

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

**STREAM SURVEY**

NAME: Coleman Creek COUNTY: Mendocino  
 STREAM SECTION: entire FROM: mouth To: headwaters LENGTH: 6 mi.  
 TRIBUTARY TO: Pieta Creek TWP: 12N R: 11W SEC: 1  
 OTHER NAMES: Unknown RIVER SYSTEM: Russian River  
 SOURCES OF DATA: Personal Observations

- 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
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- Velocity
- Bottom
- Spawning Areas
- Pools
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**EXTENT OF OBSERVATION** - Coleman Creek, starting ¼ mile above mouth of Sheldon Creek, downstream to Highland Spring Rd., was walked out by J. H. Rowell, August 19, 1959. All tributaries were checked for fisheries value. The mouth of Coleman Creek was checked from jeep road.

**LOCATION** - The stream commenced on the eastern slopes of the Russian River drainage, flows west and enters Pieta Creek at Pieta.

**RELATION TO OTHER WATERS** - An important SH. spawning area in the Pieta/Russian River drainage.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION -**

**Watershed** - Coleman Creek is part of Russian River drainage system near Hopland. It rises on the western slope of the mountain range between Clear Lake and the Russian River.

**Immediate Drainage Basin** - Rises in steep brush covered hills. Then flows through steep "V" canyon. Lower section flows through pasture land.

**Gradient** - The gradient goes from a steep cascading drop in the headwaters to a slow gradual gradient throughout the rest of the stream.

**Width** - 3 feet

**Depth** - 6 inches in upper section. Dry from county road crossing near Vassar to mouth.

**Flow** - 1 c.f.s. in upper half. Dry from Vassar to mouth. Watermarks on dry section indicate winter flows cover the good SH. spawning gravel.

**Velocity** - Sluggish

**Bottom** - Gravel, rubble and bedrock

**Spawning Areas** - Excellent

**Pools** - Abundant

**Shelter** - Good. Formed by boulders and overhanging brush.

**Barriers** - #1 - ¼ mile upstream from mouth of Sheldon Creek, natural barrier in form of waterfall, approximately 12 feet high and 8 feet wide. #2 - ¼ mile downstream from Sheldon Creek, 2 logs lying across stream, small logs and debris piled on left bank, silted in, Right bank clear, no barrier 40'x12'x5' 75% void. #3 - 300 yards from #2, 3 logs and some debris, 20'x10'x5' 98% void No barrier Note: slope to south of stream, between stream and Highland Spring Rd. has been logged over. #4 - ¼ mile upstream from county road, concrete dam, 30'x3'x15', Hole in center of dam forms 3' sq. 3' drop from bottom of opening to downstream bed, No barrier (see drawing) With winter flows - Tributary #1, dry steep cascading "V" canyon, not usable by SH. Tributary #2, dry-gently sloping 1st 1/8 mile then cascades, gravel stream bed 6' wide, very good steelhead spawning area.

Barrier #4

This concrete dam appears to be abandoned. Waterflow is through the 3' square opening. There wasn't any debris on the upstream side of the dam. Owner is either C. Fitzgerald of Hopland or Miss Robertson, Postmistress, Hopland.

**Diversions** - None observed

**Temperatures** - 54 degrees to 64 degrees

**Food** - May and caddis flies in fair numbers

**Aquatic Plants** - None observed

**Winter Conditions** - Unknown

**Pollution** - None observed

**Springs** - None observed along main stream

**FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS** - Trout-2 to 4 inches, number above average, Some 8 to 10 inch trout observed, Roach in fair numbers 2 to 5 inches, No suckers were observed.

**OTHER VERTEBRATES** - frogs and watersnakes

**FISHING INTENSITY** - Unknown

**OTHER RECREATIONAL USES** - Unknown

**ACCESSIBILITY** - Mouth by jeep road which turns off highway 101 near mouth of Pieta Creek. Highland spring road between Hopland and Kelseyville crosses stream near Vassar, then runs parallel to stream up high for 3 mi.

**OWNERSHIP** - Middle section is owned by Mrs. Dorothy A. Robertson, Postmistress in Hopland. Lower section is owned by G. Fitzgerald of Hopland. Upper section, unknown

**POSTED OR OPEN** - Posted

**IMPROVEMENTS** - None really required. Stream seems to be quite clear.

**PAST STOCKING** - Unknown

**GENERAL ESTIMATE** - Although lower section goes dry during summer months, this stream appears to be a major contributor to Steelhead spawning.

**RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT** - No suggestion

**SKETCH MAP** - See attached

**REFERENCES AND MAPS** - Forest Service maps, South Half Mendocino County - 1948, Revised 1950

