

STREAM SURVEY

FILE FORM No....

Date October 2, 1967

NAME..... Middle Fork of North Fork Noyo River..... COUNTY ...Mendocino.....

STREAM SECTION ...entire.....FROM..... mouth... TOend fish value.....LENGTH 1 mi.

TRIBUTARY TO North Fork of Noyo River..... TWP 19N..... R 15W..... Sec 29.....

OTHER NAMES... None known..... RIVER SYSTEM Noyo River

SOURCES OF DATA... Personal observation

- 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)
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 - Spawning Areas
 - Pools
 - Shelter
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- FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS
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EXTENT OF OBSERVATION - Middle Fork was surveyed on August 18, 1966. The survey required one morning, and was done entirely on foot. Surveyor : Brian Edie.

LOCATION AND RELATION TO OTHER WATERS - Middle Fork is a headwater tributary to North Fork. It enters the larger stream approximately 5.25 miles above Northspur. It is important as it contributes significantly to the summer flow of the North Fork, and is valuable as a winter spawning and summer nursery stream.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION -
Watershed and Immediate Drainage Basin - Middle Fork drains approximately 24 sq. miles. The stream channel runs through an open valley towards the Southwest. The actual channel meanders quite a bit particularly near the mouth, and is lense shaped.

Along the streamside the vegetation is abundant consisting of the following species: Redwood, Douglas fir, tan oak, alder, huckleberry, and sword fern. This vegetation is fairly consistent along the entire length of the stream, but with a rise in the number of redwoods and a diminishing of tan oaks and alders as you near the headwaters.

Altitude - Mouth - 530 ft.; end fish value - 700 ft.

Gradient - 170 ft./mi. Moderate gradient.

Width - Pools - 8 ft.-3 ft. -10 ft. Riffle - 3 ft., 2ft. - 6 ft.

Depth - Riffle-2 in. 1 in. - 3 in.

Flow - At mouth - .50 c.f.s.

Velocity - Rapid to moderate.

Bottom - Section 1: Riffle, coarse rubble - 15%, fine rubble -20%, coarse gravel - 25%, fine gravel - 20%, sand/silt - 20%. Pool - coarse gravel-10%, fine gravel-15%, sand-40%, silt-35%. Riffle-boulders-20%, coarse rubble-30%, fine rubble-25%, coarse gravel 15%, fine gravel, silt and sand 10%.

Spawning area - Spawning areas are plentiful in the stream. Little silt in riffle areas; gravel good for silver salmon and steelhead spawning.

Pools - Frequency of pools in section is good. They are caused by undercut banks and the digging action of the current, also responsible are logs in the stream. In general the pools are small average size being 8'-10'long, 3' wide and 1.5' deep.

Shelter - Shelter is good in the stream; most shelter is provided by undercut banks and Roots. Boulders and logs in the stream also give some shelter.

Barriers - Three log jams and two log falls are present on the stream. Only one is of major size but also marks the end of the fish value. All the other barriers are only slight hindrances to the passage of the fish. Barrier #5 - 40'x30'x10'. Barrier #3 - 3' falls. Barrier #4 - 3' falls.

Diversions - none

Temperatures - (at mouth) Air - **68°**, H2O - **61°**, 10:20

Food - Aquatic insects are very abundant in the stream.

Aquatic plants - Horsetails and grasses are present along the streamside. Little moss can be found near the stream. Algae is common in the stream.

Winter conditions - During the winter the average stream width is approximately 15 ft., the average depth 2 ft. Velocity is rapid.

Pollution - None

Springs - None of significance

FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS - Both silver salmon and steelhead are present in the stream. Both fish are abundant (for each species est. 150/fish/100 ft.) in the stream. Their size is about average when compared to fish in other streams. Steelhead average **1½"**, range 1"-4". Salmon average 2", range **1½"-3"**.

OTHER VERTEBRATES - California redleg frogs were numerous Smooth skin newts were also present.

FISHING INTENSITY - Light

OTHER RECREATIONAL USE - Some hunting on watershed.

ACCESSIBILITY - Two routes are available for access to the mouth. (1) Sherwood Road from Fort Bragg to Hayworth Creek Road. Hayworth Creek Road to North Fork crossing then north .25 miles to mouth of Middle Fork. (locked gate at entrance.) To Hayworth Road p Union Lumber Co. (2) Highway 20 to Irmulco Road - Irmulco Road to Northspur - North from North Spur to Hayworth Creek Road - Hayworth Creek Road to Mouth Middle Fork, Road alongside creek much of distance to end of fish value.

OWNERSHIP- Aborigine Lumber Co.

POSTED OR OPEN - The land is posted.

IMPROVEMENTS - No improvement seems necessary at this time, the few log jams are not serious barriers to the fish.

PAST STOCKING - Not known

GENERAL ESTIMATE - The physical environment presented to the fish by Middle Fork seems excellent for the production of salmon and steelhead. No problems are apparent and regulations are adequate.

RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT- Management is not necessary on this stream. The silver salmon and steelhead are being given the nearly the maximum of favorable conditions possible.

SKETCH MAP - Attached

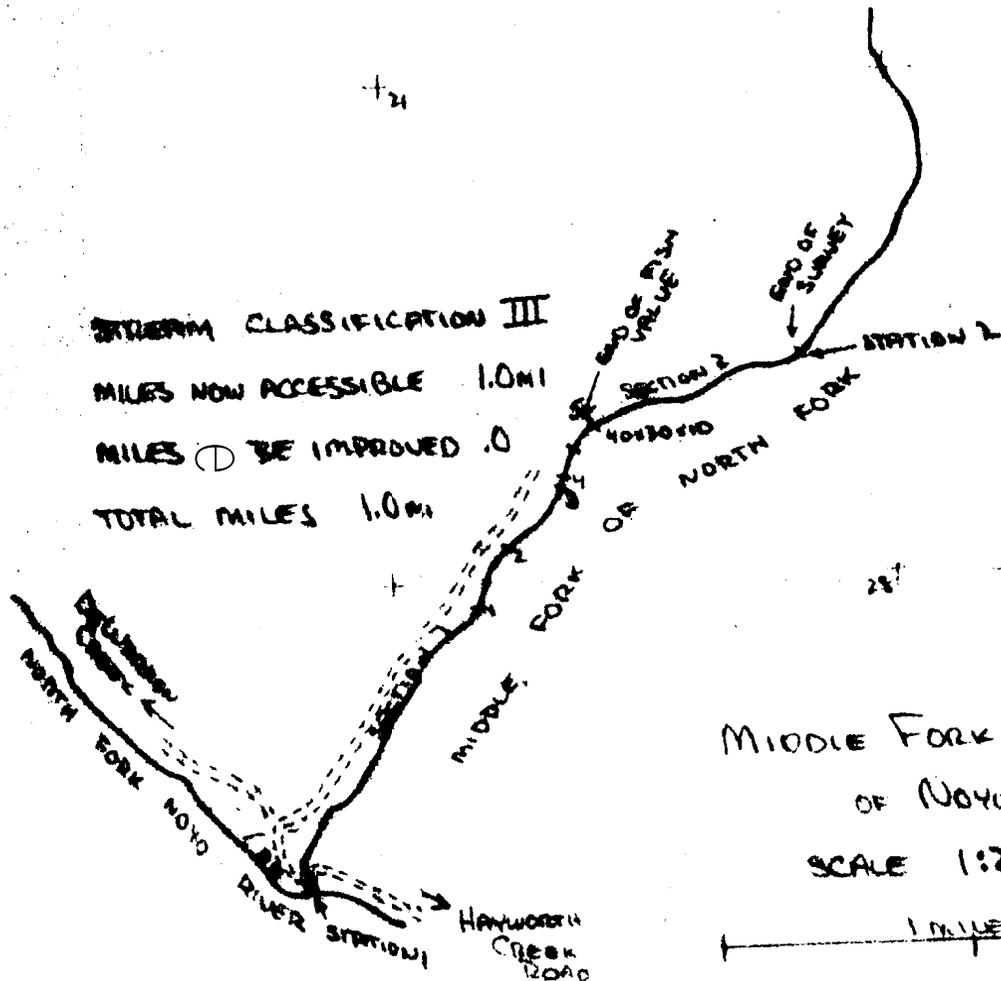
REFERENCES - U.S.G.S. Map 15' series Comptche Quadrangle 1960.

INTERIM CLASSIFICATION III

MILES NOW ACCESSIBLE 1.0 MI

MILES TO BE IMPROVED 0

TOTAL MILES 1.0 MI



MIDDLE FORK OF NORTH FORK
OF NOYO RIVER

SCALE 1:24,000

