

NAME..... MARTIN CREEK COUNTY..... MENDOCINO
 Mouth to extreme headwater Length 4-3/4 miles
 TRIBUTARY TO..... Big River (headwaters) Twp..... 17N R..... 14W Sec..... 20
 OTHER NAMES..... McElhaney Creek RIVER SYSTEM..... Big River (headwater section main branch)
 SOURCES OF DATA..... Personal observation

Other Names: The east branch is called Martin Creek and the main stream from intersection of East branch continuing north is the stream known as McElhaney creek.

Extent of observation: This stream was walked out from the extreme headwaters to the mouth including tributaries on August 3rd, 1959 by James Morehouse and Stanley Nye.

Location: This stream heads south east of Two Rock Lookout and flows south east bending to the southwest before reaching its confluence with Big River.

Relation to other waters: One of the more important spawning and nursery tributaries of the Big River system.

General Description: Watershed and immediate drainage basin: This stream heads in rugged mountains terrain in a well wooded coastal redwood drainage. Redwood, douglas fir area. Martin Creek flows through a steep sided "V" type canyon, widening out and coming back to a narrow gorge area, on back to a "V" type canyon near the mouth, consisting of redwood, douglas fir, madrone, willow, alder, tan oak, bay and shamise along stream side.

Altitude: -

Gradient: Moderate in lower and middle sections, moderate to steep in upper section.

Width: Average 2.5 ft (1 to 4 ft)

- 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)
- Velocity
- Bottom
- Spawning Areas
- Pools
- Shelter
- Barriers
- Diversions
- Temperatures
- Food
- Aquatic Plants
- Winter Conditions
- Pollution
- Springs
- FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS
- OTHER VERTEBRATES
- FISHING INTENSITY
- OTHER RECREATIONAL USE
- ACCESSIBILITY
- OWNERSHIP
- POSTED OR OPEN
- IMPROVEMENTS
- PAST STOCKING
- GENERAL ESTIMATE
- RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT
- SKETCH MAP
- REFERENCES AND MAPS
- NAME OF DAM
- OWNERSHIP
- DATE OF CONSTRUCTION
- TYPE OF DAM
- HEIGHT OF DAM
- SPILLWAY (Type, Size, Discharge)
- OTHER OUTLETS (Type, Size, Etc.)
- FISHWAYS
- SCREENS
- USE OF WATER

Depth: Average 2. in. (1-4")

Flow: Average ,35 cfs (.15 cfs in upper area to ,8 cfs in lower section),

Velocity: Rapid throughout.

Bottom: Gravel, rubble, sand and silt bedrock.

Spawning area: Fair to good - none to poor in upper and headwater sections. Fair in middle section - good in lower section.

Pools: Abundant throughout - average 3 ft x 6 ft (1 ft x 3 ft x 6 in.) to 10 ft x 20 ft x 7 ft).

Shelter: Excellent in the form of riparian growth, undercut banks, log jams fallen logs, bedrock pool.

Barriers: Listed separately.

Diversions: None seen.

Temperature: Average water 59 (56 to 65) Air average 73 (68 to 75).

Food: Common in the form of caddis fly, magfly, stonefly, diptra and other unidentified larvae, flies and bugs.

Aquatic Plants: Algae and horsetails observed in small amounts and number.

Winter conditions: Considered to be mild with average high water mark on the banks -20 ft wide 4 ft high subject to normal heavy fluctuating winter runoff.

Pollution: Only poor logging practice damage seen.

Springs: Common - several seen throughout.

Fish present and success: RT-SH were common from the mouth to the upper road crossing above #6 log jam - none were observed. Success in the lower section was considered to be good.

Other Vertebrates: Frogs and deer common - salamanders in few numbers were also seen.

Fishing intensity: Unknown.

Other recreational use: unknown.

Accessibility: By winding narrow steep dirt road 13.4 miles west of highway 101, south of Willits out Barchtel Creek road to Welch Creek and Jack Lewis Road to Redwood Products Road, 3 locked gates to lower road crossing. Other route is all the way out Barchtel Creek road - locked gate E. R. Smith to 4-way intersection via lower left road. 3.5 miles to upper road crossing,

Posted or Open: Posted - locked gates in present access roads.

Ownership: Welch and Welch. E. R. Smith, Redwood Products of Willits and Jack Lewis of Ukiah.

Improvements: None seen - see management.

Past stocking: unknown.

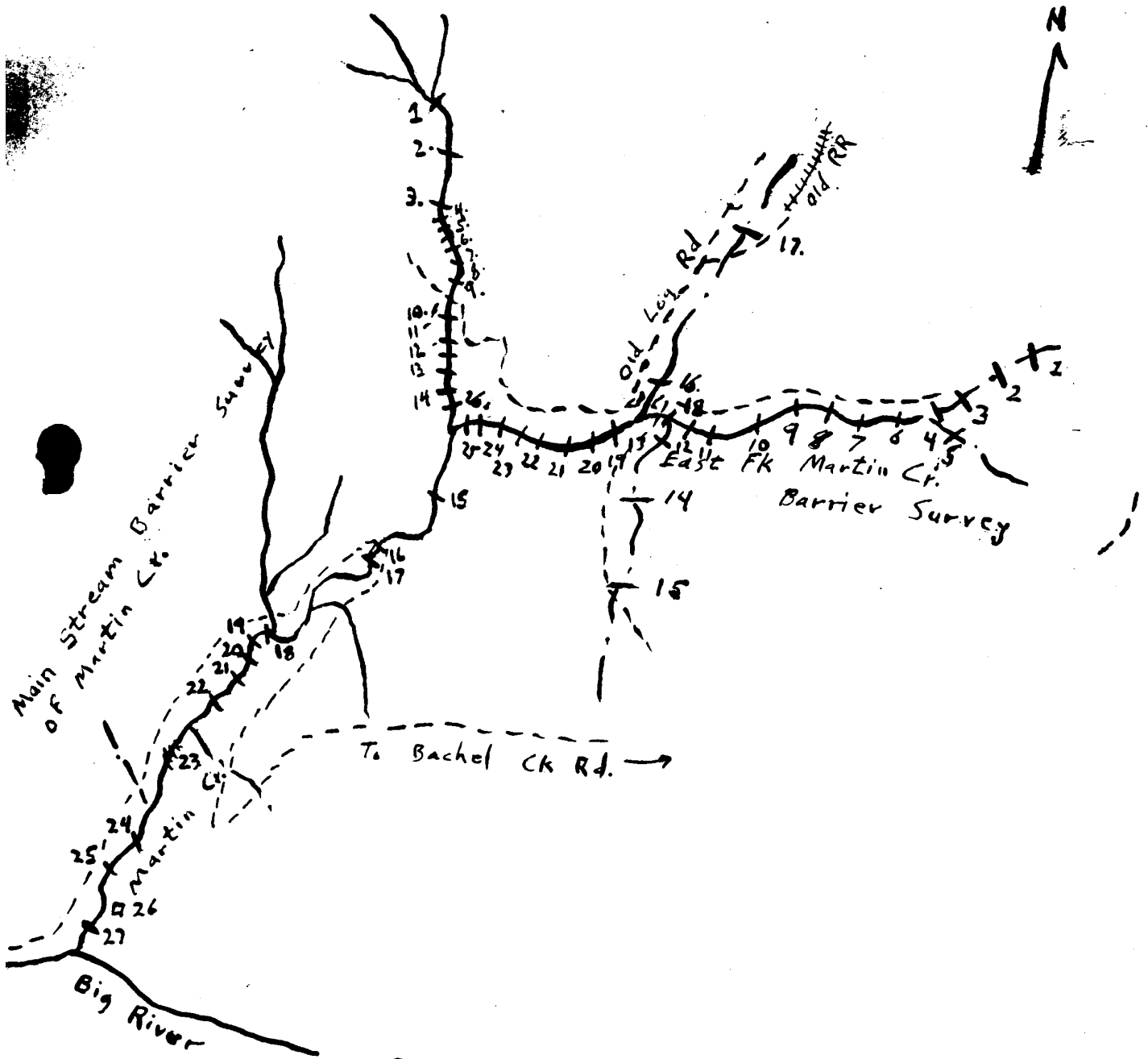
General estimate: The extreme headwater forks rise steeply. These areas are heavily damaged by poor logging practices of past operations and are considered to be of little fishing value. The upper area has heavy logging damage and it is believed to be worth the effort to clean it up. It has fair spawning and nursery areas. The middle section is in good condition and needs little to be done. The lower section has heavy logging damage and has fair to good spawning areas. The main east branch is covered by Morehouse's report, The minor tributaries are considered to be of no fishery value. The main north tributary just above the mouth, has heavy logging damage, but it is felt that it is worth cleaning up due to the fair spawning areas present. This stream appears to be the most important spawning stream in the headwater tributaries of Big River.

Martin Creek

Recommended Management: Remove the jams and barriers listed. It should then be managed for anadromous fish spawning and nursery area. Logging is being conducted at present by E. R. Smith in the headwater section of the east branch.

Sketch maps: See attached.

Accessibility: The stream is accessible by taking the Bechtel Creek road to the Welch and Jack Lewis Road. From this road, take the Redwood Products road through three locked gates to the lower road crossing. An alternate route is to take the Bechtel Creek road through a locked gate belonging to E. R. Smith to a four way intersection. From the four way intersection take the lower left road 3.5 miles to the upper road crossing. The distance to Martin Creek is 13.4 miles west of highway 101. Bechtel road is located immediately south of Willits.



Scale: $2'' = 1 \text{ mi.}$

MARTIN CREEK

JAMS AND BARRIERS:

1. Jam - at headwater forks - 30 ft wide 15 ft long 4 ft high - 95% void area.
2. Jam and Barrier - silted in - old RR bridge crossing - 100 yards downstream of #1. bed drop 6 ft - 25 ft wide 50 ft long 6 ft high - 95% void area.
3. Jam and barrier 0 silted in - same as #2. - 75 yards downstream of #2 - bed drop 4 ft. 20 ft wide 7 ft long 4 ft high - 95% void area.
4. Jam and barrier - silted in - 50 yards downstream of #3. bed drop 8 ft in steps of 3 ft. - 20 ft wide 40 ft long 10 ft high - 90% void.
5. Jam and barrier - silted in - old RR bridge crossing - bed drop 5 ft - 50 yards downstream of #4. - 30 ft wide 60 ft long 8 ft high - 99% void area.
6. Jam and barrier - silted in partly - bed drop 5 ft., 100 yards downstream of #5, 30 ft wide 100 ft long 5 ft high - 99.9% void area.
7. Jam and barrier - silted in bed drop 6 ft - 200 yards downstream of #6 30 ft wide 5 ft long 7 ft high - 90% void area.
8. Jam and barrier - 100 yards downstream, of #7 - old RR bridge 20 ft wide 30 ft long 6 ft high - 80% void area.
9. Jam - by "U" turn over the creek - E. R. Smith Road -20 ft wide 10 ft long 4 ft high - 90% void area.
10. 2 Jams - just below road crossing 10 ft wide 5 ft long 5 ft high - 50% void ea
11. Jam and barrier - 100 yards below road crossing (upper) bed drop 3 ft, 30 ft wide 100 ft long 10 ft high - 75% void area.
12. Jam - 150 yards below upper road crossing 10 ft wide 10 ft long 5 ft high - 50% void.
13. Jam - 100 yards below #12 - 30 ft wide 12 ft long 5 ft high - 75% void area.
14. Jam and barrier - silted in - bed drop 4 ft - 200 yards downstream of #13. 15 ft wide 10 ft long 8 ft high - 75% void area.
15. Single log in stream bed - no jam and no barrier - Not to be removed. Located 1/2 mile downstream from the East Branch.
16. Jam and barrier - silted in - just below lower road crossing. Bed drop 5 ft. 40 ft wide 80 ft long 10 ft high - 95% void area.
17. Jam and barrier - silted in, just below #16 - bed drop 3 ft. 30 ft wide 50 ft long 5 ft high - 95% void area.
18. Jam and barrier - log bridge over the second north tributary upstream of the mouth of Martin Creek at the mouth silted in - bed drop 10 ft. 30 ft wide 15 ft long 10 ft high - 25% void.

19. Jam and barrier - silted in - bed drop 2 ft - .2 mile downstream of lower road crossing. - 30 ft wide 15 ft long 3 ft high - 75% void area.
20. Jam and barrier - silted in - bed drop 4 ft - just below #19. 100 ft long 30 ft wide 5 ft high - 99% void area.
21. Jam and barrier - silted in - bed drop 3 ft - .1 mile below #20. 30 ft wide 75 ft long 4 ft high - 99% void area.
22. Jam and barrier - silted in - bed drop 4 Ft - just below #21. 25 ft wide 10 ft long 5 ft high - 75% void.
23. Jams and barriers - an area with intermittent log jams and barriers about .1 miles long - just below #22. Difficult to estimate - average 30 ft wide 5 ft high .1 mile probably 99.9% void area.
24. Jam and barrier - silted in - bed drop 4 ft - about .5 mile above mouth 30 ft wide 40 ft long 10 ft high - 99% void area.
25. Jam and barrier - silted in - bed drop 8 ft - about 150 yards below #24. 40 ft wide 60 ft long 15 ft high - 85% void area.
26. The site of an old flush dam - no jam or barrier - about 100 yards above south of Martin Creek.
27. Jam and barrier - no bed drop - 50 yards above mouth 40 ft wide 19 ft long 8 ft high - 80% void area.

The jams and barriers of the minor tributaries of extreme headwaters were not listed as it was felt that they are of no value to anadromous fish. The main north tributary is considered to be of fishery value; however, jams and barriers are not listed separately due to the complexity of the jams. This condition made it difficult to estimate the numbers and sizes of the jams.