MAACAMA CREEK Sonoma County

FIELD NOTES

"Young trout have moved into Maacama Creek on the first raise of the winter. Numerous 3-6 inch fish observed; this follow Rotenone treatment. No big fish to date." (from Warden Ray Bruer's weekly report entry for Nov. 14, 1953.)

December 16, 1953

A sand bag dam was erected at the Campfire Girls' Camp on subject creek. The barrier was constructed on their driveway after permission was granted by Mr. Chas. G. Haun. The barrier was constructed with sand bags interlaced according to the U.S. Corps of Army Engineers specifications. The bags were piled to a 2' height. This made the barrier approximately 4' high on the subject creek. It is felt that the anadromous fish can easily pass over this barrier while the rough fish will be held back by it. This barrier required the services of 9 men working 8 hours, a dump truck, 21 yards of gravel and 400 burlap sacks. The cost figured at \$1.50 per hour for the labor was \$108.00. The gravel (cost \$21.00, the use of the truck \$20,00, the sacks \$30.00. An estimate of \$25.00 for transportation and expenses was also considered. This brought the total up to \$204.00 for the construction of this temporary barrier which we hope will prevent the increase of rough fish in Maacama Creek.

WCJ:fo

January 5, 1954

The subject creek was inspected from its mouth up to the old Shell Service Station, a distance of about six miles. For the majority of this distance, highway #128 parallels the creek. Warden Harley Groves assisted with this inspection. We found the creek flowing approximately 8 to 10 c.f.s. The water was very clear and observations on fishlife were very easily made. A pair of binoculars were used to scrutinize pools for fishlife. We found 11 seven to eight inch trout above the sand bag barrier and a small fish which appeared to be a stickleback. The distance above the barrier inspected was approximately 2 miles. In the stream below the barrier, we found 4 small trout 7-8" and 7 trout 3-4" long. We were unable to find any species of rough fish. Several redds were discovered below the sand bag barrier, A large King salmon with a frayed tail was found in the pool directly below the sand bag dam. The entire creek had a film of moss on the rocks, rubble and sand. Every footstep on the creek bottom could easily be detected. We found several oblong depressions; apparently those impressions were made by some species of fish unknown to us. Perhaps these small depressions were dug by the salmon now in the creek and given up after a small amount of work was done on them.

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