

Field Notes

June 9, 1953: Warden Groves reported on this date that a new run of adult steelhead took place on June 4 and 5 in the Garcia River. The majority of the fish were pooled up at the foot of the falls. This is unusual for so late in the year. Groves also reported that the job of eradicating the falls last winter was incomplete. A few adult steelhead did get over the falls during the winter run, and they and their redds were seen" by a number of individuals this spring. The Union Lumber Company is planning to finish their job this fall even if it means re-routing the stream at a point near the falls. HEP:

Aug. 3, 1954: Inspected logging operations in company of Jones and McKerlie. Est. flow 1/2 cfs. Water dark clear and possessing a strong odor. Bottom coated with a thin film; no fishlife observed. This type of debris in stream is definitely deleterious to fishlife. This is the Don Ford logging operation. It was stated that he will be cutting in this area for the next 5 years. WAE:mm

Aug. 3, 1954: The river was examined in the upper headwaters area where the road parallels the stream. A very slight gradient exists; the channel is open and a gravel bottom is present. Appears particularly suited for spawning purposes; no sign of fishlife was found although an est. flow of 1 cfs was present. What the limiting factor is, is not known; possibly high summer water temperature. WAE:mm

Dec. 6, 1955: North Fk. --- Don MacKinsey of the Hollow Tree Lumber Co. and I went to the north fork of the Garcia in Section 5 where logging was carried out this summer. This area \pm s below the reported falls which is a barrier to salmon and steelhead. This barrier consists of several large boulders wedged into a very narrow stream channel. These boulders have created falls approximately 20 feet tall. The gradient slope of the stream is very steep, being boulder strewn and relatively a poor spawning stream. This logging area below the barrier was fairly clean of debris, although several old log jams exist. The logging contractor cleared up his debris in the stream, but he was very reluctant in removing these older log jams. It was also noted the complete absence of soil erosion prevention measures on the logging roads and skid trails. It was summarized to Mr. MacKinsey that the area on Inman Creek was to be cleared out. Also that no soil erosion measures were taken in their logging operations was pointed out to him. GH:ss

Aug. 9, 1956: Garcia Falls - I once again tried to contact Mr. Cox, the owner of the land where the falls are situated. Mr. Cox wasn't at home but in talking to his son, Tom, they are still reluctant to give us permission to construct the tunnel pipe fishway around the falls. They indicated that we could do any amount of blasting of the falls that we would want. I believe that the situation that exists at the falls can be adequately remedied by blasting and I feel that we should proceed with this idea in mind being that we are having so much trouble in obtaining permission to construct the fishway. I believe that contact should be made with Elton Bailey, George Warner and John Thorp and an explanation given as to the situation we are in and ask them for their opinions on this alternate plan. GH:dk

GARCIA RIVER
Mendocino County

Sept. 5, 1956: Garcia Falls - Mr. Tom Cox was again contacted as requested, by Mr. Evans. This contact was made in reference to obtaining his approval of construction of the tunnel type fishway. Mr. Cox's attitude towards our plan of constructing this tunnel type fishway is the same and he will not consider any fishway whatsoever. He feels that blasting is the only answer, and I believe if we continue to pursue the construction of any fishway any further, our relationship with Mr. Cox will be weakened tremendously. Blasting was one of the alternate plans submitted by the Engineering Section in the correction of this falls and should be considered in our future plan of elimination of this salmon and steelhead barrier.
GH:dk