

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

STREAM SURVEY

File form No. _____

NAME: SCHOONER GULCH CREEK **COUNTY:** Mendocino

STREAM SECTION: _____ **FROM:** mouth **TO:** 100 yds above confluence **LENGTH:** 2 mi.
of tributary that headwaters on Craig Ranch.

TRIBUTARY TO: Pacific Ocean above Saunder's Landing. **TWP:** _____ **R:** _____ **SEC:** _____

OTHER NAMES: None known **RIVER SYSTEM:** Separate drainage

SOURCES OF DATA: Personal observation and information from local wardens and residents.

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

EXTENT OF OBSERVATION - Schooner Gulch Creek was surveyed on foot from the mouth to 2 miles upstream by Dave Netherby and Kevin Rockwood on April 5, 1966.

RELATION TO OTHER WATERS - Schooner Gulch Creek has been in the past, and still has the potential of being a very important spawning and nursery stream for Steelhead and Salmon.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION -

Watershed and Immediate Drainage Basin - Schooner Gulch Creek flows through a steep V-shaped gulch (surrounded and darkly shaded by dense Redwood forests), which gradually widens as it nears the Pacific Ocean. This stream discharges in a westerly direction through a lens-shaped channel.

Altitude - Sea level at mouth, 1000 feet in headwaters.

Gradient - Moderate.

Width - Average - 10 feet; range -6- 20 feet.

Depth - Average - 6 inches; range 4 inches to 5 feet.

Flow - Approximate measure at 11 cfs.

Velocity - Rapid throughout.

Bottom - Fine rubble (30%), coarse rubble (30%), fine gravel (20%), coarse gravel (10%), sand (5%), boulders (5%).

Spawning Areas - The spawning areas are good with fairly loose gravel ranging from pea size to 2 inches. With removal of log jams fish would find spawning areas throughout the stream.

Pools - Good, caused by log jams, digging action of current, undercut banks, and boulders. Range--4-10 feet wide; 5-15 feet long, and 6 inches - 5 feet deep. (40% pools, (60% riffles)

Shelter - Adequate shelter for pools is in the form of undercut banks, log jams, boulders, and dark shading from Redwood trees.

Barriers - An extensive log jam, 50 yards long, formed by driftwood logs presents almost a complete barrier to anadromous fish. The local warden did say that a few Steelhead and Silver Salmon were able to make it through this maze, but the number of spawning fish using this stream has greatly decreased in the two years that the log jam has been there. Numerous partial barrier log jams can be found in the stream above Highway 1.

Diversions - None observed.

Food - Did not observe.

Aquatic Plants - Moss and algae were common in Schooner Gulch.

Winter Conditions - Rises 1 to 2 feet during extensively heavy rains.

Pollution - None observed.

Springs - I assume that springs flow into Schooner Gulch in the upper stream providing its summer flow.

SCHOONER GULCH CREEK
Mendocino County

FISH PRESENT AND SUCCESS - Some spawning Steelhead and Silver Salmon have reportedly used this stream during this last season although their numbers have greatly decreased due to the difficult barrier presented by the driftwood log jam at the mouth. We observed no fish during our survey.

OTHER VERTEBRATES - Frogs, salamanders, deer, and predatory birds can be found in this area.

FISHING INTENSITY - Unknown.

OTHER RECREATIONAL USE - None.

ACCESSIBILITY - Schooner Gulch Creek can be reached at the mouth from Highway 1 by a trail that runs along the side of the gulch.

OWNERSHIP - Unknown - Assumed to be private.

POSTED OR OPEN - Posted throughout

PAST STOCKING - None.

GENERAL ESTIMATE AND RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT - This stream has the potential to be a very good spawning and nursery area for anadromous fish and should be managed as such. Removal of log jams is suggested along with occasional checks of the mouth to see if any more logs have drifted in. It would also be good to keep an eye on the lumbering in the area to minimize stream destruction by silting and log jams.

Schooner Gulch Creek
Mendocino County

