

**UNITED STATES - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
PHYSICAL AND BIOLOGICAL STREAM SURVEY REPORT**

DATE 05. JULY 1977  
SURVEYOR M. HENRY

**NAME**.....Indian Creek.....**COUNTY**.....Mendocino.....  
**STATION**.....BLM Section .....**TO**..... .3 **DISTANCE (MILES)**  
**TRIBUTARY TO**....Navarro River.....**LOCATION (STREAM MOUTH).TWP**...14N... **R**...13W...**SEC**...18....  
**RIVER SYSTEM**.....Navarro River.....**SURVEYOR**.....M. Henry, BLM Ukiah.....

Stream width (average) 3 ft. today, 12 ft. when SH spawn
Turbidity (visibility in feet) 5-10 ft (in clear range)
Temperature: air 73° F, Water 55° F                      Time 1045                      Flow 0.5 cfs
Substrate for section length 250 yds <sup>2</sup> good gravel 93 yds <sup>2</sup> marginal gravel 343 total yds <sup>2</sup> of gravel 310 yds <sup>2</sup> of average 4' deep pools 895 yds <sup>2</sup> of rubble 1548 yds <sup>2</sup> Total substrate area for this .3 mile section of stream
Fish species Steelhead/Rainbow trout - 7" average size, 6-50/100'
30% of section in pools
Moderate gradient (1.0 to 2.5 %)
50% average stream area shaded
Streamside cover type is HERB, and 2nd Growth
Barriers, of the log jam type, require correction, as they are NOT all deemed PASSABLE

## COMMENTS - INDIAN CREEK, MENDOCINO COUNTY

### ACCESS

Access to the BLM section is on a private road at Soda Spring on the Boonville-Ukiah road. Floyd Johnson of Boonville has access to the area and lock combinations. Jack June, a local forestry consultant, accompanied me on this survey. He has lived in the area for over 20 years and does controlled turning in this drainage. He is very concerned about the fishes of Indian Creek and wanted to show me some log jams which prevent fish passage.

### DRAINAGE DESCRIPTION

The BLM section is located on the Palmer Estate, which is managed as a sheep grazing ranch. Logging of Douglas Fir was done in this drainage in the past. It appeared the logging was done in the late 40's.

### STREAM CONDITIONS

The section of Indian Creek surveyed has a moderate stream gradient which passable to migrating fish, except for stream obstructions. Four major log jams were observed in the 1 mile of stream surveyed. The largest jam is located just upstream of the BLM section. Large amounts of debris and sediment have built up behind the jam (see photos).

The riffle to pool ratio, in the BLM section is 6:1 and becomes 1:1 near the start of the survey. Pools were seen to 4' in depth.

The stream shade is 50% and the water temperature was 55°F at 10:45 AM. in the BLM section. Water Cress (Rorippa) is the common aquatic plant found in the creek and along the banks.

Aquatic insects were found in good numbers throughout the surveyed section. Mayflies, Stoneflies, water pennies, and snails were observed in this creek.

An average stream section in the BLM area is composed of coarse rubble 40% good gravels 20%, boulders to 2.5' 30%, and fine materials 10%.

### FISHERIES

Steelhead/Rainbow Trout to 7" were observed above the major log jams in numbers to 50/100 feet.

### RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT

Removing the log jams would provide approximately 4.2 additional miles of spawning grounds for anadromous fish.

### SUMMARY

1. Water temperature 55°F
2. Four log jams in 1 mile surveyed
3. 20% of stream good gravels
4. Log jams block 4.2 miles of spawning and rearing grounds

Survey Date: 5 July, 1977    Surveyor: K. Henry

INDIAN CREEK AND SHERMAN GULCH

