

Steelhead/rainbow trout resources of the upper Eel River

The following discussion of *O. mykiss* resources is specific to the section of the Eel River located upstream of the town of Dos Rios. The lower and middle reaches of the mainstem are discussed in separate sections of this report.

Eel River-Upper Reach

The upper Eel River was examined in 1973 as part of a study of water temperature conditions in the Eel River system. During this study, several fingerling and yearling steelhead were observed in scattered locations between the Middle Fork Eel River confluence and the Cape Horn Dam, although none were observed downstream of Tomki Creek in late summer. Juvenile steelhead up to seven inches in length were abundant in the pool immediately below Cape Horn Dam. Fishermen were observed catching juvenile steelhead and/or resident rainbow trout from six to eight inches in length between Cape Horn and Scott Dams. Resident rainbow trout up to nine inches in length were found to be abundant in the Horse Creek area, and many resident rainbow trout up to seven inches in length were observed upstream of the Horse Creek confluence (Kubicek 1977, Kubicek pers. comm.).

The 1997 Eel River Action Plan identified the section of the upper mainstem Eel River between Scott and Cape Horn dams as containing "...some of the best spawning and rearing habitat for salmon and steelhead" in the mainstem (DFG 1997a, p. 18). The high quality habitat is reported to be a result of "near-optimal stream temperatures due to cool water releases from Lake Pillsbury" (p. 5).

Outlet Creek

Outlet Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 22.3 stream miles. It flows northeasterly, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 126.

Staff from DFG surveyed Outlet Creek in 1938 and 1942. Salmonid observations are not noted in either of these survey reports. In 1938 the creek was described as "exposed" and in 1942 water levels were said to be low and spawning gravels were described as "very limited for salmonids" (DFG 1938a, DFG 1946). Stocking records indicate that Outlet Creek was stocked with steelhead in 1939 (DFG 1939a).

A few steelhead were observed in Outlet Creek during a 1972 survey and the report notes that most spawning and nursery habitat is present in the lower and middle sections of the creek. It states, "Its real value is in terms of fish passage into the higher tributaries within the watershed." However, the meandering, steep, and heavily overgrown characteristics of tributaries within the Little Lake Valley area were noted possibly to limit steelhead use of these streams (DFG 1972a).

Outlet Creek was examined in 1973 as part of a study of water temperature conditions in the Eel River system. During this study, several fingerling salmonids were observed in early summer, but none in mid-to late summer (Kubicek 1977, Kubicek pers. comm.).

Outlet Creek was sampled as part of a study of salmon and steelhead populations in Mendocino County. A summary table indicates that sampling was performed in the creek in 1989 and steelhead were collected (DFG 1988a).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Outlet Creek in 1995. Two sites were electrofished during the survey and YOY and/or juvenile *O. mykiss* were found at both sites. One 14-18 inch steelhead was also seen by surveyors and was in “poor” condition (DFG 1995a). The inventory report notes that water temperature may limit the fishery and recommends increasing canopy, along with treating sources of fine sediment.

Bloody Run Creek

Bloody Run Creek is tributary to Outlet Creek and consists of about 2.3 stream miles. It flows north, entering Outlet Creek about 1.1 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Steelhead were rescued from Bloody Run Creek in 1939 and 1949. A total of 1,500 steelhead were rescued in 1939 and 972 were rescued in 1949 (DFG 1940, DFG 1950).

Staff from DFG surveyed Bloody Run Creek in 1972 and YOY steelhead were observed. The creek was said to offer “good SH spawning and nursery potential under the right conditions.” The stream gradient and several boulder falls were believed to restrict fish passage under some flow conditions (DFG 1972b).

Bloody Run Creek was sampled as part of a study of salmon and steelhead populations in Mendocino County. A summary table indicates that sampling was performed in the creek in 1984 and steelhead were collected (DFG 1988a).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Bloody Run Creek in 1995. Biological sampling was not conducted, but age 2+ and YOY steelhead were observed by surveyors (CCC 1995a). The inventory report recommended increasing canopy in the lower reaches of the creek, treating sources of fine sediment, and excluding cattle from the creek to avoid trampling and effects from defecation.

Bloody Run Creek tributary

An unnamed tributary to Bloody Run Creek consists of about 0.8 stream miles. It flows west, entering Bloody Run Creek about 2.3 miles upstream from the Outlet Creek confluence.

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of this tributary to Bloody Run Creek in 1995. Young-of-year *O. mykiss* were observed during the survey (Darr 1995). The inventory report states, “Good water temperature and flow regimes exist in the stream and it offers good conditions for rearing fish.” It notes that the stream’s high gradient makes fish passage difficult and recommends excluding cattle from the creek to avoid trampling and effects from defecation.

Cherry Creek

Cherry Creek is tributary to Outlet Creek and consists of about 2.9 stream miles. It flows northeasterly, entering Outlet Creek about 2.6 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

During a 1972 stream survey staff from DFG observed two size classes of steelhead in Cherry Creek. Steelhead habitat and access was noted to be limited to the lower mile of the stream due to a steep gradient and boulders (DFG 1972c).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Cherry Creek in 1995. Juvenile and YOY steelhead were observed from the mouth of the creek to a concrete dam located about 1.5 miles upstream (DFG 1995b). The inventory report recommended treating sources of fine sediment and monitoring fish passage at the dam.

Long Valley Creek (Longvale)

Long Valley Creek (alternate spelling “Longvale”) is tributary to Outlet Creek and consists of about 9.2 stream miles. It flows south, entering Outlet Creek near the town of Longvale about 8.4 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from DFG surveyed Long Valley Creek in 1938 and observed steelhead YOY. The extent of natural propagation of the fish was categorized as “extensive” and spawning areas in the creek were said to be “good” (DFG 1938b).

Steelhead were rescued from Long Valley Creek in 1953. A total of 3,809 steelhead were rescued from the stream (DFG 1954).

Staff from DFG investigated the effects of highway construction on Long Valley Creek in 1961 and found that its ability of support fish life had been “markedly reduced.” Loss of riparian vegetation, increased water temperatures, and erosion were observed. In the report, Long Valley Creek is described as “a small but important salmon and steelhead spawning and nursery stream.” It was estimated to support an annual run of 100 steelhead (DFG 1962a).

Long Valley Creek was surveyed by staff from DFG in 1972. The survey report states, “Despite the presence of U.S. 101, Long Valley Creek retains good potential for SH spawning and nursery grounds with fish passage remaining open right to headwaters, except perhaps during periods of low spring flow” (DFG 1972d).

Long Valley Creek was examined in 1973 as part of a study of water temperature conditions in the Eel River system. During this study, several fingerling salmonids were observed in late summer (Kubicek 1977, Kubicek pers. comm.). Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Long Valley Creek in 1995. Young-of-year steelhead were observed throughout the creek up to 10 miles upstream from the mouth. Some age 1+ and age 2+ fish also were noted (DFG 1996). The inventory report notes that water temperature may limit the fishery and recommends increasing canopy, along with treating sources of fine sediment and excluding cattle from the creek to avoid trampling and effects from defecation.

Sam Watt Creek

Sam Watt Creek is tributary to Long Valley Creek and consists of about 4.2 miles of intermittent stream. It flows east, entering Long Valley Creek about 0.8 miles upstream from the Outlet Creek confluence.

Steelhead YOY and juvenile rainbow trout were observed in Sam Watt Creek during a 1972 survey. Surveyors noted that steelhead only had access to the lower 0.5 miles of the creek due to a boulder falls barrier (DFG 1972e).

Dutch Henry Creek

Dutch Henry Creek is tributary to Long Valley Creek and consists of about 4.2 stream miles. It flows southeasterly, entering Long Valley Creek about 1.1 miles upstream from the Outlet Creek confluence.

Staff from DFG surveyed Dutch Henry Creek in 1972 and observed juvenile and YOY *O. mykiss*. Steelhead were said to be restricted to the lower 1.5 stream miles due to bedrock and boulder barriers (DFG 1972f).

Dutch Henry Creek is mentioned in a 1990 report of carcass recovery activities conducted by the Salmon Trollers Marketing Association. This report states that two live steelhead were found in Dutch Henry Creek during February of 1990 (Salmon Trollers 1990).

Wilson Gulch Creek

Wilson Gulch Creek is tributary to Long Valley Creek and consists of about 2.2 miles of intermittent stream. It flows southeasterly, entering Long Valley Creek about 3.9 miles upstream from the Outlet Creek confluence.

Wilson Gulch was surveyed in 1938 by staff from DFG and YOY steelhead were observed. Flow in the creek was likely very low, as the volume was categorized as “Isolated pools only” (DFG 1938c).

Reeves Canyon Creek

Reeves Canyon Creek is tributary to Outlet Creek and consists of about 1.9 miles of intermittent stream. It flows northwesterly, entering Outlet Creek about 13 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from DFG surveyed Reeves Canyon in 1965 and found that *O. mykiss* were “common to plentiful” from the mouth of the creek to the forks. It was described as, “a rather small tributary to Outlet Creek supporting a fair to good population of steelhead and/or rainbow trout.” Road construction and development in the watershed were noted to be impacting fish habitat (DFG 1965a).

Sherwood Creek

Sherwood Creek is tributary to Outlet Creek and consists of about 8.8 miles of intermittent stream. It flows southeasterly, entering Outlet Creek about 15.5 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from DFG inspected Sherwood Creek in 1949 and did not observe fish. At the time the creek lacked surface flow where it was inspected near the mouth of Curly Cow Creek and an impassable falls was observed about one mile upstream from the mouth. The field note states, “Local resident reported fairly successful fishing along this stretch of stream during the first month or so of the season” (DFG 1949).

A 1983 DFG status report of California Wild and Scenic Rivers lists the number of stream miles accessible to anadromous species in tributaries of the Eel River. In this report Sherwood Creek is listed as containing 0.7 miles of stream accessible to steelhead (DFG 1983a). The report notes that this number represents the stream miles “open to fish passage” and “is not a measure of habitat availability or habitat quality” (DFG 1983a, p. H-45). The distribution estimates were made by examining DFG fisheries files and USGS maps.

Rowes Creek

Rowes Creek is tributary to Sherwood Creek and consists of about 3.7 miles of intermittent stream. It flows southeasterly, entering Sherwood Creek about 0.4 miles upstream from the Outlet Creek confluence.

A 1956 field note documents an observation of “a few unidentified fish” in Rowes Creek. It also states that the creek had no surface flow during the August survey and the fish were seen in an isolated pool (Anonymous 1956).

“Several trout fingerlings” were seen in Rowes Creek in 1960. A field note describes the creek as, “A possible nursery area.” Another note states, “Well shaded, runs year round” (Anonymous 1960a).

A field note documents an electrofishing survey that took place in Rowes Creek in 1989. The note states, “Although no anadromous fish were seen, it is speculated by the Unit Biologist that this stream could support a salmonid population under proper conditions” (DFG 1989).

Curly Cow Creek

Curly Cow Creek is tributary to Sherwood Creek and consists of about 3.7 miles of intermittent stream. It flows east, entering Sherwood Creek about four miles upstream from the Outlet Creek confluence.

Curly Cow Creek is mentioned in a 1960 field note. The note states, “Trout are caught in the headwaters” (Anonymous 1960b).

Staff from DFG surveyed Curly Cow Creek in 1972 and no fish were observed. The stream had a mud bottom, large amounts of vegetation in the stream bed, and was impacted by cattle use. It was described as, “not a tributary of primary concern to the fisheries value of the system” (DFG 1972g).

Ryan Creek

Ryan Creek is tributary to Outlet Creek and consists of about two stream miles. It flows west, entering Outlet Creek about 16.3 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

In 1972 staff from DFG surveyed Ryan Creek and observed YOY and juvenile *O. mykiss*. The creek was said to contain “roughly 2 miles of stream suitable for salmonid spawning and rearing” (DFG 1972h).

A culvert on a private road upstream of the Highway 101 crossing in Ryan Creek was inspected in 1979. Juvenile steelhead were observed and the surveyor estimated that the creek supported a run of about 50 steelhead (DFG 1979).

Salmonids, including *O. mykiss*, were observed “in abundance” in Ryan Creek during a 1981 survey. The creek had good flow, good water quality, instream shelter, and canopy cover, and was said to provide “excellent habitat” for steelhead (DFG 1981a).

Ryan Creek was sampled as part of a study of salmon and steelhead populations in Mendocino County. A summary table indicates that sampling was performed in the creek in 1984, 1986, and 1988 and steelhead were collected each year (DFG 1988a).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Ryan Creek in 1995. Salmonids were observed throughout the creek and the report stated that, “Good water temperature and flow regimes exist in the stream and it offers good conditions for rearing fish” (CCC 1995b). It was also noted that “Due to the three culverts present, access for migrating salmonids is an ongoing potential problem.” The report recommended monitoring and improving fish passage, along with treating sources of fine sediment related to the road system.

Annual reports document electrofishing that was conducted in several streams for a salmon and steelhead stock assessment as part of the North Central District Salmon and Steelhead Management project. Ryan Creek was among the creeks sampled as part of this work and steelhead were found in the creek in 1994, 1997, and 2003 (DFG 1995c, DFG 1997a, DFG 2003).

Bull Creek

Bull Creek is tributary to Outlet Creek and consists of about 1.1 stream miles. It flows north, entering Outlet Creek about 16.4 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from DFG surveyed Bull Creek in 1972 and observed juvenile and YOY *O. mykiss*. The creek was said to have “good spawning and nursery potential” and “good summer flows.” The gradient was noted to be steep but the report stated “with removal of the log barriers, fish could use its entire length” (DFG 1972i).

Berry Creek

Berry Creek is tributary to Outlet Creek and consists of about five stream miles. It flows west through Berry Canyon and enters Outlet Creek via drainage channels in Little Lake Valley.

Staff from DFG inspected stream damage that occurred to Berry Creek in 1965 as a result of road repair work in the watershed. Steelhead YOY were observed in the stream and the construction activities were said to have caused “considerable damage to the fishery resource” (DFG 1965b).

During a 1972 stream survey staff from DFG observed steelhead YOY in Berry Creek. Surveyors wrote, “Berry Creek does see fairly extensive use as a SH spawning and nursery stream.” Habitat quality was said to be reduced by intermittent summer flows and litter in the stream (Klamt 1972a).

Berry Creek was surveyed for salmonid carcasses in 1988 and two live steelhead smolts were observed. It was described as “a small stream” with good rearing habitat in some areas but limited spawning gravel (Griffin 1988).

Berry Creek is mentioned in a 2006 survey of its tributary, Alder Creek. The author, Scott Harris, notes that he found Berry Creek completely dry during the summers of 2004 and 2005. He did not observe fish in Berry Creek during either of those years or during the 2006 survey. Water diversions were very numerous in the Alder Creek watershed and misuse or misappropriation of water in Alder and Berry Creeks were proposed as explaining the lack of water during the summer (DFG 2006).

Alder Creek

Alder Creek is tributary to Berry Creek and consists of about 1.5 stream miles. It flows south, entering Berry Creek about 3.5 miles upstream from its mouth.

Alder Creek was surveyed in 2006 and no fish were observed. However the surveyor wrote, "Until recently, steelhead had been observed in both Alder and Berry Creeks." Water diversions were very numerous in the headwaters of Alder Creek and misuse or misappropriation of water were noted as possibly causing a lack of water during the summer. The creek was said to contain one mile of habitat available for steelhead spawning and was described as "a good candidate for instream restoration efforts" (DFG 2006).

Davis Creek

Davis Creek is tributary to Outlet Creek and consists of about nine stream miles. It flows north and enters Outlet Creek via drainage channels in Little Lake Valley. Morris Dam, located about 5.5 miles upstream from the mouth of Davis Creek, at the southern end of Little Lake Valley, was built in 1927 and is a total barrier to anadromous fish passage (Week 1974).

Juvenile and YOY steelhead were observed in Davis Creek during surveys of the section downstream of Morris Dam in 1972 and 1975. Spawning and rearing habitat was present, but was said to be limited by low summer stream flows. The dam was noted as restricting normal gravel movement, reducing the available spawning areas (DFG 1975a, Klamt 1972b).

Staff from DFG inspected Davis Creek in 1974 in response to proposed PG&E plans to enlarge Morris Dam. Field notes from this investigation report that adult steelhead migrate up to the base of Morris Dam annually and a population of rainbow trout was present for at least 2.5 miles upstream of the impoundment (Week 1974). In 1974 staff from DFG surveyed the section of Davis Creek from Conklin Creek to the headwaters. A estimated population of 10,282 rainbow trout was present upstream of the dam and this section of the creek was "in very good condition with excellent potential as spawning and rearing habitat for salmonids" (DFG 1974).

Davis Creek was sampled by backpack electrofishing at six sites upstream of Morris Reservoir in 1975. The number of rainbow trout collected at these sites ranged from 7 to 144 (mostly YOY) per 100 feet of stream (Kubicek 1977).

Davis Creek was sampled as part of a study of salmon and steelhead populations in Mendocino County. A summary table indicates that sampling was performed in the creek both upstream and downstream of Morris Dam in 1988. Steelhead were collected downstream of the dam and rainbow trout were found upstream (DFG 1988a).

In 2004 the Eel River Watershed Improvement Group (ERWIG) completed a Watershed Assessment of Davis Creek in conjunction with DFG. According to the assessment report, Davis Creek continues to support a steelhead population and contains about six miles of anadromous habitat downstream of Morris Dam, although some parts of this section have intermittent flows during the summer and fall. Steelhead observations, including juveniles and adults, have taken place in Davis Creek as recently as 2003. The watershed analysis identified and prioritized restoration needs for Davis Creek and the highest priority recommendations included maximizing summer water flows, increasing riparian vegetation, and addressing water quality (ERWIG 2004).

Fulweiler Creek

Fulweiler Creek is tributary to Davis Creek and consists of about two stream miles. It flows west, entering Davis Creek at about stream mile 3.5.

Due to lack of access, salmonid habitat in Fulweiler Creek could not be assessed during the 2004 Davis Creek Watershed Assessment. In the report, the stream is described as “a very small seasonal stream” and local residents reported that it dries up during the summer. In April 2001 Bill Matson of ERWIG observed an adult steelhead in Fulweiler Creek in a pool just downstream of the East Side Road crossing (ERWIG 2004).

Moore Creek

Moore Creek is tributary to Davis Creek and consists of about 2.6 stream miles. It flows west, entering Davis Creek at about stream mile 4.5.

Staff from DFG surveyed Moore Creek in 1972 and observed *O. mykiss* ranging from two to eight inches in length. The creek contained “roughly ½ mile of good steelhead spawning and nursery grounds.” The habitat was limited to this section by a boulder falls barrier and little habitat was thought to exist upstream of the barrier (DFG 1972j).

Due to lack of access, salmonid habitat in Moore Creek could not be assessed during the 2004 Davis Creek Watershed Assessment. Local residents reported that the creek had year-round flows prior to development of the Pine Mountain subdivision, but now had only a “trickle” of water during the summer and fall (ERWIG 2004).

Davis Creek tributary (Conklin Creek)

An unnamed tributary to Davis Creek is known as Conklin Creek and consists of about 3.7 stream miles. It flows west, entering Davis Creek at about stream mile 5.5.

Staff from DFG surveyed Conklin Creek in 1997 and observed *O. mykiss* assumed to be of both anadromous and stream-reproducing ancestry. Juvenile steelhead were present downstream of a set of three barriers beginning about 0.2 miles upstream from the mouth. Rainbow trout were observed in the reach between the barriers and upstream of them. The rainbow trout population was described as “excellent” in the middle section of the creek. The lower section’s habitat was said to be limited by culvert and boulder barriers, and the headwaters experienced low flows and sediment input from new road construction (DFG 1997b).

Conklin Creek as part of the 2004 Davis Creek Watershed Assessment and was said to contain about 0.2 miles of stream available to anadromy. Juvenile steelhead were observed in two pools in this section of the creek in 2003 (ERWIG 2004).

Mill Creek

Mill Creek is tributary to Outlet Creek and consists of about 4.2 stream miles. It flows northeasterly, entering Outlet Creek north of the town of Willits, about 20.8 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Stocking records indicate that Mill Creek was stocked with hatchery steelhead in 1938 and 1939. A total of 9,800 steelhead were stocked in 1938 and 8,000 were stocked in 1939 (DFG 1939b). Staff from DFG surveyed Mill Creek in 1938 and noted that steelhead two to three inches in length were common at the Highway 101 crossing. One five-inch fish was also observed (DFG 1938d).

Temperature and stream flow information was collected on Mill Creek and Willits Creek in 1969. During a survey, juvenile steelhead were observed throughout both creeks and ranged in density from about 20 to 40 fish per 100 feet of stream (DFG 1969)

In a 1997 letter, Michael Morford of the Mendocino County Fish and Game Commission refers to a spawning channel constructed in Mill Creek as a mitigation project for a subdivision in Willits. The letter expresses the opinion that substrate was limiting spawning and additional gravel would improve habitat (Morford 1997).

Electrofishing was conducted at two stations in Mill Creek in 1998 and 1999 by DFG staff. Juvenile steelhead were found at both stations (Harris 1998-1999). Steelhead were present in Mill Creek up to stream mile 4.0 during carcass surveys conducted by DFG staff in 1998 and 1999 (Harris 1998-1999).

Willits Creek

Willits Creek is tributary to Mill Creek and consists of about six stream miles. It flows southeasterly, entering Mill Creek about 2.9 miles upstream from the Outlet Creek confluence.

Staff from DFG surveyed Willits Creek in 1968 and observed YOY steelhead throughout four miles of the lower creek. Juvenile steelhead and/or rainbow trout were observed in 2.5 miles of the upper drainage. The creek was described as “one of the better tributaries to Outlet Creek providing both king salmon and steelhead spawning area.” Summer stream flows may limit rearing habitat in the lower stream (DFG 1968a).

The lower 3.5 miles of Willits Creek was dry during a 1971 survey and the creek was said to contain two miles of rearing habitat in the upper section and about six miles of spawning habitat. Two size classes of steelhead were observed (DFG 1971).

A dam and reservoir on Willits Creek, known as Lake Emily, currently blocks anadromous access about 2.4 miles upstream from the mouth of the creek. It is unclear when this dam was constructed. However a status report of California Wild and Scenic Rivers states that in 1983 10,050 juvenile steelhead were planted in Willits Creek as mitigation for dam construction. Salmonid trapping also was conducted in Willits Creek in 1983 and a total of 66 juvenile steelhead were collected (DFG 1983b).

Staff from DFG conducted stream inventories of Willits Creek in 1991 and 1995. Electrofishing was conducted and YOY and juvenile steelhead were collected during both surveys (CCC 1992, CCC 1996). The 1995 stream inventory report notes that a local employee reported that in previous years steelhead had been observed attempting to get up the spillway on the dam at Lake Emily. The report recommended treating sources of fine sediment and excluding cattle from the creek to avoid trampling and effects from defecation.

A downstream migrant trap was operated on Willits Creek from March through July of 1999. Steelhead YOY and yearlings were trapped during this period and one adult steelhead was also observed (DFG 1999a).

Broaddus Creek

Broaddus Creek is tributary to Outlet Creek and consists of about 6.6 stream miles. It flows northeasterly, through the town of Willits and enters Outlet Creek about 22 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from DFG surveyed Broaddus Creek in 1938 and found that steelhead were common in the vicinity of the Highway 101 crossing. “Good” spawning gravels and “extensive” natural propagation also were noted (DFG 1938e).

Steelhead were not observed during a 1957 survey of Broaddus Creek, although the report cited high turbidity as limiting visibility. However, the survey report noted, “Broaddus Creek sustains a fair steelhead run although it goes dry throughout practically its entire length in the summer” (DFG 1957).

In 1968 staff from DFG investigated pollution entering Broaddus Creek from waste discharges at the Willits Redwood Products Company. Steelhead were found during electrofishing conducted as part of this investigation, but were not present downstream of the waste discharge. The pollution was noted to have lowered the available oxygen for fish and created a sewage fungus blanket in the creek (DFG 1968b).

Steelhead YOY were observed during a 1973 survey of Broaddus Creek. The upper section of the creek was found to contain good spawning habitat, but rearing habitat was limited by low summer flows. The lower section also experienced low summer flows as well as limited spawning habitat due to compacted gravels (DFG 1972k).

Broaddus Creek was sampled as part of a study of salmon and steelhead populations in Mendocino County. A summary table indicates that sampling was performed in the creek in 1989 and steelhead were collected (Anonymous 1990).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Broaddus Creek in 1995. Steelhead YOY were found at an electrofishing site located about 120 feet upstream from the Outlet Creek confluence. (CCC 1995c). The inventory report recommended treating sources of fine sediment and excluding cattle from the creek to avoid trampling and effects from defecation.

Baechtel Creek

Baechtel Creek is tributary to Outlet Creek and consists of about 6.7 stream miles. It flows northeasterly, entering Outlet Creek about 22.3 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from DFG surveyed Baechtel Creek in 1938 and observed steelhead at the Highway 101 crossing. The fish were two to three inches long and considered “common to abundant” (DFG 1938f).

Steelhead were rescued from Baechtel Creek in 1949. A total of 2,560 steelhead were rescued from the stream (DFG 1950).

Juvenile and YOY *O. mykiss* were observed during a 1972 DFG survey of Baechtel Creek. The creek was thought to “offer about 10 miles of potential spawning grounds.” Nursery areas in the lower section of the creek were limited by intermittent summer flows (DFG 1972l).

A stream clearance project was completed on Baechtel Creek in the spring of 1980 by staff from the Center for Education and Manpower Resources. This work involved the clearing of logs, slash, and debris in the upper 1.5 miles of the creek, an area which was considered steelhead habitat (DFG 1981b).

Baechtel Creek was surveyed again by DFG staff in 1980 and contained juvenile *O. mykiss* at a density of about 20 fish per 100 feet of stream. The creek was noted to contain good spawning gravel, riparian canopy, and spring stream flows, but habitat was characterized as limited by flows and stream temperatures in the summer (DFG 1980a).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Baechtel Creek in 1995. Electrofishing was not conducted during the survey, but juvenile steelhead were observed (CCC 1995d). The inventory report recommended treating sources of fine sediment related to the road system and excluding cattle from the creek to avoid trampling and effects from defecation.

Haehl Creek

Haehl Creek is tributary to Outlet Creek and consists of about 4.2 stream miles. It flows northwesterly, entering Outlet Creek about 22.3 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from DFG surveyed Haehl Creek in 1938 and observed steelhead two to three inches in length. Some larger fish, including one seven inches long, also were seen (DFG 1938g).

No salmonids were observed during a 1972 DFG survey of Haehl Creek. Livestock use and trash were noted in the stream, which was said to “offer limited SH spawning and nursery grounds” (DFG 1972m).

A salmonid carcass survey was conducted in the lower 1.5 miles of Haehl Creek in 1987. No fish or redds were observed and the stream bed contained large amounts of fine sediments. Surveyors noted, “This stream appears to have no value to the salmon fisheries” (Walton 1987).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Haehl Creek in 1995. Two sites were electrofished and two juvenile steelhead were found at the second site, located about 1.5 miles upstream from the mouth (CCC 1995e). The inventory report noted that spawning gravel was limited to few reaches in the creek and recommended increasing canopy and excluding cattle from the creek to avoid trampling and effects from defecation.

Brushy Creek

Brushy Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 1.3 stream miles. It flows southwesterly, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 128.

Staff from DFG surveyed this creek in 1967 but referred to it as “Indian Creek.” Surveyors observed four steelhead, averaging 2.5 inches in length. The stream was said to be “currently producing an estimated 40 steelhead.” A 14-foot high boulder barrier was observed 50 feet upstream from the mouth of the creek. However it is unclear whether this comprised a total passage barrier and the location of the observed fish in relation to the barrier (DFG 1967).

Indian Creek (Brushy Creek)

Indian Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 3.7 stream miles. It flows west, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 129.7. In the past this creek was referred to as “Brushy Creek” and is labeled as such on a map included with a 1965 survey report (Smith 1965).

This creek was surveyed during a 1965 survey of this section of the Eel River. It was described as having “excellent prospects as a steelhead spawning stream.” Juvenile steelhead were abundant downstream of a boulder and log barrier located about 100 yards upstream from the mouth. Fish were absent upstream of the barrier (Smith 1965).

Electrofishing was conducted in a number of Eel River tributaries in 1981 as part of PG&E’s Potter Valley Project Fisheries Study. Indian Creek (then referred to as “Brushy”) was sampled in June 1981 and a total of 106 steelhead were collected. A map shows the sampling site near the mouth of the creek (PGE 1981).

Fish Creek

Fish Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about four stream miles. It flows southwesterly, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 134.

Fish Creek was surveyed during a 1965 survey of a portion of the upper Eel River. The lower one mile of Fish Creek was surveyed and juvenile steelhead were observed throughout the area. The creek was reported to have “dependable summer flow” and was described as a source of spawning gravel for the Eel River due to a large gravel bar that was observed at the mouth of the creek (Smith 1965).

Staff from BLM surveyed Fish Creek in 1974 and observed “numerous salmonids.” These fish were described as “most likely steelhead.” Flow at the mouth of the creek was found to be mainly sub-surface and the mouth consisted of an alluvial fan formed by rubble and boulders (BLM 1974a).

Fish sampling was performed throughout the Eel River watershed in 1989 and 1990 as part of a four-year study conducted by researchers at UC Davis. During this sampling, *O. mykiss* was observed in Fish Creek (Brown 1991).

Twin Bridges Creek

Twin Bridges Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about four stream miles. It flows southwesterly, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 139.

Staff from BLM surveyed Twin Bridges Creek in 1974 and observed *O. mykiss* ranging from three to nine inches in length. The survey report states, “It would appear that a small resident trout fishery and an anadromous fishery coexist in the stream. The stream is definitely used by steelhead.” Heavy siltation was observed throughout the creek (BLM 1973).

Old Woman Canyon Creek

Old Woman Canyon Creek is tributary to Twin Bridges Creek and consists of about four stream miles. It flows west, entering Twin Bridges Creek about 0.1 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

A 1983 DFG status report of California Wild and Scenic Rivers lists the number of stream miles accessible to anadromous species in tributaries of the Eel River. In this report Old Woman Canyon Creek is listed as containing one mile of stream accessible to steelhead (DFG 1983a). The report notes that this number represents the stream miles “open to fish passage” and “is not a measure of habitat availability or habitat quality” (DFG 1983a, p. H-45). The distribution estimates were made by examining DFG fisheries files and USGS maps.

Garcia Creek

Garcia Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 4.5 stream miles. It flows south, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 147.

Staff from USFS surveyed Garcia Creek and its tributaries in 1973 and observed “salmonids” at low densities in the lower creek and becoming more common in the upper reaches. The creek contained three miles of stream accessible for anadromous spawning and rearing. A summary of the stream survey states, “Reproduction by salmonids seemed to be good for the past spawning season, but the general impression was that this stream is capable of supporting greater densities of these species” (USFS 1983).

Electrofishing was conducted in a number of Eel River tributaries in 1981 as part of PG&E’s Potter Valley Project Fisheries Study. Garcia Creek was sampled in June 1981 and a total of 225 steelhead were collected (PGE 1981).

Long Opening Creek

Long Opening Creek is tributary to Garcia Creek and consists of about 2.8 stream miles. It flows southwesterly, entering Garcia Creek about 0.7 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Long Opening Creek was inspected during a 1973 survey of Garcia Creek and contained juvenile salmonids. The amount of stream accessible to anadromous fish was not determined (USFS 1983).

Bear Pen Creek

Bear Pen Creek is tributary to Garcia Creek and consists of about 3.9 stream miles. It flows southwesterly, entering Garcia Creek about one mile upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Bear Pen Creek was inspected during a 1973 survey of Garcia Creek and contained juvenile salmonids. The amount of stream accessible to anadromous fish was not determined (USFS 1983).

Thomas Creek

Thomas Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 3.5 stream miles. It flows west, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 149.

Staff from USFS surveyed the lower 2.5 miles of Thomas Creek in 1973 and found that “It appears to be an important stream for reproduction and rearing of juvenile anadromous salmonids.” Salmonids were observed throughout the stream at densities of up to 50 fish per 100 feet of stream (USFS 1973a).

Electrofishing was conducted in a number of Eel River tributaries in 1981 as part of PG&E’s Potter Valley Project Fisheries Study. Thomas Creek was sampled in June 1981, when 208 steelhead were collected (PGE 1981).

Fish sampling was performed throughout the Eel River watershed in 1989 and 1990 as part of a four-year study conducted by researchers at UC Davis. During this sampling, *O. mykiss* was observed in Thomas Creek (Brown 1991).

In the 1998 final report of PG&E’s Potter Valley Project Monitoring Program, Thomas Creek is included on a list of smaller tributaries to the upper mainstem Eel River. These tributaries are described as having “relatively stable habitat” that function as “good nursery streams with relatively stable populations from year to year” (PGE 1998).

Tomki Creek

Tomki Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 22.5 stream miles. It flows southeasterly, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 153. Staff from DFG surveyed Tomki Creek in 1938 and observed three-inch steelhead about 0.25 miles upstream from the mouth. Natural propagation for the fish was described as “extensive.” Surveyors noted “good” spawning areas, “good” pools and shelter, and “abundant” fish food items (DFG 1938h).

Steelhead were rescued from Tomki Creek in 1939, 1949, 1951, and 1953. Between 29,800 and 138,850 steelhead were rescued from the creek each year (DFG 1940, DFG 1950, DFG 1952, DFG 1954).

Staff from DFG surveyed 20 miles of Tomki Creek in 1964 and found *O. mykiss* throughout the creek. Fingerlings were present downstream of the Long Branch Creek confluence and also in intermittent pools in the mid-section of the creek, while larger (four to eight inch) fish were found upstream of the Wheelbarrow Creek confluence. Low stream flows during the late spring, summer, and early fall were identified as the major limiting factor for fish populations. This factor explained why, “A large population of steelhead that might be found in a drainage such as this is almost entirely absent.” The creek reportedly flowed throughout the year in the past, before extensive logging took place in the watershed (DFG 1964a).

During a 1972 survey, staff from DFG observed two size classes of steelhead in Tomki Creek and described the larger fish as “probably smolt.” Due to limited spawning and nursery areas in the creek, surveyors concluded, “Tomki Creek’s greatest value for SH use is in terms of fish passage to the higher tributaries with the watershed” (DFG 1972n).

Electrofishing was conducted in a number of Eel River tributaries in 1981 as part of PG&E’s Potter Valley Project Fisheries Study. Tomki Creek was sampled in June 1981 and a total of 56 steelhead were collected upstream from the Wheelbarrow Creek confluence and 230 steelhead were found downstream from the Long Branch Creek confluence (PGE 1981).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Tomki Creek in 1997. The survey began at the confluence with the Eel River and covered about 12.9 stream miles. Limited numbers of steelhead were found in the creek; a total of three YOY were captured during electrofishing at five sites (DFG 1997c). The inventory report notes that water temperature may limit the fishery and recommends increasing canopy, treating sources of fine sediment, and excluding cattle from the creek to avoid trampling and effects from defecation.

In the 1998 final report of PG&E's Potter Valley Project Monitoring Program, Tomki Creek is described as "significantly degraded from decades of timber harvest and other land use practices." According to the report, these practices have caused sedimentation, altered stream morphology in the watershed, and "compromised the quality of much of the remaining salmonid spawning and rearing habitats" (PGE 1998, p. xxiii).

Bear Skin Canyon Creek

Bear Skin Canyon Creek is tributary to Tomki Creek and consists of about 1.4 stream miles. It flows north, entering Tomki Creek about two miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Bear Skin Canyon Creek was surveyed in 1964 and described as a "very important contributor of summer stream flow." No fish were observed in the lower 100 yards of stream and it "appeared to be unattractive to fish" (DFG 1964b).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Bear Skin Canyon Creek in 1997. No fish were observed during the survey and an eight-foot and a seven-foot waterfall were present within 0.1 miles of the creek mouth. The waterfalls "marked the end of the possible anadromous reach" (Schaible 1997).

Salmon Creek

Salmon Creek is tributary to Tomki Creek and consists of about 3.5 stream miles. It flows southeasterly, entering Tomki Creek about 2.6 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from DFG surveyed Salmon Creek in 1964 and observed low numbers of *O. mykiss* in the lower 0.5 miles of the stream. Flow was very low during the survey, but the stream was described as "an important spawning area for king salmon and steelhead" and spawning gravels were observed throughout the survey reach (DFG 1964c).

During a 1973 survey of Salmon Creek, staff from DFG noted "few" YOY steelhead. The survey report states, "Salmon Creek offers little potential for SH use, due to the extensive amounts of bedrock noted and also due to low flows, apparently even during the winter" (DFG 1972o).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Salmon Creek in 1997. Two YOY *O. mykiss* were found at an electrofishing site just upstream from the mouth of the creek and juvenile steelhead were observed about 0.3 miles upstream (DFG 1997d). The inventory report notes that water temperature may limit the fishery and recommends increasing canopy, along with treating sources of fine sediment.

Long Branch Creek

Long Branch Creek is tributary to Tomki Creek and consists of about four stream miles. It flows north, entering Tomki Creek about 4.2 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from DFG surveyed the lower 1.5 miles of Long Branch Creek in 1964 and observed *O. mykiss* ranging from three to four inches in length. “Good” spawning areas were present but rearing habitat was said to be limited by low summer stream flows (DFG 1964d).

In a 1972 survey, the upstream limit of use by salmonids in Long Branch Creek was said to be three miles upstream from its mouth. Young-of-year steelhead were observed in the creek, which contained “excellent steelhead spawning potential” (DFG 1972p).

In 1985 staff from DFG investigated a sediment problem in the lower section of Long Branch Creek that appeared to originate from a landslide on an unnamed tributary. The sedimentation was found to adversely impact steelhead spawning and rearing habitat (DFG 1985).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Long Branch Creek in 1997. Steelhead were captured at three electrofishing sites and juveniles were observed in the 3.7 mile reach upstream from the mouth (DFG 1997e). The inventory report notes that water temperature may limit the fishery and recommends increasing canopy, along with treating sources of fine sediment related to the road system.

Long Branch Creek tributary

An unnamed tributary to Long Branch Creek consists of about two stream miles. It flows southeasterly, entering Long Branch Creek about 2.9 miles upstream from the Tomki Creek confluence.

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of this stream in 1997. During the survey juvenile steelhead were observed at several points in the lower 1.2 stream miles. The area upstream was characterized as a steep cascade (DFG 1997f). The inventory report recommended treating sources of fine sediment and increasing canopy.

Scott Creek

Scott Creek is tributary to Tomki Creek and consists of about four stream miles. It flows south, entering Tomki Creek about 4.8 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from DFG surveyed four miles of Scott Creek in 1972 and observed steelhead YOY. In its lower section the creek was noted to have “good SH potential” limited by low summer stream flows. Habitat quality decreased in the upper section due to low flows combined with silt in the stream bed (DFG 1972q).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Scott Creek in 1999. Unidentified salmonids were observed during the survey only in the lower 0.3 miles of the stream. Recommendations for improving habitat in the creek including increasing riparian vegetation and addressing sediment sources related to road systems (DFG 1999b).

Cave Creek

Cave Creek is tributary to Tomki Creek and consists of about 4.4 stream miles. It flows north, entering Tomki Creek about 6.5 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

A 1958 field note documents an observation of *O. mykiss* in Cave Creek. “Steelhead or trout” fingerlings were observed in pools near a bridge on Redwood Valley Road (Anonymous 1958).

Staff from DFG surveyed Cave Creek in 1964 and observed juvenile and YOY *O. mykiss*. According to the survey report “steelhead and/or rainbow trout” spawn in this stream in the spring, while rearing habitat was noted as limited by low flows in the late spring and summer (DFG 1964e).

Juvenile steelhead were observed during a 1972 survey of Cave Creek, and the creek was said to contain 2.5 miles of potential spawning and rearing habitat. Stream flows were intermittent during the survey, which took place during August (DFG 1972r).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Cave Creek in 1997. Juvenile and YOY steelhead were collected at electrofishing sites within the lower 2.4 stream miles (DFG 1997g). The inventory report notes that water temperature may limit the fishery and recommends increasing canopy, along with treating sources of fine sediment.

Cave Creek tributary

An unnamed tributary to Cave Creek consists of about 0.7 stream miles. It flows east, entering Cave Creek about 1.3 miles upstream from the Tomki Creek confluence.

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of this tributary to Cave Creek in 1997. Electrofishing was conducted about 55 feet upstream from the mouth YOY, where steelhead were collected. A log debris barrier was observed about 0.1 miles upstream from the mouth of the creek (DFG 1997h). The inventory report recommended controlling sediment input into the creek and evaluating fish passage at a culvert located about 55 feet upstream from the mouth.

Little Cave Creek

Little Cave Creek is tributary to Cave Creek and consists of about 1.8 stream miles. It flows east, entering Cave Creek about 2.4 miles upstream from the Tomki Creek confluence.

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Little Cave Creek in 1997. Juvenile and YOY steelhead were collected at an electrofishing site located about 500 feet upstream from the mouth of the creek. An area of steep gradient about 0.6 miles upstream from the mouth was identified as the upstream limit for anadromous fish (DFG 1997i). The inventory report notes that water temperature may limit the fishery and recommends increasing canopy, along with treating sources of fine sediment related to the road system.

Little Creek

Little Creek is tributary to Tomki Creek and consists of about 1.9 stream miles. It flows east, entering Tomki Creek about 7.6 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Little Creek in 1997. One juvenile steelhead was found during electrofishing about 0.2 miles upstream from the Tomki Creek confluence. The survey report noted possible fish passage problems at a concrete fish ladder and a culvert, both located within 400 feet of the mouth of the creek (DFG 1997j). The report recommended planting riparian vegetation and controlling sediment input into the creek, including sediment sources related to the road system.

Rocktree Creek

Rocktree Creek is tributary to Tomki Creek and consists of about 4.6 stream miles. It flows east, entering Tomki Creek about 9.3 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence. Some stream survey reports describe Rocktree Creek as a tributary to String Creek.

Steelhead were rescued from Rocktree Creek in 1962. A total 1,216 steelhead were collected in the creek (DFG 1962b). About 1.5 miles of Rocktree Creek were surveyed during a 1967 stream survey. Juvenile *O. mykiss* ranging from two to five inches in length were observed in intermittent pools in the headwaters. The rest of the stream and streams nearby were dry during the survey (DFG 1964f).

Staff from DFG surveyed Rocktree Creek in 1972. The survey took place in August, when both flow and fish were absent. The survey report stated, "The muddy nature of Rocktree Creek, combined with low flows, severely restricts SH potential for this stream" (DFG 1972s).

Digger Creek

Digger Creek is tributary to Rocktree Creek and consists of about 1.2 stream miles. It flows northeasterly, entering Rocktree Creek about 1.4 miles upstream from the Tomki Creek confluence.

Staff from BLM surveyed a section of Digger Creek in 1974 and did not observe fish. It was described as "a small stream and flows are not substantial enough to support fish life." Water quality also was noted as a potential problem (BLM 1974b).

String Creek

String Creek is tributary to Rocktree Creek and consists of about 5.1 stream miles. It flows southeasterly, entering Rocktree Creek about 1.9 miles upstream from the Tomki Creek confluence. Some stream survey reports describe String Creek as a tributary to Tomki Creek and Rocktree Creek as a tributary to String Creek.

Steelhead were rescued from String Creek in 1939, 1940, and 1951. A total of 4,750 steelhead were rescued in 1939, 5,091 were rescued in 1940, and 3,316 were rescued in 1951 (DFG 1940, DFG 1941, DFG 1952).

In 1964 staff from DFG surveyed String Creek and did not observe fish. Most of the stream was dry during the survey but surveyors wrote that it "appears to have good to excellent spawning potential throughout most of its length" (DFG 1964f).

During a 1972 survey staff from DFG observed YOY *O. mykiss* in String Creek. Local residents reported that the creek is “heavily used by SH in years of adequate flow” (DFG 1972t).

Electrofishing was conducted in a number of Eel River tributaries in 1981 as part of PG&E’s Potter Valley Project Fisheries Study. String Creek was sampled in June 1981, when 104 steelhead were collected (PGE 1981).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of String Creek in 1995. The report stated, “fish presence was observed throughout the survey from the streambank.” The species of fish observed is not noted, but is assumed to include *O. mykiss* (DFG 1995d). The inventory report notes that water temperature may limit the fishery and recommends increasing riparian vegetation, along with treating sources of fine sediment.

Tartar Creek

Tartar Creek is tributary to String Creek and consists of about 2.2 stream miles. It flows northeasterly, entering String Creek about 1.3 miles upstream from the Rocktree Creek confluence.

About 0.75 miles of Tartar Creek were surveyed during a 1967 stream survey. Juvenile *O. mykiss* ranging from two to five inches in length were observed in intermittent pools in the headwaters of Tartar Creek. The rest of the stream and surrounding streams were dry during the survey (DFG 1964f).

Wheelbarrow Creek

Wheelbarrow Creek is tributary to Tomki Creek and consists of about three miles of intermittent stream. It flows northeasterly, entering Tomki Creek about 16.5 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

During a 1964 survey *O. mykiss* fingerlings were observed stranded in pools in the middle section of Wheelbarrow Creek. The creek was said to contain a “spawning and partial nursery area for steelhead.” According to the report, the creek “goes dry throughout practically its entire length in the late spring and summer months” (DFG 1964g).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Wheelbarrow Creek in 1997. Young-of-year *O. mykiss* were found at an electrofishing site located about 0.5 miles upstream from the mouth of the creek. A small dam was present about 2.2 miles upstream from the creek mouth and salmonids were not observed in the reservoir or further upstream (DFG 1997k). The inventory report notes that water temperature may limit the fishery and recommends increasing canopy.

Bean Creek

Bean Creek is tributary to Tomki Creek and consists of about 1.6 miles of intermittent stream. It flows east, entering Tomki Creek about 17.4 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Bean Creek in 1997. Electrofishing yielded one YOY *O. mykiss* and one age 1+ individual at a site less than 0.2 miles from the creek mouth. The survey was stopped at about stream mile 0.3 due to bank slides

that clogged the channel and created a passage barrier (DFG 1997l). The inventory report notes that water temperatures “are near the threshold stress level for juvenile salmonids” and recommends increasing riparian vegetation.

Laurel Creek

Laurel Creek is tributary to Tomki Creek and consists of about 1.8 stream miles. It flows north, entering Tomki Creek about 20.6 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Laurel Creek in 1997. Ten YOY *O. mykiss* were collected at an electrofishing site located about 25 feet upstream of the Tomki Creek confluence. A concrete culvert located about 1.2 miles upstream from the creek mouth was identified as a fish passage barrier (DFG 1997m). The inventory report notes that water temperature may limit the fishery and recommends increasing canopy.

Whitney Creek

Whitney Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 2.5 stream miles. It flows southwesterly, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 154.

Staff from DFG inspected Whitney Creek in 1966 in response to reports of the stream drying up due to a diversion. At the time, erosion damage was observed and attributed to floods in 1964, and “good” spawning areas were present but “infrequent.” Young-of-year and yearling steelhead were observed in the creek, as well as one 27-inch adult steelhead that was seen about 1.5 miles upstream from the mouth (DFG 1966).

In 1974 staff from BLM observed rainbow trout in a section of Whitney Creek immediately upstream from the water diversion cited above. The section of the creek about 0.5 miles downstream from the confluence of the creek forks was described as “good rainbow trout habitat.” The diversion was said to capture the creek’s total flow for transfer to a pond on private land (BLM 1974c).

Staff from USFS surveyed Whitney Creek in 1980 and wrote, “Very few fish were observed during the survey, although the habitat is capable of sustaining large numbers.” The lower one mile of the stream was privately owned and water diversions in this section were again found to divert the stream’s entire summer baseflow. Upstream of the privately owned section, anadromous fish were said to have access to 0.25 miles of creek downstream from a 10-foot waterfall (USFS 1980a).

Hale Creek

Hale Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 1.5 stream miles. It flows east, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 155.

Staff from BLM surveyed Hale Creek in 1974 and did not observe fish. The stream was described as a “small spawning area” and spawning gravel was noted in the lower section. The upper section of the stream was believed to offer little potential fish habitat (BLM 1974d).

No fish were observed during a 1979 stream survey of Hale Creek. However, local residents reported seeing steelhead earlier in the year. The survey report states that steelhead and Chinook salmon “were once abundant, and spawned here.” Poaching may have limited fish populations in this creek and surveyors wrote, “As long as there is sufficient water and fish are protected from excessive poaching, the population should recover” (Clark 1979a).

Mill Creek

Mill Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 3.6 stream miles. It flows southwesterly, entering the Eel River via Van Arsdale Reservoir at about stream mile 157.

Staff from DFG surveyed the lower three miles of Mill Creek in 1959 and described it as “a good spawning tributary for steelhead migrating up the Eel River.” Steelhead from 1.5 to six inches in length were observed (DFG 1959a).

Mill Creek is mentioned in a 1969 report addressing fish resources of the upper Eel River in relation to the Potter Valley Project. In this report Mill Creek is described as one of the most important Eel River tributaries for steelhead in the section between Cape Horn and Scott dams (Anonymous 1969).

Staff from BLM surveyed Mill Creek in 1974 and observed rainbow trout ranging from 1 to 12 inches in length. The stream was described as “an excellent example of an undisturbed spawning tributary.” Stream temperatures were considered ideal for most of the year and food sources were abundant. A resident rainbow trout population was noted upstream of impassable 30-foot falls, the exact location of which was not provided (BLM 1974e).

Staff from DFG surveyed the lower 0.25 miles of Mill Creek in 1995 and observed three YOY *O. mykiss*. The lower 600 feet of the stream was dry and surveyors noted “excessive” water diversions in the short section surveyed (DFG 1995e).

Rocky Creek

Rocky Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 0.7 stream miles. It flows south, entering the Eel River at the upstream end of Van Arsdale Reservoir, at about stream mile 158.

Staff from DFG surveyed Rocky Creek in 1938 and observed YOY steelhead about 0.5 miles upstream from the creek mouth. Spawning areas were described as “fair,” pools and shelter were “good,” and fish food items were “abundant.” (DFG 1938i).

In 1980 staff from DFG surveyed Rocky Creek and found it to be completely dry. No spawning areas were observed, the culvert under Eel River Road was deemed an impassable barrier, and the stream was said to have “little fish value” beyond contributing winter flows to the Eel River (DFG 1980b).

Trout Creek

Trout Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 1.9 stream miles. It flows south, entering the Eel River about 3.8 miles upstream from the Van Arsdale Reservoir.

Staff from DFG surveyed Trout Creek in 1938 and did not observe fish. The stream was surveyed about 0.5 miles upstream from its mouth and its condition was described as “average,” with “good” spawning areas. The survey report notes “impassable cascades” (DFG 1938j).

Trout Creek is mentioned in a 1969 report addressing fish resources of the upper Eel River in relation to the Potter Valley Project. In this report Trout Creek is described as one of the most important Eel River tributaries for steelhead in the section between Cape Horn/Van Arsdale and Scott Dams. It was said to contain “fair spawning areas” (Anonymous 1969).

Staff from DFG surveyed Trout Creek in 1979 and did not observe fish but noted, “game warden has seen steelhead in Trout Creek.” Some erosion was seen and logging debris in the stream was noted to make fish passage difficult (Clark 1979b).

Young-of-year *O. mykiss* were observed during a 1980 survey of Trout Creek and the stream was described as “suitable for steelhead.” Lack of spawning habitat was noted as a limiting factor and a falls at the mouth of the creek was thought to be passable only at high flows (DFG 1980c).

In 1995 staff from DFG observed two YOY *O. mykiss* in the lower 0.25 miles of Trout Creek. This section was said to provide “some spawning and rearing area for steelhead trout” (DFG 1995f).

Bucknell Creek

Bucknell Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 8.6 stream miles. It flows northwesterly, entering the Eel River about 4.5 miles upstream from Van Arsdale Reservoir.

Staff from DFG surveyed the lower four miles of Bucknell Creek in 1959 and observed “very good” spawning areas. Steelhead from 1.5 to five inches in length were present but not abundant, and the stream was described as “suitable for spawning steelhead” (DFG 1959b).

Bucknell Creek is mentioned in a 1969 report addressing fish resources of the upper Eel River in relation to the Potter Valley Project. In this report Bucknell Creek is described as one of the most important Eel River tributaries for steelhead in the section between Cape Horn and Scott dams. It is also said to have “excellent spawning areas” (Anonymous 1969).

In 1975, DFG staff stated, “Approximately 3.5 miles of Bucknell Creek is available to adult steelhead” (DFG 1975b). Juvenile *O. mykiss* ranging from one to five inches in length were observed during a 1980 DFG stream survey of Bucknell Creek. Surveyors described the creek as “an important steelhead spawning and rearing stream” and found “excellent cover, deep pools, and good summer flows” (DFG 1980d).

Bucknell Creek was sampled regularly over a number of years as part of PG&E’s Potter Valley Project Monitoring Program. During these studies significant numbers of steelhead were collected in the creek every year from 1981 through 1995 (PGE 1998).

In a 1990 stream survey report Bucknell Creek is described as containing “some of the more important spawning and rearing areas for salmonids in this section of the upper Eel River.” Juvenile and YOY steelhead were abundant and experienced “good” natural propagation. A log debris barrier in the lower section of the creek was modified in 1990, providing fish access to more than five miles of the creek (DFG 1990).

During a 1995 survey of Bucknell Creek steelhead densities were “low,” and the creek was described as “in relatively good condition” although “spawning value was low.” Rehabilitation efforts were recommended and included the removal of debris barriers and the construction of a jump pool at the base of a waterfall barrier (DFG 1995g).

In a 1995 Watershed Analysis Report for the Upper Main Eel River Watershed, Bucknell Creek is described as one of two creeks that are the “largest anadromous tributaries in this watershed” (USFS 1995, p. 19). These creeks are said to be “probably the cornerstone to the limited natural production of steelhead in the watershed” (USFS 1995, p. 25). Barriers and low summer flows are listed as limiting factors in Bucknell Creek and the report recommended controlling erosion, particularly from roads, and increasing riparian vegetation in the watershed.

Bucknell Creek tributary

An unnamed tributary to Bucknell Creek consists of about 2.5 stream miles. It flows west then north, entering Bucknell Creek about 5.4 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from DFG surveyed one mile of this tributary in 1995 and observed juvenile steelhead throughout the section at a density of about 5 fish per 100 feet of stream. The creek provided “spawning and rearing habitat for a limited number of salmonids” due to a lack of spawning gravel (DFG 1995h).

Alder Creek

Alder Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 1.7 stream miles. It flows south, entering the Eel River about 5.3 miles upstream from Van Arsdale Reservoir.

In 1995 staff from DFG surveyed the lower 0.2 miles of Alder Creek from the mouth to the USFS road crossing. A low density of juvenile and YOY steelhead, ranging from three to seven inches in length, was observed in this section. The creek was described as a “small, steep gradient stream.” The quality of habitat upstream of the road crossing was unknown and a more extensive survey was recommended (DFG 1995i).

Dashiell Creek

Dashiell Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 2.2 stream miles. It flows southeasterly, entering the Eel River about 6.2 miles upstream from Van Arsdale Reservoir.

A field note documents 1956 observations of Dashiell Creek made at the Lake Pillsbury Road crossing. At this location the stream was thought to be too steep for spawning steelhead to ascend and it was reported that no rainbow trout or steelhead used the stream (Randolph 1956).

Dashiell Creek is mentioned in a 1969 report addressing fish resources of the upper Eel River in relation to the Potter Valley Project. In this report Dashiell Creek is described as one of the most important Eel River tributaries for steelhead in the section between Cape Horn and Scott dams (Anonymous 1969).

In 1973, USFS staff walked two miles of Dashiell Creek. A barrier was noted at about stream mile 1.5, but YOY “salmonids” were observed upstream at densities similar to those downstream (USFS 1973b).

In 1995, staff from DFG surveyed the lower 0.3 miles of Dashiell Creek, from the mouth upstream to a road crossing. A log and boulder barrier was found about halfway between the mouth and the road. Two YOY *O. mykiss* were observed upstream of the barrier and three juveniles were seen downstream. The creek was described as a “small, steep gradient stream” that “supports a very small population of steelhead trout in the lowest most section” (DFG 1995j).

Benmore Creek

Benmore Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 3.2 stream miles. It flows north, entering the Eel River about 2.2 miles downstream from Scott Dam.

In 1945 staff from DFG studied the effects of different water flows from Lake Pillsbury in order to determine the impacts on downstream fishlife. In a report on this study, Benmore Creek is described as one of the two “most important” tributary streams for steelhead spawning in the section of the Eel River between Cape Horn and Scott dams (DFG 1945).

A letter written by a DFG biologist summarizes the results of a 1970 survey of Benmore Creek. It states that the creek provided three miles of spawning and rearing habitat for steelhead and the density of fish observed indicated a population of about 1,267 juvenile steelhead in the stream (DFG 1975b).

In 1975, DFG staff stated, “[Benmore Creek] provides three miles of steelhead spawning and nursery area” (DFG 1975b). Steelhead YOY ranging from one to three inches in length were observed during a 1978 stream survey conducted by staff from USFS. Habitat conditions in the stream were described as “good” (USFS 1978a).

In 1995 staff from DFG surveyed Benmore Creek and observed *O. mykiss* “distributed sparsely for two miles from the mouth.” The creek had “a high gradient and low quantity of quality spawning gravel” but it “supports a small population of rainbow trout or steelhead” (DFG 1995k).

Benmore Creek is mentioned in a 1995 Watershed Analysis Report for the Upper Main Eel River Watershed. The report states that natural barriers make the majority of this creek inaccessible to anadromous fish, but does not recommend barrier removal. A map indicates the presence of resident fish in a large portion of Benmore Creek (USFS 1995).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Benmore Creek in 1998. Juvenile and YOY steelhead were found at an electrofishing site located about 0.1 miles upstream from the creek mouth and “salmonids” were observed at several other locations but not identified. Stream habitat was affected by limited spawning gravels, log debris accumulations, cattle trampling, and high gradients (CCC 1998a).

In 2006, USFS staff observed “only a few 1+ steelhead,” but “abundant” YOY in lower Benmore Creek. Field notes include a report by DFG staff that spawning salmon were seen “in lower Benmore in certain years” (USFS 2006a).

Soda Creek

Soda Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about three stream miles. It is formed by the confluence of Welch and Panther creeks and flows south, entering the Eel River about 1.1 miles downstream from Scott Dam. The drainage area is about 12.7 square miles.

Steelhead were rescued from Soda Creek during several years between 1939 and 1962. The number of steelhead collected each year ranged from 24,139 to 225,575 (DFG 1940, DFG 1954, DFG 1962b).

Soda Creek is mentioned in a 1969 report addressing fish resources of the upper Eel River in relation to the Potter Valley Project. In this report Soda Creek is described as one of the most important Eel River tributaries for steelhead in the section between Cape Horn and Scott dams. It was said to contain “excellent spawning areas” but “negligible” nursery habitat (Anonymous 1969). A 1970 DFG survey of Soda Creek found juvenile *O. mykiss* “at an average density of about 30 per 100 ft. of stream.” The survey report notes mortality of “great numbers” of juveniles when the creek dries in the summer and recommends protesting summer water diversion (DFG 1970).

A 1973 USFS memo indicates that “the lower three miles or more [of Soda Creek] dry up during the summer months.” Survey results found three to five trout in 100 feet of stream in the lower and middle survey sections. The memo adds, “Adult salmonids may be prevented from returning to this stream because of fish stripping procedures at Van Arsdale Dam” (USFS 1973c). Staff from USFS surveyed Soda and Panther creeks in 1979. *Oncorhynchus mykiss* was observed throughout the watershed which was said to have an established run of steelhead. Fish habitat was less suitable in Soda Creek than in other parts of the watershed due to low water levels and warm water temperatures (USFS 1980b).

Steelhead were “abundant” during a 1995 survey of Soda Creek and ranged from three to ten inches in length. Factors limiting the fish populations included low stream flows, high water temperatures, poor riparian vegetation, and the presence of pikeminnow (DFG 1995).

In a 1995 Watershed Analysis Report for the Upper Main Eel River Watershed, Soda Creek is described as one of two creeks that are the “largest anadromous tributaries in this watershed (USFS 1995, p. 19). These creeks are said to be “probably the cornerstone to the limited natural production of steelhead in the watershed” (USFS 1995, p. 25). The report notes that the creek has been damaged by past flood events which have created a braided channel in the lower creek and a barrier of gravel deposits. Riparian planting and possible channel reconstruction were recommended to improve habitat in the watershed.

Field notes by USFS staff in 1996 for the “channel confinement Project site” of Soda Creek recommend, “Make an effort to get survival on riparian vegetation, and add more vegetation.” The notes indicate that 12 vortex weirs were located in a 300 yard reach (USFS 1996).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Soda Creek in 1998. During the survey YOY steelhead were found at an electrofishing site located about 1.6 miles upstream from the creek mouth (CCC 1998b). The inventory report recommended planting riparian vegetation, treating sources of fine sediment, and excluding cattle from the creek to avoid trampling and effects from defecation.

Soda Creek tributary

An unnamed Soda Creek tributary consists of about 1.1 stream miles. The creek flows east, entering Soda Creek near the Soda Creek Station.

Staff from USFS surveyed about 0.75 miles of the Soda Creek tributary in 1979. The report cites “minimal” trout habitat but noted a “population of juvenile rainbow trout/steelhead” that indicated “spawning use during higher flows” (USFS 1980c).

Panther Creek

Panther Creek is tributary to Soda Creek and consists of about 4.9 stream miles. The confluence of Panther and Welch creeks forms Soda Creek, about three miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from USFS surveyed Soda and Panther Creeks in 1979. *Oncorhynchus mykiss* was observed throughout the watershed which was said to have an established run of steelhead. Most of the suitable habitat was present in the Panther Creek section of the watershed (USFS 1980b).

In 1995 staff from DFG surveyed Panther Creek and found steelhead to be “numerous” throughout the creek. Fish ranged from 2.5 to eight inches in length and their density was estimated at about 50 fish per 100 feet of stream. No fish were seen upstream of two barriers located about 2.7 miles upstream from the creek mouth. The creek contained “excellent spawning area for steelhead trout” (DFG 1995m).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Panther Creek in 1998. Electrofishing was conducted at two sites, both within 0.1 miles of the creek mouth, and YOY and juvenile steelhead were found (Retherford 1998). The inventory report recommended increasing canopy and treating sources of fine sediment, including sediment sources related to the road system.

Cedar Creek

Cedar Creek is tributary to Panther Creek and consists of about two stream miles. It flows northeasterly, entering Panther Creek about 3.8 miles upstream from the Soda Creek confluence.

Staff from USFS surveyed Cedar Creek in 1977 and did not observe fish in the creek. The lack of fish was attributed to a drought and fish reportedly had been present in the stream until the summer of 1977. The stream was said to contain “excellent trout habitat” and “is expected to support fish through all but very dry years.” Stocking was recommended to reestablish a fish population after the drought ended (USFS 1977a).

Welch Creek

Welch Creek is tributary to Soda Creek and consists of about 3.3 stream miles. It flows southeasterly to its confluence with Panther Creek, forming Soda Creek about three miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from USFS surveyed the Soda Creek watershed in 1979. Welch Creek was not surveyed, but surveyors noted, “Panther + Welch Cr. have established runs of SH trout” (USFS 1980b). A 1980 USFS memo indicates that 1.2 miles of the creek was

surveyed and that “only 100 yards of stream at the mouth was marginal trout habitat.” Only juvenile trout were observed (USFS 1980d).

Staff from DFG surveyed Welch Creek in 1993 and observed juvenile *O. mykiss*, mostly in the lower 0.25 miles of the creek. Surveyors reported it was likely that the stream dried up during the summer and wrote, “fish are found only a very short distance from the mouth and the overall gradient of the stream most likely precludes it from every having a sustainable population in the upper reaches” (DFG 1995n).

Welch Creek is mentioned in a 1995 Watershed Analysis Report for the Upper Main Eel River Watershed. The report states that natural barriers make the majority of this creek inaccessible to anadromous fish, but does not recommend barrier removal (USFS 1995).

Staff from DFG conducted a stream inventory of Welch Creek in 1998. Electrofishing was conducted about 0.1 miles upstream from the creek mouth and eight YOY and two age 1+ *O. mykiss* were found. The survey ended less than 0.3 miles upstream from the mouth where the stream channel became steep and dry (CCC 1998c). The inventory report recommended increasing canopy, treating sources of fine sediment, and excluding cattle from the creek to avoid trampling and effects from defecation.

Rice Fork

The Rice Fork is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 18.8 stream miles. It flows northwesterly and enters Lake Pillsbury immediately upstream from Scott Dam.

Staff from DFG surveyed Rice Fork in 1938 and observed rainbow trout ranging from 1.25 to 6.0 inches in length in the lower creek. “Excellent” spawning areas and “good” pools and shelter were also noted (DFG 1938k).

Rice Fork was inspected during a 1961 survey of Eel River streams upstream of Scott Dam. In a report on this survey, John Day of DFG writes that Rice Fork “in all probability is the most important spawning tributary to Lake Pillsbury.” Large numbers of YOY rainbow trout were observed in the creek, which was “up to carrying capacity.” The report also stated that large trout were observed spawning in Rice Fork, and the four mile section from Crab Tree Springs to Bucknell Flats was particularly important (DFG 1961).

Staff from DFG completed a Fish Population Survey of the Rice Fork in 1988. In a description of the watershed’s history, the author reports that steelhead used the Rice Fork for spawning and rearing prior to construction of Scott Dam in 1922. The sediment load had reportedly increased in the Rice Fork due to logging and road construction, and pikeminnow was called an issue in the creek. Pikeminnow and Sacramento sucker were the only fish collected during sampling in the Rice Fork in 1988 (DFG 1988b).

In 1993 staff from DFG surveyed the Rice Fork and found that rainbow trout were “sparse” and limited to the headwaters. Pikeminnow was “abundant,” but only found downstream from the confluence with French Creek. Habitat was said to be affected by low summer flows and cattle presence, but good spawning gravel was present throughout. The survey report stated, “Rice Fork would be an excellent salmonid stream if the squawfish population were extirpated” (DFG 1993a).

Packsaddle Creek

Packsaddle Creek is tributary to Rice Fork. It consists of about 3.1 stream miles and flows northeasterly, entering the Rice Fork near Swallow Rock. At the maximum pool of Lake Pillsbury, the creek mouth is flooded.

During a 1980 survey of Packsaddle Creek, staff from DFG observed rainbow trout downstream of a rock barrier located 0.8 miles above the mouth (Yates and Swirhun 1980).

Staff from DFG surveyed Packsaddle Creek for fish species in 1993 and observed only pikeminnow. The creek contained “little to no habitat for salmonid fishes” due to numerous barriers and intermittent flows (DFG 1993b).

Willow Creek

Willow Creek is tributary to Rice Fork and consists of about five stream miles. It flows northeasterly, entering the Rice Fork about 1.2 miles upstream from the maximum pool extent of Lake Pillsbury.

During a 1993 survey of Willow Creek, staff from DFG observed rainbow trout in the lower half of the creek and this section supported a “self-sustaining population.” The upper section of the stream was intermittent and did not support fish. The stream was called valuable as a source of cool water to the Rice Fork (DFG 1993c).

Deer Creek

Deer Creek is tributary to Rice Fork and consists of about 6.5 stream miles. It flows west, entering the Rice Fork about 1.6 miles upstream from the maximum pool extent of Lake Pillsbury.

Staff from DFG surveyed Deer Creek in 1938 and noted the presence of “occasional” rainbow trout ranging from two to three inches in length. The survey report notes “excellent” spawning areas and “good” pools and shelter in the creek (DFG 1938l).

Deer Creek was inspected during a 1961 survey of Eel River tributaries upstream of Scott Dam. A table included with the survey report indicates that rainbow trout were observed in Deer Creek about 650 feet upstream from a road crossing. It states, “This section of stream is of no importance as a spawning area” (DFG 1961).

In 1993, staff from DFG surveyed Deer Creek and observed rainbow trout ranging from three to six inches in length. The creek contained a barrier consisting of falls immediately upstream from its mouth, but it provided “spawning and rearing for a small population of resident trout” (DFG 1993d).

Rice Creek

Rice Creek is tributary to Rice Fork and consists of about 8.1 stream miles. It flows southwesterly, entering the Rice Fork about 4.3 miles upstream from the maximum pool extent of Lake Pillsbury.

Staff from DFG surveyed Rice Creek in 1938 and observed rainbow trout ranging from 1.5 to 5.0 inches in length. The creek was said to contain “excellent” spawning areas and “good” pools and shelter (DFG 1938m).

Rice Creek was inspected during a 1961 survey of Eel River tributaries upstream of Scott Dam. Rainbow trout were observed in the creek about 0.5 miles upstream from a road crossing. A report of the survey states, "At one time Rice Creek was one of the best spawning areas. Logging in recent years has had a great effect on this stream as can be evident by the large amount of silt in the stream bottom" (DFG 1961).

Staff from DFG observed rainbow trout in Rice Creek from its mouth to the Barker Creek confluence during a 1993 stream survey. A number of impassable boulder barriers were present upstream of Mauser Glade. Surveyors noted that the fish population had not recovered from earlier logging and siltation. Relatively few trout were observed despite the presence of good habitat throughout the stream (DFG 1993e).

Barker Creek

Barker Creek is tributary to Rice Creek and consists of about 1.8 stream miles. It flows southwesterly, entering Rice Creek about 5.8 miles upstream from Rice Fork.

Staff from DFG surveyed Barker Creek in 1993 and observed a "low population of rainbow trout." No fish were found upstream of a boulder falls located near the boundary of the Snow Mountain Wilderness Area and trout habitat was limited by a high gradient and lack of spawning gravels (DFG 1993f).

Bevans Creek

Bevans Creek is tributary to the Rice Fork and consists of about 3.5 stream miles. It flows northeasterly, entering the Rice Fork about 5.5 miles upstream from Lake Pillsbury.

Staff from USFS surveyed Bevans Creek in 1978. The survey report does not indicate that fish were present, although the fishery rating and the habitat were deemed "fair" (USFS 1978b).

Staff from DFG surveyed Bevans Creek in 1993 and found the stream dry during the survey, which took place in September. No fish were observed, but the survey report stated, "the stream may be of limited value as spawning habitat for trout during high flow years." A sandbar at the mouth of the creek may have prevented fish access (DFG 1993g).

Bear Creek

Bear Creek is tributary to the Rice Fork and consists of about 9.1 stream miles. It flows southwesterly, entering the Rice Fork about 7.2 miles upstream from the maximum pool extent of Lake Pillsbury.

Bear Creek was inspected during a 1961 survey of Eel River streams upstream of Scott Dam, and rainbow trout were observed in the creek about 650 feet upstream from a road crossing. The creek was described as "a good spawning stream" that "supports heavy fish pressure during the summer months." Planting of catchable trout was recommended in Bear Creek for the following year (DFG 1961).

Staff from DFG completed a Fish Population Survey of Bear Creek in 1988. In a description of the watershed's history, the author reports that steelhead used Bear Creek for spawning and rearing prior to construction of Scott Dam in 1922. Small logging

operations took place in the watershed until 1985 and restoration activities were taking place after a fire burned a large portion of the watershed in 1988. During the 1988 sampling rainbow trout and pikeminnow were collected, but pikeminnow abundance was considered minimal in this stream compared with the Rice Fork (DFG 1988c).

During a 1993 survey of Bear Creek staff from DFG observed both wild resident rainbow trout and catchable trout that were planted annually in the creek. The creek contained good trout habitat, including spawning areas, good summer streamflows, and cool water. However, the wild trout population was threatened by the presence of squawfish and possible predation of the YOY by the planted catchable trout (DFG 1993h).

Blue Slides Creek

Blue Slides Creek is tributary to Bear Creek and consists of about 4.2 stream miles. It flows west, entering Bear Creek about 1.4 miles upstream from Rice Fork.

During a 1993 survey staff from DFG observed a “thriving population of native rainbow trout” in Blue Slides Creek. Good spawning and rearing habitat were observed, but some sections of the creek were dry and it was described as a “relatively small stream” (DFG 1993i).

Parramore Creek

Parramore Creek is tributary to Rice Fork and consists of about 4.6 stream miles. It flows east, entering Rice Fork about 8.1 miles upstream from the maximum pool extent of Lake Pillsbury.

During a 1993 stream survey rainbow trout were observed in a small section of Parramore Creek upstream of Parramore Springs and downstream of a set of boulder barriers located less than one mile upstream from the springs. Pikeminnow occupied the area downstream of Parramore Springs. Stream flows were low, spawning areas were poor, and the creek was described as having “little value for rainbow trout” (DFG 1993j).

French Creek

French Creek is tributary to Rice Fork and consists of about 3.9 stream miles. It flows north, entering Rice Fork about 10.9 miles upstream from the maximum pool extent of Lake Pillsbury.

Staff from USFS surveyed French Creek in 1980 and observed “sparse” rainbow trout between two and six inches in length. Fish were noted in pools between the mouth and the Rock Creek confluence, and most segments did not have continuous flow (USFS 1978c).

French Creek was surveyed in 1993 and found to support a population of rainbow trout. Surveyors noted, “Much of the upstream area could be more valuable to the fishery if a better shade canopy was developed and there was less cattle use” (DFG 1993k).

In 2006, USFS staff observed only pikeminnow in the creek, upstream from the Rock Creek confluence. The field notes state, “Apparently the habitat, probably especially summer water temperatures, are too limiting for resident trout” (USFS 2006b).

Rock Creek

Rock Creek is tributary to French Creek and consists of about 3.6 stream miles. It flows northeasterly, entering French Creek about 0.4 miles upstream from Rice Fork.

Staff from USFS surveyed Rock Creek in 1978 and observed “few” rainbow trout representing one year class. Habitat was deemed “good” but productivity “low” (USFS 1978d).

In 1993 staff from DFG surveyed Rock Creek and observed a natural total passage barrier about 1.5 miles upstream from the mouth. Rainbow trout were present downstream of the barrier, and the fish numbered “more than would be expected for the size of the stream.” Cattle grazing in the drainage was cited as likely impacting habitat quality (DFG 1993l).

Salt Creek

Salt Creek is tributary to the Rice Fork and consists of about 3.4 stream miles. It flows southwesterly, entering the Rice Fork about 11.9 miles upstream from the maximum pool extent of Lake Pillsbury.

Salt Creek was inspected during a 1961 survey of Eel River tributaries upstream of Scott Dam. Survey notes state that Salt Creek was barely flowing at its mouth during the survey and no fish were observed (DFG 1961).

In 1993 staff from DFG surveyed Salt Creek and described it as “one of the larger tributaries to the Rice Fork of the Eel River, providing year-round flows and habitat for Rainbow Trout.” During the survey rainbow trout were observed up to a barrier in the headwaters. Logging activities were said to have created unstable hillsides in the upper reaches (DFG 1993m).

Salmon Creek

Salmon Creek historically was tributary to the Eel River and currently enters the system via Lake Pillsbury. It is formed by the confluence of Mill and Fuller creeks and consists of about 2.8 stream miles. It flows south through Gravelly Valley to enter Lake Pillsbury.

Staff from DFG surveyed Salmon Creek in 1938 and observed “steelhead” ranging from 1.5 to 4.0 inches in length approximately two miles upstream from the mouth. The survey report noted “extensive” natural propagation, “good” spawning areas, and “good” pools and shelter in the creek (DFG 1938n).

A 1941 letter, written by DFG fisheries biologist Leo Shapovalov, indicates that adult steelhead trapped at Cape Horn Dam were planted in Salmon Creek in March 1941. One of these fish, identified by tags, was caught in the lower Eel River near Fortuna in September 1941 and had reportedly migrated downstream from Salmon Creek (Shapovalov 1941).

Salmon Creek was inspected during a 1961 survey of Eel River tributaries upstream of Scott Dam. Regarding the rainbow trout population in Salmon Creek the report states, “This drainage appears to be at carrying capacity. It is a direct tributary to Lake Pillsbury and easily accessible for fish from the lake” (DFG 1961).

Staff from DFG surveyed Salmon Creek in 1993 and found that rainbow trout were “scarce.” The creek was described as “a flat, wide, meandering stream with low cover and warm temperatures.” These conditions fostered a large population of pikeminnow, which greatly outnumbered rainbow trout in the stream (DFG 1993n).

Mill Creek

Mill Creek is tributary to Salmon Creek and consists of about 6.1 stream miles. It flows southeasterly to its confluence with Fuller Creek, thus forming Salmon Creek about 2.8 miles upstream from the maximum pool extent of Lake Pillsbury. A diversion feeding the Lake Pillsbury Ranch Subdivision water system is located on Mill Creek.

Staff from USFS surveyed about two miles of Mill Creek in 1979. A subsequent memo states, “the total distance contained suitable trout habitat. A self-sustaining population of rainbow trout appears with abundant numbers, indicating the high quality of the existing fisheries” (USFS 1980e).

Rainbow trout were found throughout Mill Creek during a 1993 survey. The population was said to be limited by the presence of pikeminnow in the lower reaches, but about the upper sections surveyors noted, “Water temperatures, cover, and pool to riffle ration appeared excellent with good trout populations” (DFG 1993o).

Fuller Creek

Fuller Creek is tributary to Salmon Creek and consists of about 3.1 stream miles. It flows southeasterly to its confluence with Mill Creek, thus forming Salmon Creek about 2.8 miles upstream from the maximum pool extent of Lake Pillsbury.

Staff from DFG surveyed Fuller Creek in 1993 and observed rainbow trout downstream of a waterfall barrier located about 1.5 miles upstream from the Salmon Creek confluence. The creek was described as “a valuable resident trout stream and a contributor of water to Lake Pillsbury” (DFG 1993p).

Smokehouse Creek

Smokehouse Creek appears to have had confluence with Salmon Creek historically upstream from the Eel River confluence. Currently, it enters the Eel system via Lake Pillsbury. It consists of about 9.3 stream miles and flows south through Gravelly Valley to enter Lake Pillsbury.

Smokehouse Creek was inspected during a 1961 survey of Eel River tributaries upstream of Scott Dam. Notes indicate that the stream was intermittent, but “good spawning gravel” was present and it “appeared to be at carrying capacity.” Many YOY rainbow trout and several larger fish were observed (DFG 1961).

Flows in Smokehouse Creek were intermittent in some areas during a 1993 survey. However, rainbow trout were present and surveyors wrote, “In general, Smokehouse Creek supports an excellent population of trout throughout all flowing areas, even above the sheer 40-50 foot waterfall.” Pikeminnow was present in the lower creek, but was thought to be restricted to the lower gradient areas with warmer water (DFG 1993q).

Boardman Creek

Boardman Creek is tributary to Smokehouse Creek and consists of about 2.6 stream miles. It flows southwesterly and enters Smokehouse Creek about 4.2 miles upstream from the maximum pool extent of Lake Pillsbury.

Staff from USFS surveyed the lower one-half mile of Boardman Creek in 1980 and observed “suitable trout habitat” in only the lower one-fourth mile. In this area, a “self-sustaining population of rainbow trout” was noted (USFS 1980f).

Staff from DFG observed rainbow trout throughout the lower 1.5 miles of Boardman Creek during a 1993 survey. Surveyors noted, “the entire riparian corridor appeared to be rich in wildlife” but found that unstable soils had created siltation in many parts of the stream (DFG 1993r).

Squaw Valley Creek

Squaw Valley Creek appears to have had confluence with the Eel River in the vicinity of Graveyard Point historically. Currently, it is tributary to Lake Pillsbury and consists of about 3.3 stream miles flowing southwesterly to enter the lake near Lake Pillsbury Pines Resort.

Staff from DFG did not observe fish during a 1993 survey of Squaw Valley Creek and noted that the creek has “no fishery use.” The survey report stated, “The year to year absence of fish was also confirmed by a property owner living in the upper reaches of the stream.” The creek had several boulder barriers and limited spawning potential (DFG 1993s).

Horsepasture Gulch Creek

Horsepasture Gulch currently is tributary to Lake Pillsbury and consists of about 1.5 stream miles. It flows southwesterly to enter the lake northeast of Graveyard Point.

No fish were observed during a 1993 DFG survey of Horsepasture Gulch and no flow was present in the creek. A survey report stated, “Horse Pasture Gulch is a small intermittent drainage with no fish or other aquatic organisms.” The creek was said to provide good winter stream flows into Lake Pillsbury (DFG 1993t).

Salt Spring Creek

Salt Spring Creek is tributary to the Eel River system via Lake Pillsbury. It consists of about 2.1 stream miles and flows southwesterly to enter the eastern arm of the lake.

Staff from DFG surveyed Salt Spring Creek in 1993 and did not observe fish. There was no stream flow at the time of the survey and a survey report described the creek as “a small seasonal drainage that provides winter flow to Lake Pillsbury and the Eel River” (DFG 1993u).

Bear Gulch Creek

Bear Gulch Creek is tributary to Lake Pillsbury and consists of about 9.3 stream miles. It flows west and enters the eastern arm of Lake Pillsbury.

No fish were observed during a 1993 DFG survey of Bear Gulch Creek. The creek was described as “aka relatively unimportant stream that contributes winter flow, but no summer flow to Lake Pillsbury” (DFG 1993v).

Thistle Glade Creek

Thistle Glade Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 5.8 stream miles. It flows west, entering the Eel River upstream of the maximum pool extent of Lake Pillsbury at about stream mile 173.3.

Thistle Glade Creek was inspected during a 1961 survey of Eel River tributaries upstream of Scott Dam. No fish were observed in the creek and it was included on a list of streams that “are of no importance as spawning areas” (DFG 1961).

During a 1993 survey of Thistle Glade Creek staff from DFG observed a “small population” of rainbow trout downstream of a boulder barrier located about 200 years upstream of the USFS road crossing. The creek appeared to contain excessive fine sediments and to lack food items for fish. However, “Water temperatures, stream cover and pool to riffle ratios were considered excellent for trout” (DFG 1993w).

Staff from DFG surveyed Thistle Glade Creek in 2000 and did not observe fish (Clemento 2000).

Hummingbird Creek

Hummingbird Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 3.2 stream miles. It flows west, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 174.8.

Staff from DFG surveyed Hummingbird Creek in 1938 and did not observe fish. The creek was said to be steep and “probably impassable to fish in lower region” (DFG 1938o).

Hummingbird Creek was inspected during a 1961 survey of Eel River streams upstream of Scott Dam. The creek was included on a list of streams in the area that “are of no importance as spawning areas” (DFG 1961).

Staff from DFG surveyed Hummingbird Creek in 1993 and did not observe fish. The creek exhibited year-round flows, but suffered from extensive bank erosion (DFG 1993x).

Staff from DFG surveyed Hummingbird Creek in 2000 and did not observe fish (Clemento 2000).

Berry Creek

Berry Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 1.5 stream miles. It flows northwesterly, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 176.

Staff from DFG surveyed Berry Creek in 1993 and did not observe fish. The survey report stated, “The stream had no fishery value, presumably due to the steep gradient and low flow” (DFG 1993y).

Staff from DFG surveyed Berry Creek in 2000 and did not observe fish (Clemento 2000).

Copper Butte Creek

Copper Butte Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 3.3 stream miles. It flows northwesterly, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 176.4.

Copper Butte Creek was inspected during a 1961 survey of Eel River tributaries upstream of Scott Dam. The creek was included on a list of streams in the area that “are of no importance as spawning areas” (DFG 1961).

Fish sampling was performed throughout the Eel River watershed in 1989 and 1990 as part of a four-year study conducted by researchers at UC Davis. During this sampling, *O. mykiss* was observed in Copper Butte Creek (Brown 1991).

Staff from DFG surveyed Copper Butte Creek in 1993 and did not observe fish, but noted year-round flows, good water temperatures, cover, and pool to riffle ratios. The survey report stated, “The reason for lack of fish was not fully known, but may be related to the presence of a barrier near the mouth and/or the overall steep gradient.” Surveyors recommended modification of a waterfall barrier near the stream mouth and a culvert under the USFS road. Stocking with local rainbow trout also was recommended (DFG 1993z).

Skeleton Creek

Skeleton Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 3.2 stream miles. It flows west, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 176.7.

Staff from DFG surveyed Skeleton Creek in 1938 and observed *O. mykiss* in the middle and upper sections of the creek. “Good” spawning areas and “good” pools and shelter were also noted (DFG 1938p). Stocking records indicate that Skeleton Creek was stocked with 8,000 *O. mykiss* in 1939 (DFG 1939c).

Skeleton Creek was inspected during a 1961 survey of Eel River tributaries upstream of Scott Dam. In a report of the survey, Skeleton Creek is described as “a good spawning stream” (DFG 1961). Staff from USFS surveyed Skeleton Creek in 1978 and observed “common” rainbow trout between one and ten inches in length. The fishery was rated “good” (USFS 1978e).

Staff from DFG surveyed Skeleton Creek in 1993 and noted that rainbow trout were relatively abundant in the middle and lower sections and scarce in the upper section of the stream. Trout were present upstream of several large waterfalls and it was thought that fish might have been planted there in the past (DFG 1993aa).

Cold Creek

Cold Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 5.7 stream miles. It flows west, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 181.2.

Cold Creek was inspected during a 1961 survey of Eel River tributaries upstream of Scott Dam. In a report of the survey, Cold Creek is described as “an excellent spawning stream” (DFG 1961).

Staff from USFS surveyed Cold Creek in 1978 and observed “common” rainbow trout to ten inches in length in the middle and lower reaches. The creek was deemed to have a “good” fishery and habitat with “medium” productivity (USFS 1978f).

Staff from DFG surveyed Cold Creek in 1993 and observed rainbow trout ranging from 1.5 to 8.0 inches in length. Fish were “very abundant” in the lower three miles of the stream. The creek was described as “a major tributary to the main stem Eel River” that “contains an excellent population of native Rainbow Trout, possibly the best in the watershed” (DFG 1993ab).

Rattlesnake Creek

Rattlesnake Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 5.7 stream miles. It flows southeasterly, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 183.5.

Rattlesnake Creek was inspected during a 1961 survey of Eel River tributaries upstream of Scott Dam. Rainbow trout were observed in the creek and it was noted to have, “Good spawning areas adequate for small resident trout” (DFG 1961).

Staff from DFG surveyed Rattlesnake Creek in 1993 and rainbow trout were observed throughout the lower four miles of the creek. Surveyors wrote that the stream “has a good summer water flow and supports a good population of Rainbow trout.” Erosion caused by past fires in the watershed was noted to be contributing sand and fine gravel to the streambed (DFG 1993ac).

Anderson Creek

Anderson Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about eight stream miles. It flows west, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 184.9.

Anderson Creek was inspected during a 1961 survey of Eel River tributaries upstream of Scott Dam. A report on the survey described it as “an excellent spawning stream for Lake Pillsbury trout” and noted that “Trout have been observed spawning in this stream in April and early May” (DFG 1961).

Staff from USFS surveyed Anderson Creek in 1978. A survey noted that rainbow trout were “common” in the creek and described the stream’s habitat condition as “good” (USFS 1978g).

In 1993 staff from DFG surveyed Anderson Creek and found that rainbow trout “appeared to be thriving in the long flat sections.” Numerous boulder cascades formed barriers in the upper two miles of the creek and stream flow was intermittent in parts of the lower creek. In the stream survey report, surveyors described Anderson Creek as “one of the best trout fisheries in the upper Eel River watershed” (DFG 1993ad).

Staff from DFG surveyed Anderson Creek in 2000 and observed YOY and juvenile in “medium abundance.” Stream flows were low during the survey and erosion was noted to be a problem (DFG 2000).

Horse Creek

Horse Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 3.3 stream miles. It flows east, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 186.1.

Horse Creek was inspected during a 1961 survey of Eel River tributaries upstream of Scott Dam. A report on the survey noted “Good spawning areas in lower portion of creek” but also described Horse Creek as “...quite small and insignificant.” Rainbow trout ranging from two to eight inches in length were observed (DFG 1961).

Staff from USFS surveyed Horse Creek in 1977 and observed “few” rainbow trout between three and five inches in length. The survey report notes that the lower sections of the creek were dry in the summer, and that the fishery was “poor” and the habitat was “fair-poor” (USFS 1977b).

Staff from DFG surveyed Horse Creek in 1993 and rainbow trout were observed in the section downstream of barrier falls located about two miles from the creek mouth. Some sedimentation was noted in the creek, but surveyors said the creek was “a cool mountain stream with good canopy and appeared to be of value for wildlife as well as fish” (DFG 1993ae). Sampling in 1994 by USFS staff produced a population density estimate of 29 rainbow trout per hectare in Horse Creek (USFS 1994a). An associated reference states, “Almost entire creek has raw banks and frequent slides.”

Corbin Creek

Corbin Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 14 stream miles. It flows west, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 186.4.

Corbin Creek was inspected during a 1961 survey of Eel River tributaries upstream of Scott Dam. Small numbers of rainbow trout were observed in Corbin Creek, and a report noted that trout from Lake Pillsbury were observed spawning in the creek. It was characterized as “an important spawning stream of the Eel River” (DFG 1961).

A survey report by USFS staff in 1977 noted unidentified “fish” throughout Corbin Creek. The surveyor notes effects of logging including erosion and loss of shading (USFS 1977c). Two status reports of California Wild and Scenic Rivers, published in 1983 and 1985, report the results of sediment studies in upper Eel River tributaries. Both reports noted particularly high sediment levels in Corbin Creek and stated that the creek was contributing turbidity to Lake Pillsbury and the Eel River (DFG 1983b, DFG 1987).

Staff from DFG surveyed Corbin Creek in 1993 and observed rainbow trout throughout the study reach. Surveyors wrote that the creek “supports a healthy trout population” and recommended bank stabilization in order to reduce sediment inputs from Forest Service roads (DFG 1993af).

Dutch Oven Creek

Dutch Oven Creek is tributary to Corbin Creek and consists of about 2.3 stream miles. It flows north, entering Corbin Creek about 3.8 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence. A second Dutch Oven Creek also is tributary to Corbin Creek as discussed below.

Staff from DFG surveyed Dutch Oven Creek in 1995 and observed three juvenile rainbow trout in the section downstream of the USFS road crossing culvert. The small number of fish was attributed to a large number of barriers in the stream, and surveyors noted good summer stream flows, cool water temperatures, and good canopy cover (DFG 1995o).

Wescott Creek

Wescott Creek is tributary to Corbin Creek and consists of about six stream miles. It flows south, entering Corbin Creek about 6.1 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from USFS surveyed Wescott Creek in September 1977 and observed “few” rainbow trout, ranging from one to seven inches in length. Productivity of the fishery was deemed “poor” and habitat condition “fair-poor.” Erosion control was recommended for habitat management (USFS 1977d, USFS 1977e).

Staff from DFG surveyed Wescott Creek in 1993 and observed one rainbow trout, about 2.5 inches in length. The creek was said to contain good spawning gravels, riparian vegetation, and cool water temperatures, but surveyors wrote, “the fish population was extremely low and the reason was not readily apparent” (DFG 1993ag).

Staff from DFG surveyed Wescott Creek in 1995 and found rainbow trout present in low numbers to 1.3 miles upstream into Glenn County (Daugherty 1995).

Dutch Oven Creek

Dutch Oven Creek is tributary to Corbin Creek and consists of about 2.6 stream miles. It flows north, entering Corbin Creek about 7.9 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence. A second Dutch Oven Creek is tributary to Corbin Creek as described above.

Staff from USFS surveyed Dutch Oven Creek in 1977 and observed “common” rainbow trout ranging from two to seven inches in length. The survey report notes “marginal” habitat with areas of underground flow (USFS 1974).

Staff from DFG surveyed Dutch Oven Creek in 1995 and observed low numbers of rainbow trout from the creek mouth to about 1.4 miles upstream. Surveyors noted that the rainbow trout population “could be improved” and recommended barrier modifications, particularly of a culvert at the Forest Service road crossing (DFG 1995p).

North Fork Corbin Creek is tributary to Corbin Creek and consists of about 4.6 stream miles. It flows south, entering Corbin Creek about 8.5 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from USFS surveyed North Fork Corbin Creek in 1977 and observed “few” rainbow trout between one and seven inches in length. The creek was described as “mainly dry” with fish seen in isolated pools (USFS 1977f).

Staff from DFG surveyed the North Fork of Corbin Creek in 1993 and observed rainbow trout that were “relatively scarce.” Two fish were observed upstream of a boulder falls located about 0.75 miles from the creek mouth, and this barrier was recommended

for removal. North Fork Corbin Creek was described as “a pristine mountain stream” and surveyors found “ideal habitat for Rainbow trout” but “surprisingly few fish” (DFG 1993ah).

Trout Creek

Trout Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 4.1 stream miles. It flows northeasterly, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 187.3.

Trout Creek was inspected during a 1961 survey of Eel River tributaries upstream of Scott Dam. Rainbow trout were observed in the creek and surveyors noted, “production appears better than other tributaries.” However, large amounts of silt were noted and the report adds, “This is an unimportant spawning tributary of the Eel River” (DFG 1961).

Trout Creek was examined in 1973 as part of a study of water temperature conditions in the Eel River system. During this survey, a few fingerling rainbow trout were observed in the lower 50 yards of Trout Creek (Kubicek 1977). In a 1977 USFS survey report, staff noted “many severe slides, falls, and log barriers” in Trout Creek, as well as perennial flow and good shading. The creek was deemed an “important” tributary to the Eel for providing about 500 yards of “possible spawning area” upstream from the mouth (USFS 1977g).

Staff from DFG surveyed Trout Creek in 1993 and rainbow trout were observed throughout the creek downstream of a cascade barrier in the headwaters. The report author stated, “Overall, I feel this is an excellent stream for salmonids” (DFG 1993ai). In 1994, population density at a Trout Creek site was estimated at 35 fish per hectare (USFS 1994b).

Hull Creek

Hull Creek is tributary to the Eel River and consists of about 3.9 stream miles. It flows northeasterly, entering the Eel River at about stream mile 191.6.

Staff from USFS surveyed Hull Creek in 1978. A survey noted that rainbow trout were “common” in the creek and described the stream’s habitat condition as “fair” (USFS Unknown).

Rainbow trout were observed during a 1993 DFG survey of Hull Creek and surveyors noted that the creek “has value as a wild trout stream.” The creek contained spawning and rearing habitat and was described as “an important tributary to the Eel River headwaters” (DFG 1993aj).

Wesley Ives Creek

Wesley Ives Creek is tributary to Hull Creek and consists of about 3.6 stream miles. It flows east, entering Hull Creek about 0.2 miles upstream from the Eel River confluence.

Staff from USFS surveyed Wesley Ives Creek in 1978 and observed a few rainbow trout in the creek. Surveyors noted that the lower section of the stream was very unstable and contained many barriers to fish movement. Logging operations were being conducted in the watershed at the time (USFS 1978h).

In 1993 staff from DFG surveyed Wesley Ives Creek and observed rainbow trout. Abundance was estimated at about three fish per 100 feet of stream. The fish appeared to have low growth rates and surveyors noted, "In drought years such as this, there may be insufficient water for full development." In the stream survey report, Wesley Ives Creek was described as "a near pristine watercourse that has value primarily as spawning and nursery area for a small population of Rainbow trout" (DFG 1993ak).

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