

THE RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

**STREAM SURVEY**

File form No \_\_\_\_\_ Date: March 16, 1966

NAME: Seward Creek COUNTY: Mendocino County

STREAM SECTION: partial FROM: mouth TO: 2 miles upstream LENGTH: 2 mi.

TRIBUTARY TO: Forsythe Creek TWP: 16N R: 12W SEC: 6

OTHER NAMES: Jack Smith Creek, Orr Creek RIVER SYSTEM: Russian River

SOURCES OF DATA: Personal survey and information from local residents

<p><b>EXTENT OF OBSERVATION</b> Include: Name of Surveyor, Date, Etc</p> <p><b>LOCATION</b></p> <p><b>RELATION TO OTHER WATERS</b></p> <p><b>GENERAL DESCRIPTION</b></p> <p>Watershed</p> <p>Immediate Drainage Basin</p> <p>Altitude (Range)</p> <p>Gradient</p> <p>Width</p> <p>Depth</p> <p>Flow (Range)</p> <p>Velocity</p> <p>Bottom</p> <p>Spawning Areas</p> <p>Pools</p> <p>Shelter</p> <p>Barriers</p> <p>Diversions</p> <p>Temperatures</p> <p>Food</p> <p>Aquatic Plants</p> <p>Winter Conditions</p> <p>Pollution</p> <p>Springs</p> <p><b>FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS</b></p> <p><b>OTHER VERTEBRATES</b></p> <p><b>FISHING INTENSITY</b></p> <p><b>OTHER RECREATIONAL USE</b></p> <p><b>ACCESSIBILITY</b></p> <p><b>OWNERSHIP</b></p> <p><b>POSTED OR OPEN</b></p> <p><b>IMPROVEMENTS</b></p> <p><b>PAST STOCKING</b></p> <p><b>GENERAL ESTIMATE</b></p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT</b></p> <p><b>SKETCH MAP</b></p> <p><b>REFERENCES AND MAPS</b></p>
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**EXTENT OF OBSERVATION** - Seward Creek was surveyed on foot from ¼ mile from month to 2 miles upstream, by Kevin Rockwood and Dave Netherby on March 16, 1966. It was surveyed by car from the mouth to ¼ mile upstream.

**RELATION TO OTHER WATERS** - This is an important spawning and nursery tributary to the West Branch of the Russian River.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION -**

**Watershed and Immediate Drainage Basin** - The watershed area is in the mountains west of Redwood Valley. It comes from underground springs from Leonard Lake. The drainage basin is V-shaped upstream and widens to a U-shape near the mouth.

**Altitude** - 731 feet at mouth to 2,000 feet at headwaters.

**Width** - Averaged 15 feet, ranged from 5-25 feet.

**Depth** - Averaged 8 inches, ranged from 6 inches to 3 feet.

**Velocity** - It is torrential at headwaters and rapid throughout the rest of the creek.

**Flow** - Estimated 30 cfs by using float method.

**Spawning Areas** - Good for the first mile as the drainage basin became more U-shaped, rapid flow and predominance of boulders decreased spawning area.

**Pools** - 50% pools, 50% riffles. The pools range from 4-15 feet long, 8-20 feet wide and 1-3 feet deep.

**Shelter** - Consisted of roots, log jams, overhanging brush. Abundant shelter in lower portion of stream to ¼ mile from mouth. Boulders offer shelter in upper regions.

**Barriers** - No large barriers were present.

**Food** - Unknown

**Winter Conditions** - unknown

**Pollution** - none

**Springs** - The creek is fed by underground springs from Leonard Lake.

**FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS** - Local residents stated that many steelhead and salmon use this creek for spawning and nursery areas. Several schools of fry (3/4") were observed.

**OTHER VERTEBRATES** - Cattle graze in the area, deer salamanders, frogs, and quail were also present.

**FISHING INTENSITY** - Light - (Most of the land is posted).

**OTHER RECREATIONAL USES** -

**ACCESSIBILITY** - Turn off Highway 101 7 miles north of Ukiah on the Uva Drive and then turn left on Bel Arbres Drive. At the end of this, a dirt farm road follows the creek for several hundred yards. The creek is accessible by foot.

**OWNERSHIP** - Seward Creek runs through several different properties of which most of the land is posted.

**PAST STOCKING** - unknown

**GENERAL ESTIMATE AND RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT** - This creek is a very important spawning creek and should continue to be managed as such.