

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
STREAM SURVEY**

File form No _____ Date: _____

NAME: SCOTTY CREEK COUNTY: SONOMA

STREAM SECTION: Partial FROM: Mouth TO: Headwater in- LENGTH: 2-1/4 mi.
including Rough Creek Tributary

TRIBUTARY TO: Pacific Ocean TWP: 6 N R: 11W SEC: 9

OTHER NAMES: None Known RIVER SYSTEM: Scotty Creek

SOURCES OF DATA: Personal survey and information gained from local 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)
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- Bottom
- Spawning Areas
- Pools
- Shelter
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- GENERAL ESTIMATE
- RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT
- SKETCH MAP
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EXTENT OF OBSERVATION - Scotty Creek was surveyed on March 18, 1965 by Weldon Jones. Three-tenths of the lower stream was checked on foot as well as was one-half mile of the north tributary on the Robertson Ranch and approximately one-half mile of stream above and below this tributary.

Approximately six-tenths of the lower Rough Creek tributary was walked on foot as was main Scotty Creek to a distance of approximately one-half mile above the confluence with Rough Creek.

LOCATION - Scotty Creek is located on the Pacific Ocean approximately five miles south of the mouth of the Russian River and five miles north of Bodega Bay.

RELATION TO OTHER WATERS - Scotty Creek is an entirely separate drainage.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Watershed and Immediate Drainage Basin - Scotty Creek is a typical, small coastal stream of the Westside of the central California coastal mountains. The drainage basin is a relatively moderate U-shaped canyon becoming increasingly V-shaped in the headwater. The vegetative cover is primarily that of grass. Relatively small areas of redwood and Douglas fir are found in the steeper canyon of the headwater to Rough Creek. Streamside vegetation includes relatively dense stands of alder interspersed with bay and some brush types. The mid and lower section lies in a more or less open valley, with very little gradient. The entire drainage is used by grazing sheep.

Altitude - Zero to approximately eight-hundred feet in the extreme headwater.

Gradient - Fairly steep in the headwaters and becoming moderate to shallow in the mid and lower sections.

Width - Average width eight feet, range three to twenty feet.

Depth - Average four inches, range one inch to five feet.

Flow - The flow in the lagoon was estimated at approximately 1.5 cfs. The flow of Scotty Creek just above the confluence with Rough Creek was estimated at approximately one-half cubic feet per second. The flow at the mouth of Rough Creek was estimated at approximately one cubic foot per second.

Velocity - The velocity appeared to be rapid throughout.

Bottom - The bottom was predominately gravel with small rubble throughout the major portion of the stream. The lagoon below Highway 1 Bridge had a sand bottom. Increasing amounts of bedrock and boulders were found in the headwater. An increased amount of silt was also noted.

Spawning Areas - No spawning occurs west of the Highway 1 Bridge. Anadromous fish are prevented from gaining access to Rough Creek by falls. That portion of Scotty Creek below the Rough Creek confluence and above the lagoon has extremely good spawning area. The gravels are loose with no silt present. That portion of Scotty Creek above the confluence of Rough Creek has been degraded by silt. However, spawning still occurs in this section of the stream and was considered of fair value. Spawning does occur in the lower one-half mile of Rough Creek above the falls. Spawning conditions were considered good. Above this point the gradient rises and gravels decrease.

Pools – Good Pool development *is* seen throughout the stream. Pools in the midsection of the stream were fairly larger than pools found elsewhere. These ranged in size from approximately 20 to 100 feet in length and from 10 to 20 feet wide. Pools in the headwater ranged from approximately 5 to 20 feet long. Their width varied from approximately 2 to about 10 feet.

Shelter – Shelter was considered excellent throughout the entire stream above the lagoon. Shelter is primarily composed of overhead alder and bay with brush-typed vegetative cover beneath.

Barriers – One natural bedrock barrier was found approximately 20 yards above the confluence of Rough Creek and Scotty Creek on Rough Creek. The fall was approximately 20 feet high. A potential barrier to fishlife exists approximately one-half mile above this falls on Scotty Creek. The composition of this potential barrier is large boulders and logging debris.

Diversions – No diversions were observed.

Temperatures – Water temperatures on the stream ranged from approximately 57 to 59 degrees on March 18, 1965.

Food – Considered to be adequate.

Aquatic Plants – None observed.

Winter Conditions – The winter conditions on this stream are believed to be mild.

Pollution – None observed on this survey.

Springs – Spring development is fair on this stream.

FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS – Steelhead and/or rainbow trout as well as silver salmon, sticklebacks and Cottids were observed on the stream. The steelhead and/or rainbow trout ranged from approximately 3/4 inch to 5 inches. Two different size classes were visible—those of approximately 3/4 of an inch to one inch and those of approximately four to five inches. The abundance of the smaller-sized class was approximately 20 per hundred feet of stream. Those of the larger-sized class was approximately 1 per hundred feet of stream. The success and condition for the species was good. The silver salmon were also found to range in two class groups. The smaller-sized class ranged in size from approximately 3/4 of an inch to one and a half inches with another class size of approximately 3 to 5 inches. Their abundance was approximately 65 per 100 feet of stream. The abundance of the larger class size was approximately 5 per 100 feet of stream. Success and condition was good. The sticklebacks ranged in size from approximately 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 inches. Abundance was approximately 1 per 200 feet of stream. Only one cottid was observed. No fish were seen in the lagoon, as were no silver salmon above the falls on Rough Creek. The fish observed above the falls were believed to be resident rainbow trout. These fish were also found in two class sizes. The smaller class size was approximately 3/4 to 1 inch long with that of the larger class size from approximately 3 to 5 inches. Numbers were approximately 20 per 100 feet of stream. Overall the silver salmon appeared to outnumber the steelhead and/or rainbow trout.

OTHER VERTEBRATES – Sheep are found throughout this drainage.

FISHING INTENSITY – Unknown, but believed to be light.

OTHER RECREATIONAL USES – None known.

ACCESSIBILITY – Highway 1 crosses Scotty Creek just above the lagoon. The Coleman Valley Road swings around the headwater of this stream. Observations into the stream must be made on foot.

POSTED OR OPEN – The entire stream is posted against trespass.

IMPROVEMENTS – None observed.

PAST STOCKING – None known.

GENERAL ESTIMATE – Scotty Creek is an excellent spawning and nursery stream for its length. Gravel development appears to be in above average condition. Anadromous fish are prevented from using Rough Creek by the 20 foot natural falls approximately 20 yards from the mouth. That portion of Scotty Creek above Rough Creek has been degraded by silt, but it is believed this is due to a fire that removed most of the streamside vegetation approximately 3 years ago. The local residents report that Scotty Creek

retains a summer flow on most years. However, approximately one out of every ten years the stream becomes dry and only isolated pools are available.

RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT – Continue to manage Scotty Creek primarily as a silver salmon and steelhead spawning and nursery stream. Very little value would be attained by the removal of the falls on Rough Creek.

SKETCH MAP – See attached.

REFERENCES AND MAPS – U. S. Geologic Survey Map, Duncan Mills Quad. 7-1/2 minutes series, 1943.

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Region 3

WEJ:bg~3/30/65

SCOTTY CREEK SONOMA COUNTY

