# THE RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA Department of Fish and Game

sources of DATA... Personal observations of John Thomas & Carrol..P.owell and... references listed in survey.

EXTENT OF OBSERVATION
Include Name of S ur ve ybate, Etc.
LOCATION
RELATION TO OTHER WATERS
GENERAL DESCRIPTION
Watershed
Immediate Drainage Basin
Altitude (Range)
Gradient
Winttl
Depth
How (Range)
Velocity
Bottom
Spawning Areas
Pouls
Shelter
Barriers
Diversions
Temperatures
Food
Aquatic Plants
Winter Conditions
Pollution
Springs
FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS
OTHER VERTEBRATES,
FISHING INTENSITY
THER RECREATIONAL USE
ACCESSIBILITY
OWNERSHIP
POSTED OR OPEN
IMPROVEMENTS
PAST STOCKING
GENERAL ESTIMATE
RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT
SKETCH MAP
REF ERENCES AND MAPS

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

See stream survey for East Fork New River. Cabin Creek is bounded on the north by the East Fork of New River, to the south by the South Fork of the East York of New River, and to the east by Limestone Ridge. The headwaters of the stream begin at Limestone Ridge at an elevation of 5,600 feet, and the stream ends at the East Fork of New River at elevation 2,720 feet, a distance of three miles. Our survey covered the first half-mile of stream above the mouth. The elevation change from the headwaters to the mouth of the stream can be separated into three different areas beginning in the headwaters:

1st mile--1,840' elev. change, or 34 % grade. 2nd mile-- 640' elev. change, or 12 % grade. 3rd mile-- 400' elev. change, or 7 % grade.

The first half-mile of stream above the mouth is extremely well shaded. The surrounding vegetation is composed of about 98 % Douglas fir, with lesser amounts of incense cedar, oak madrone yew hazelnut and redbud. Along the greek is

California black oak, madrone, yew, hazelnut and redbud. Along the creek is mainly alder and maple.

The stream canyon is steep-sided, and the gradient is fairly steep in the area around the mouth. A trail parallels the stream in this area.

The stream width was about 3 to 4 feet, with a mean depth of about 1 to 2 feet. The flow was estimated at 2 cfs. The stream bottom was composed of mainly boulder, with some exposed bedrock. Quite a bit of rubble was present, but not much gravel was seen.

## Pools

The pool to riffle ratio appeared to be 75% pools to 25% riffles in the surveyed area. All pools were small in size--about 6 to 8 feet lane;.

#### Shelter

Excellent shelter. Stream very well shaded. Good cover under boulders in the stream and under undercut banks and roots.

# Barriers

No barriers were noted in the surveyed area. The stream would be accessable for the first half-mile to steelhead during winter flows.

# Diversions

None present in the drainage at this time. Some extensive mining activity about 1/8th mile above mouth on north side of stream was carried out most likely around 1870's and 80's. A water diversion was was in evidence for this activity: however, it is presently not being used. There was some talk by Mr. Scott (See Scott Cabin on map) of restoring this ditch to again divert water.

# Temperatures

The following spot temperature checks were made:

Area	Date	<u>Time</u>	Water	Air
E. Fk. above Cabin Cr. Cabin Creek above mouth E. Bk. just below Cabin Cr.	8-1-73 8-1-73 8-1-73	09:12 09:12 09:12	62° F 58° F 62° F	65° F 65° F
Cabin Cr. 12 mile above mouth	8-1-73	lo:00	57° F	64° г

## Food

Mayfly, stonefly and caddis fly nymphs were noted. Fish seemed to be mainly feeding on flying terrestrial insects landing on the water surface. Food did not appear to be a limiting factor.

### Aquatic Plants

None noted.

# Winter Conditions

The stream appears to be mainly a cascading type stream, and although no barriers to steelhead were observed, it appears as though there is very little spawning areas present. It would be a continual upstream climb for steelhead. I would classify the stream as mainly utilized by resident HT, but during winter flows steelhead could ascend the stream, and fingerling and yearling RT/SH could, and probably do, use the lower portion of the stream as a nursery area.

#### Pollution

None noted.

# Springs

None observed.

## FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS

See paragraph under winter conditions. The stream contains RT 2 to 6". It is unknown if all or a portion of these RT are resident fish. It is possible that the lower portion of the stream is available to steelhead, and that the RT present in this area are fingerling and yearling RT/SH. The abundance of these RT is fair, and their success and condition are good. The majority of the stream would be classified as a resident trout stream. Extremely light fishing intensity.

# Accessibility

The following time checks were made while going to this area:

Area	Time	Accumulative	Time
Weaverville Hawkins Bar Denny U.S.P.S. Corral End of road and start of trail	0 55 minutes 45 minutes 15 minutes 5 minutes	1 hr. 40	minutes minutes minutes
Start of trail (time by horse) Whiskey Creek Unknown tributary (cabin present) Whites Creek Pony Creek trail junction Semore Gulch (time estimated) So. Fk. of E. Fk. New R. (estimated) Steve Gunther Cabin (estimated) Cabin Creek (time estimated)	15 minutes 6 minutes 20 minutes	40 55 1 hr. 1 1 hr. 21	minutes minutes minutes minute minutes minutes minutes

# Ownership

This drainage is entirely inside the Trinity National Forest and is a part of the Trinity Alps Wilderness Area. The entire drainage is open to public use. Mr. Scott has a mining claim near the mouth of the stream.

#### **Improvements**

None.

# Past Stocking

None.

#### General Estimate

This stream is one of three major tributaries of the East Fork of New River. It ranks third in importance next to the South Fork of the East Fork and Pony Creek. The lower portion of Cabin Creek is most likely steelhead habitat, while the upper portion would be considered resident rainbow trout habitat. The stream is well shaded and appears to be in a stable condition.

# Recommended Management

Continue to manage stream as a valuable rearing area for fingerling and yearling steelhead in the lower portion, and as a resident rainbow trout fishery in the upper portion. Future surveys on this stream should better define the areas of steelhead use and resident trout use. Also, there is most likely an upstream barrier to both the steelhead and resident trout. These barriers should be located to determine the amount of stream available to the steelhead and resident population.

# References and Maps

U.S.F.S. Trinity National Forest Map
U.S.G.S. 15' quads for Ironside Mtn., Salmon Mtn., Cecilville and Helena.

# Photos

Weaverville file of mouth of Cabin Creek.

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