

NAME..... **BUNKER GULCH CREEK** COUNTY **MENDOCINO**

STREAM SECTION **Entire** From **Mouth** To **Headwater** Length **2 miles**

TRIBUTARY TO . . . **HARE CREEK** Twp. 18 N. R. 17 W. Sec. 27. . . .

OTHER NAMES. . **Unknown** RIVER SYSTEM... **Hare Creek**

SOURCES OF DATA **Personal observation**

- 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 - On 9/9/65 Gerald Holman walked from mouth up-stream to the upper fisheries limit--a distance of approximately 2 miles. This upper fisheries limit is defined as being a dirt road crossing in the northeast one quarter of the northeast one quarter, Section 26.

LOCATION - This stream is located approximately 6 miles southeast of Fort Bragg.

RELATION TO OTHER WATERS - This stream is a major tributary to Hare Creek.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION -

Watershed and Immediate Drainage Basin - This stream is a typical north coastal stream. It is confined in a U-shaped canyon, canopied densely with second growth redwood and Douglas fir forests. It has sandy loam-type soil.

Altitude - At mouth 200 feet, at upper fisheries limit 400 feet.

Gradient - The gradient on this stream is fairly slight, being approximately 100 feet per mile.

Width - Ranged 1 foot to ten feet, average 3 feet.

Depth - Ranged 2 inches to 4 feet, average 4 inches.

Flow - At mouth 1/2 cfs. estimated.

Velocity - Slow throughout.

Bottom - In the lower 1/3 mile some bedrock present, but the remainder of the stream mostly fine gravel, sand and silt.

Spawning Areas - Except for the lower 1/3 mile which is dominately bedrock, spawning areas are present throughout the 2 miles. In the lower 1 mile of stream much of the gravels are covered with silt and compacted, eroded from the newly constructed Bunker Gulch California Division of Forestry road.

Pools Small pools cover approximately 50 per cent of the stream throughout the area surveyed.

Shelter - Abundant, logs, cut banks and rocks.

Barriers - There exists a bedrock falls approximately 4 feet high one quarter mile above the mouth. It is doubted that this is a barrier to upstream silver salmon and steelhead, but might slow them down during low winter flow periods. There also exists 18 small log jams, most of which cannot be considered barriers to fishlife. (See attached barrier map).

Diversions - There exists two domestic supply pumps--one an inch and a half and the other one inch in the northeast one quarter of the northeast one quarter of Section 26, near State Highway 20.

Temperatures - At 1200 on 9/9/65 the water temperature was 50 degrees Farenheit; air temperature 64 degrees Farenheit; weather clear.

Food - Aquatic insect life was very scarce throughout stream. This condition might be the factor in the low fish production of this stream.

Aquatic Plants - Scarce, some algae.

Water Conditions - Although this stream has a stable watershed, heavy erosion can be anticipated from the newly constructed California Division of Forestry Bunker Gulch Road. Maximum high flows during the winter approximately 4 feet.

Pollution - None observed except erosion from the Bunker Gulch road.

Springs - Only two small springs observed in headwater section.

FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS - In general, this stream can be considered a very poor silver salmon and steelhead nursery spawning and nursery stream. A few silver salmon were noted in the lower one quarter mile of the stream. The next mile of stream was almost void of fishlife. In the headwater section, a few resident-type RT-SH were noted. The few juvenile fish noted in the lower one quarter mile of the stream were small (1-1/2) and in very thin condition. Lack of aquatic insect life might be the major contributing factor of the low fish population in the stream.

OTHER VERTEBRATES - Salamanders and red-legged frogs.

FISHING INTENSITY - Unknown, probably light.

OTHER RECREATIONAL USE - Probably some deer hunting.

ACCESSIBILITY - This stream can be reached from Highway 20 via the Bunker Gulch California Division of Forestry logging road. This road is locked near Highway 20. A key can be obtained from the Division of Forestry in Fort Bragg. The headwater section can be reached from the small dirt logging road that leaves Highway 20 in the northwest one quarter of the northwest one quarter, Section 25.

OWNERSHIP - With the exception of one small quarter section in the headwaters which is privately owned, this stream is located within Jackson State Forest.

POSTED OR OPEN - Open.

IMPROVEMENTS - Unknown.

PAST STOCKING - Unknown.

GENERAL ESTIMATE - This stream is a poor silver salmon and steelhead spawning and nursery stream. Perhaps spawning takes place in the stream, but because of the absence of aquatic insect food, very few fish are able to live in the stream.

RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT - Fish production might be improved on this stream by the removal of the log jam allowing increased velocities to remove the sand and silt. Because of the poor aquatic insect condition, removal of some of the streamside cover to allow more sunlight might increase food production.

SKETCH MAP - See attached.

REFERENCES AND MAP - U. S. G. S. Comptche, California, 1960, 15 minute series.

Gerald Holman
Fisheries Manager I
Region 3

GH:bg-11/10/65