

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
STREAM SURVEY**

FILE FORM NO.....

NAME...Little North Fork.....COUNTY...Mendocino.....
STREAM SECTION FROM.....Mouth.....TO.....Headwaters Section.....LENGTH 3.4 mile
TRIBUTARY To.....North Fork, Ten Mile River.....TWP...20N..R...17W SEC...13SW1/4.....
OTHER NAMES.....None.....RIVER SYSTEM...Ten Mile River.....
SOURCES OF DATA...Personal observation and Union Lumber Co. Foresters.....
NAME OF SURVEYORRowell and Adams.....DATE...August 14 & 15, 1961

EXTENT OF OBSERVATION: This tributary was checked by truck from the mouth upstream 3.1 miles by Rowell and Adams on August 14 & 15, 1961. Stops were made at frequent intervals for closer inspection on foot. The upper 1.3 miles were checked on foot.

LOCATION -The Little North Fork flows southward into the North Fork, Ten Mile River approximately 12 airline miles NNE of the town of Fort Bragg. (16 miles via Union Lumber Co. logging road from Fort Bragg).

RELATION TO OTHER WATERS -The Little North Fork is one of the major tributaries to the North Fork. It has a good summer flow and sustains an excellent steelhead and silver salmon fingerling population. A major contributor to the overall system.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

WATERSHED and IMMEDIATE DRAINAGE BASIN -The Little North Fork heads in mountainous terrain located within the coastal redwood belt. Although practically the entire drainage has been heavily logged off in the past years, much of the terrain now has fairly good cover of second growth conefer. It drains an area of about eight square miles. The slopes on each side of the stream are quite steep.

ALTITUDE -1,250 feet to 100 feet at mouth.

GRADIENT -Fairly steep in the headwaters, becoming moderate to shallow throughout the rest of the stream.

WIDTH - About 3 feet average. Ranges from 1 foot to 8 feet.

DEPTH -Averages 4 inches. Ranges 1 inch to 8 inches.

FLOW - Less than ¼c.f.s. near headwaters to about 10 c.f.s. at mouth.

VELOCITY - Moderate to slow throughout except in the headwaters section.

BOTTOM-Predominantly small rubble and gravel. Considerable silt in the area above the west branch.

SPAWNING AREAS -Excellent throughout except in the upper reaches where its practically non-existent.

POOLS -Medium size, frequent and scattered throughout.

SHELTER - Very good. Shade from trees, protection in undercut banks, roots and logs.

BARRIERS - No complete barriers.

DIVERSION –None

TEMPERATURE –Water near noon was 60° F. and the air was 75° F.

FOOD – Seemed adequate fro the large numbers of SH & SS fingerlings present.

AQUATIC PLANTS – None observed.

WINTER CONDITIONS – Didn't seem to be to sever, However do to the large drainage area, water could rise quite high.

POLLUTION – None observed.

SPRINGS – None noted.

FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS – Large numbers of steelhead and silver salmon fingerlings were observed throughout the entire stream except in the upper headwaters section. These fingerlings ranged from 2.5 to 4 inches in length and looked well fed. This stream is well utilized by steelhead and silver salmon.

OTHER VERTEBRATES – None noted.

FISHING INTENSITY – Unknown.

OTHER RECREATIONAL USE – None known (Deer Hunting?).

ACCESSIBILITY – The entire stream is accessible via logging road except the upper mile.

OWNERSHIP – The lower 2.7 miles is under control or ownership of the Union Lumber Co. The rest of the Little North Fork is under control or ownership of Mr. Wayne Miller of San Francisco.

POSTED OR OPEN – Posted.

IMPROVEMENTS – None noted.

PAST STOCKING – None known.

GENERAL ESTIMATE – An excellent SH/SS spawning and nursery stream.

RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT – This stream should be continued to be managed primarily for Steelhead and Silver Salmon spawning and nursery.

SKETCH MAP: None

REFERENCES AND MAPS - U.S. Dept of Interior Geological Survey Map.
15 minute series (Topographic)
Branscomb quadrangle - 1951