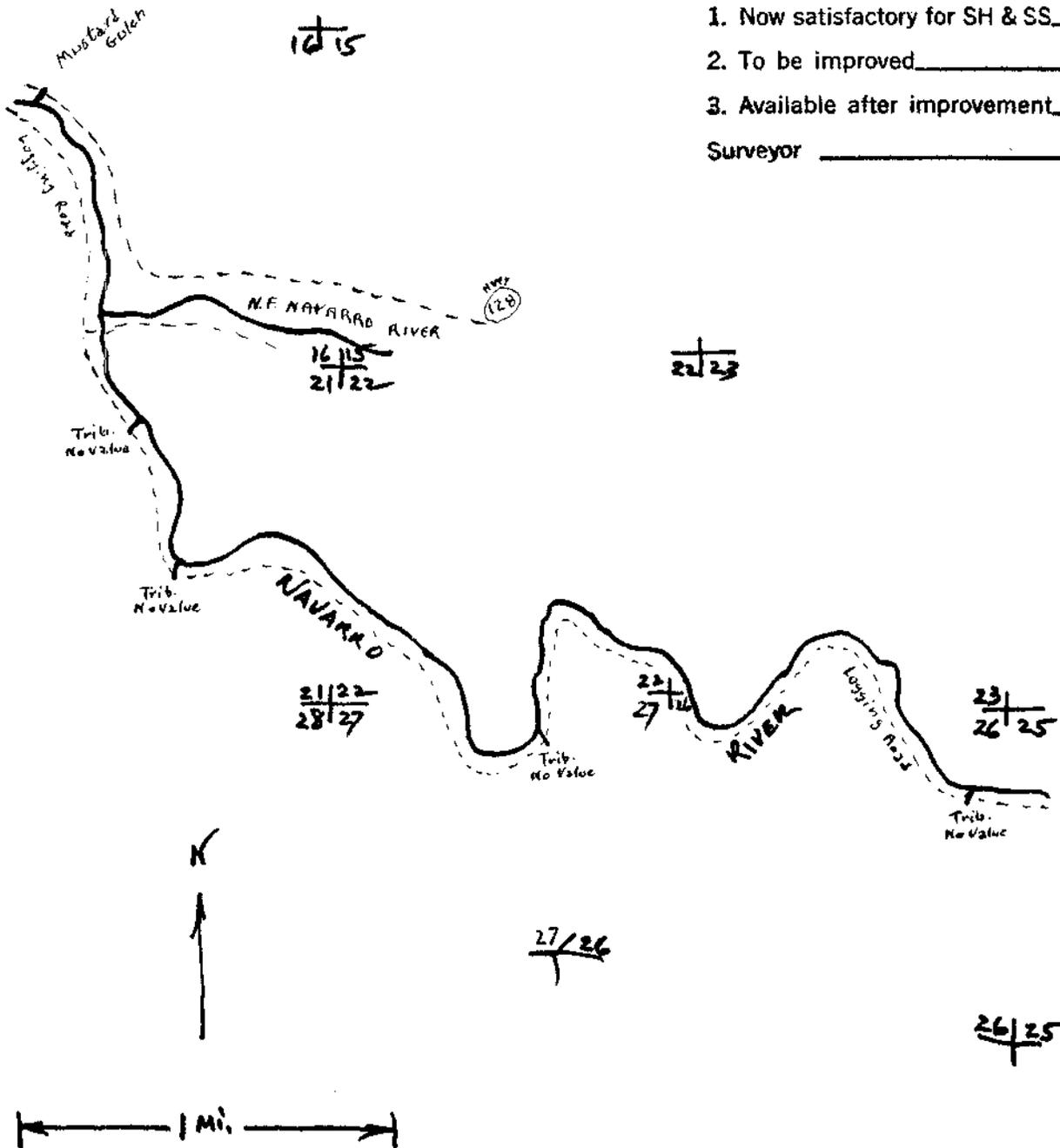


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T. 15N. R. 18W. SEC. 4.  
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Spawning and Nursery Area in miles

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- Surveyor \_\_\_\_\_



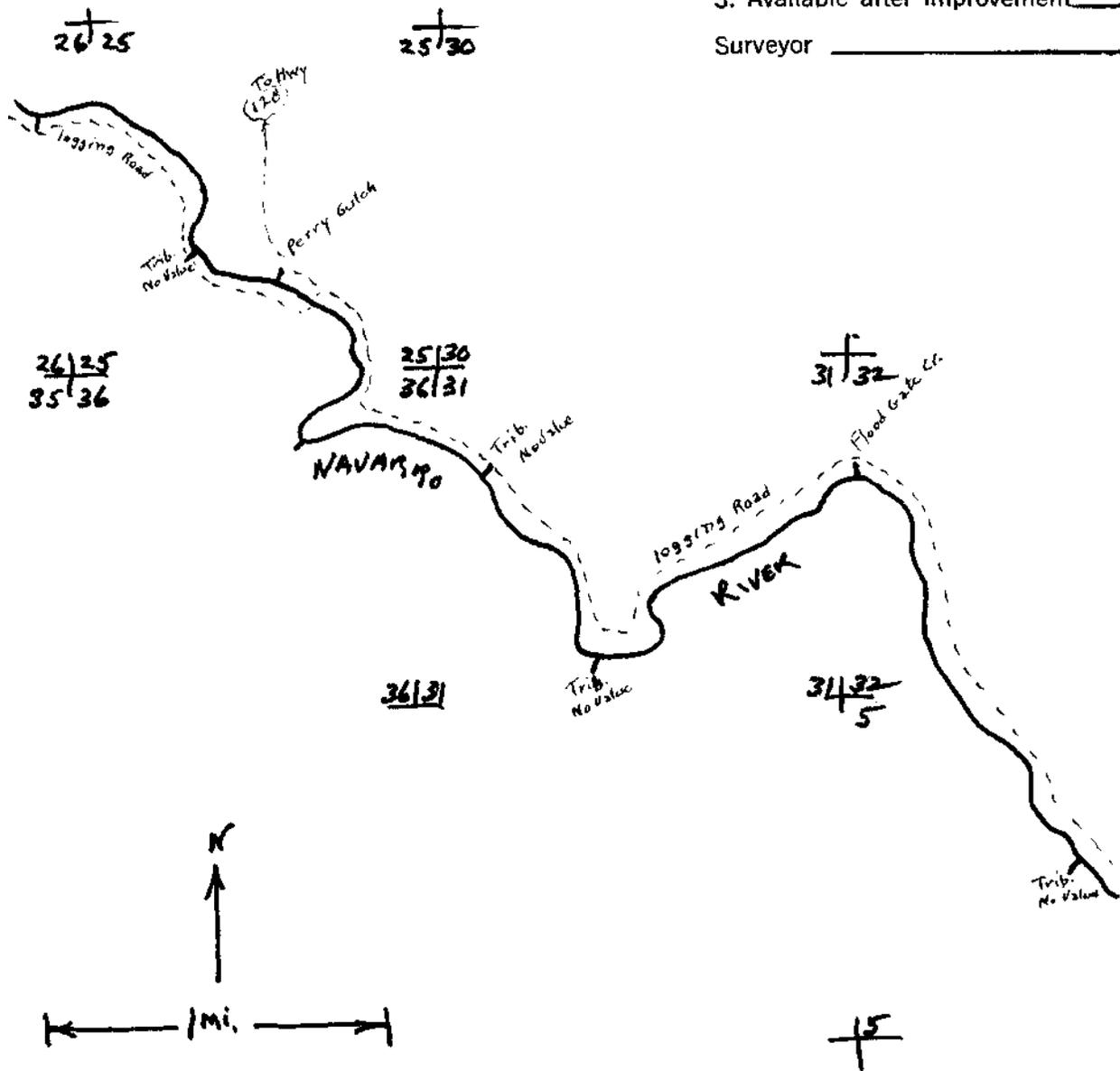
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T. 15 N. R. 18. W. SEC. 4

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Spawning and Nursery Area in miles

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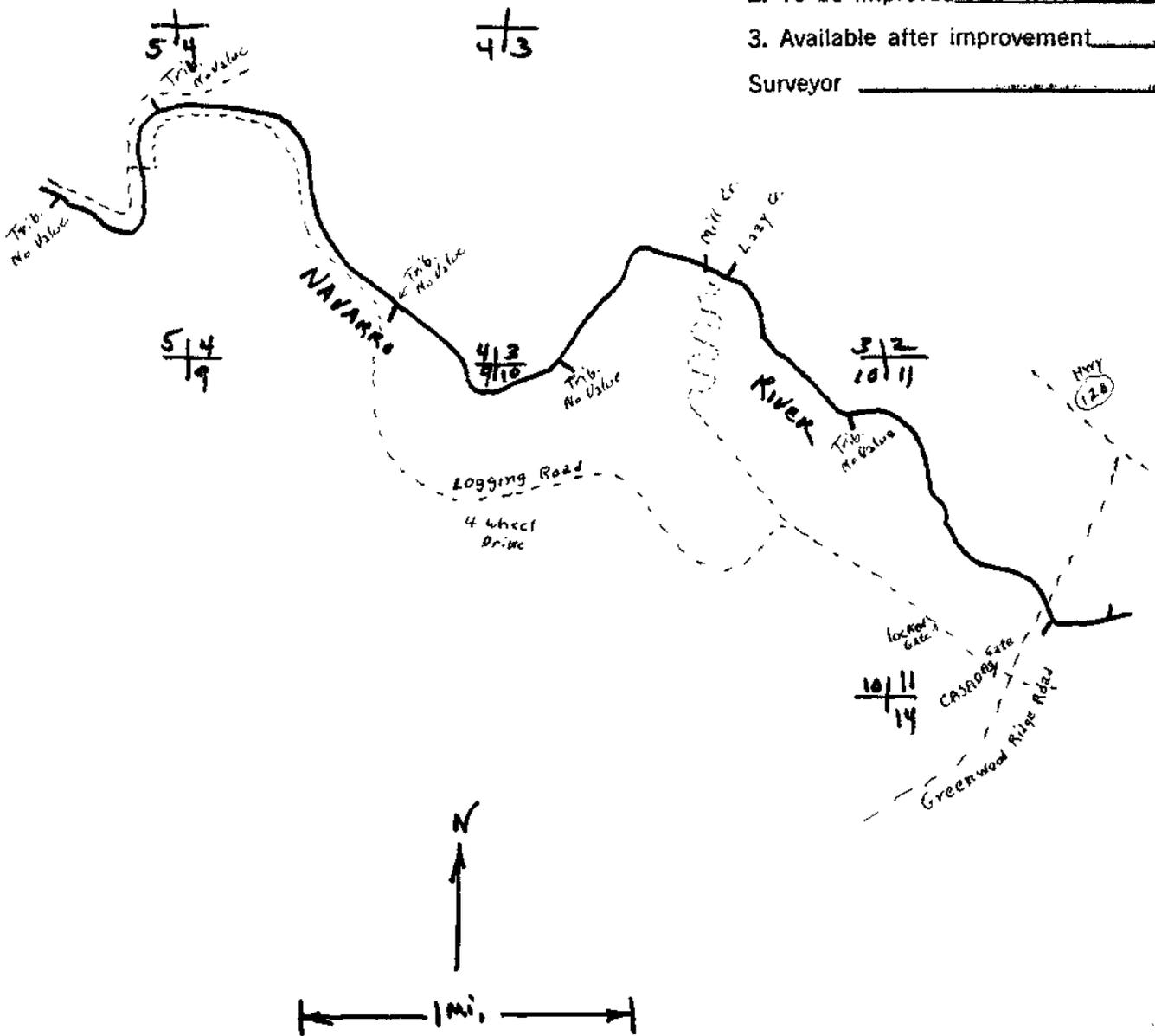


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T. 15N. R. 18W. SEC. 4  
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Spawning and Nursery Area In miles

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 T. 15N. R. 18W. SEC. 4  
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Spawning and Nursery Area in miles

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Surveyor \_\_\_\_\_

11/12

