

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

**STREAM SURVEY**

FILE FORM

No.....

NAME..... Churchman's Gulch .....COUNTY..... Mendocino .....

STREAM SECTION... Entire .....FROM.....TO.....LENGTH..... Appox. 3  
 .....airline  
 .....miles.

TRIBUTARY TO... South Fork of Ten Mile .....Twp..... 19N .....R..... 16W .....Sec..... 20

OTHER NAMES..... None Known .....RIVER SYSTEM..... Ten Mile Drainage  
 .....System

SOURCES OF DATA..... Personal Survey and Information from Local Personnel of  
 .....State Forestry, Union Lumber Company and Residents of the Area .....

**EXTENT OF OBSERVATION**  
 Include Name of Surveyor, Date, Etc.

**LOCATION**

**RELATION TO OTHER WATERS**

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

Watershed  
 Immediate Drainage Basin  
 Altitude (Range)  
 Gradient  
 Width  
 Depth  
 Flow (Range)  
 Velocity  
 Bottom  
 Spawning Areas  
 Pools  
 Shelter  
 Barriers  
 Diversions  
 Temperatures  
 Food  
 Aquatic Plants  
 Winter Conditions  
 Pollution  
 Springs

**FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS**

**OTHER VERTEBRATES**

**FISHING INTENSITY**

**OTHER RECREATIONAL USE**

**ACCESSIBILITY**

**OWNERSHIP**

**POSTED OR OPEN**

**IMPROVEMENTS**

**PAST STOCKING**

**GENERAL ESTIMATE**

**RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT**

**SKETCH MAP**

**REFERENCES AND MAPS**

**EXTENT OF OBSERVATION** - The entire creek was walked out by foot from its junction with the South Fork of Ten Mile to its headwaters by Fish and Game Assistant, James Crowdus, and Fish and Game Seasonal Aid, Jack Santos, on September 8, 1961.

**LOCATION** - Churchman's Gulch is located on the Ten Mile Drainage System approximately 18 airline Miles northeast of the town of Fort Bragg in Mendocino County, It flows in an east to west direction.

**RELATION TO OTHER WATERS** - It provides an excellent spawning and nursery and water flow to the Ten Mile Drainage and immediately to the South Fork of Ten Mile Creek.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** - Watershed - Churchman's Gulch drains approximately 10 square miles and is bordered on the south by Ramsey Ridge and by an unnamed ridge on the north.

**Immediate Drainage Basin** - Basin is primarily a very mild gradient approximately 4 ft. per 100 meandering up through moderately steep, low hillside with conifer, alder and madrone abounding throughout. There are sections in the mid section of the stream that are relatively open and meadow-like in area. The main characteristic of the immediate stream is its wide bed with abundant gravel, There is much downed timber, debris, logs scattered throughout the stream and this is accumulated primarily around an old, narrow gauge

railroad trestle that meanders up the entire length of the stream.  
 Altitude - 160 to 950 ft.  
 Gradient - The gradient is moderate throughout; estimate 4 ft. cer 100 ft.  
 Depth - The depth has a range of 2 in. to 5 ft; an average depth Of 1 ft,  
 Width- The width has a range of 2 ft. to 30 ft. at maximum flow; average width is 4 ft. at this time.  
 Flow - Flow is intermittent in the mid section. In areas with flow it is consistent with a flow of 1 to 1.5 c.f.s.  
 Velocity - Velocity is slow to rapid throughout.  
 Bottom - The bottom is predominantly gravel; very suitable for spawning, with rubble and sand and silt scattered in small patches throughout the stream.  
 Spawning Areas - Excellent for 90% of the stream survey. Wide, gentle gradient gravel areas abound for the lower mid and lower upper sections.  
 Pools - Pools are scattered in even frequency throughout, with an average of 2 ft, to 4 ft. in death and 4 ft. square. Pools are located just downstream from the jams.  
 Shelter - Shelter is common throughout the stream in the fcrm of overhead vegetation and logs along the stream.  
 Barriers - The only existing barrier is at the headwaters where the logging road from Pudding Creek crosses Churchman's Gulch. In this area the stream gradient becomes increasingly steep with rock, rubble, vegetation and logs. Many potential

barriers exist throughout this stream due to the old railroad trestle crossing the stream approximately eleven times. Around these crossings has accumulated considerable logging debris and timber from the old railroad trestle.

Diversions - None observed.

Temperatures - Temperature for the water of Churchman's Gulch was 63° F., with the air temperature of 70° F.

Food - Food is considered common throughout this stream. In relation to the other streams of the immediate vicinity, it is considered relatively scarce. Food consists of caddis fly, May fly, insects and other small organisms.

Aquatic Plants - Aquatic plants in the form of algae were observed in the upper section, in the mid section and in the lower section. As a growth or stain it is not identified as to its true identity, but it is black and very small--as if it were covered with soot. Other aquatic plants were water grass and stream-associated grasses.

Winter conditions - Winter conditions are mild with very mild temperatures believed to be a relatively heavy run-off, due to the consistent rains throughout the winter.

Pollution - None observed.

Springs - Springs are common, though very small throughout.

FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS - Steelhead and silver salmon were observed throughout.

The steelhead and/or rainbow trout were common. The size of the silver salmon is 1/2 in. to 2 in. Abundance is 1 to 5 per pool. Success is good. Condition is good. Natural propagation, yes. The steelhead and/or rainbow trout is 1/2 in. to 5 inches; the abundance is 1 to 15 per pool; success, yes; condition, good; natural propagation, yes. Other remarks on fishes present: Noted silver salmon for the entire length of the stream survey; estimate 10 to 20% of fish population is silver salmon.

OTHER VERTEBRATES - Frogs, salamanders, deer, bear and cattle were observed in this section.

FISHING INTENSITY - None observed.

OTHER RECREATIONAL USE - Recommend hunting, fishing and camping in this area.

ACCESSIBILITY - Accessibility to the upper area is by Pudding Creek road through Mr. LeVally's property. The road from Sherman Oaks road out of Ft. Bragg passes through his property. There are two combination, locked gates on his property.

The lower section of Churchman's Gulch is accessible by a road through the Glen Gray ranch and Little Valley area. Immediate stream access is by foot; no paths exist. An old railroad bed is of some help in this immediate area for foot access.

OWNERSHIP - Ownership is predominantly private, with logging permit by Union Lumber Company. Access is posted as to this effect. In immediate area of stream there exists no posting.

PAST STOCKING - There is no record of past stocking to the author's knowledge.

GENERAL ESTIMATE - General estimate of Churchman's Gulch is that it is an excellent spawning and nursery stream due to its mild gradient, flow, and abundant gravel--as well as the reliable access and water flows of the Ten Mile Drainage System.

Access to fishing is not difficult if one knows the general access routes.

Immediate stream access is not difficult at all.

Churchman's Creek  
Mendocino County P-3

RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT - First, remove the jams and railroad trestle causing these jams from the entire length of this stream; second, this stream should be managed as a silver salmon and steelhead and/or rainbow trout spawning and nursery area. Before the stream would be suitable for the latter function, I repeat it should be cleared of the jams and the railroad trestle and of any alder or in-stream vegetation existing throughout.

REFERENCES AND MAPS - References: State Division of Forestry in Ft. Bragg, Union Lumber Company, Department of Forestry, and local landowners. Maps: Union Lumber Company map dated 1945, and Coastal Geodetic Survey Map, Glenblare Quadrangle, 1945. These maps are fair to poor in their accuracy. The Geodetic map is considered a better map.

This concludes the stream survey of Churchman's Gulch by Fish and Game Assistant James Crowdus on September 13, 1961.

James Crowdus/mh

cc: James Crowdus