

THE RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

STREAM SURVEY

Date: January 14, 1976

NAME: ICARIA CREEK COUNTY: Sonoma

STREAM SECTION: Partial FROM: Mouth TO: Hiatt Road Crossing LENGTH: 4.2 miles

TRIBUTARY TO: Russian River TWP: 11 N R: 10 W SEC: 20

OTHER NAMES: None RIVER SYSTEM: Russian

SOURCES OF DATA: Personal observations

EXTENT OF OBSERVATION
Include: Name of Surveyor, Date, Etc.
LOCATION
RELATION TO OTHER WATERS
GENERAL DESCRIPTION
Watershed
Immediate Drainage Basin
Altitude (Range)
Gradient
Width
Depth
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** - Icaria Creek was surveyed on January 14, 1976 by Alan Baracco, Jim Lemieux and Charles Holstine from the mouth of where Hiatt Road crosses the creek.

**LOCATION** - Icaria Creek is located at the southern end of Cloverdale and crosses Highway 101 just 0.4 miles south of the Kelley Road underpass.

**RELATION TO OTHER WATERS** - Provides winter and spring flows to the Russian River and provides marginal spawning and nursery habitat for steelhead.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION -**

**Watershed** - Icaria Creek headwaters in steep canyons and flows through agricultural land before entering the Russian River.

**Altitude** - Headwaters-1000 feet M.S.L., mouth-280 feet M.S.L.

**Gradient** - Upper section, main stem-3.2 ft./100 ft. Upper section, South Fork-4.7 ft./100 ft. Lower section-1.0 ft./100 ft.

**Drainage Basin** - Icaria Creek has a drainage area of 5.5 square miles.

**Width** - Average 2 feet, range 1-8 feet.

**Depth** - Average 3 inches, pools up to 4 feet deep.

**Flow** - Visually estimated flow of 0.5 cfs at the Highway 101 crossing.

**Bottom** - Icaria Creek has adequate spawning sized gravels throughout its lower reach although bedrock predominates.

**Pools** - Pool development is excellent, averaging 50% of the streambed area.

**Barriers** - A flat-bottom, 2 bay culvert is located at the Highway 101 crossing. It forms a barrier at low flows and may

be a barrier at moderate or high flows due to high velocities.

**Diversions** - None noted, however, water is undoubtedly pumped from the creek for agricultural purposes in the spring and summer months.

**Temperatures** - Air-1 000 hours was 60°F., water-1000 hours was 43°F.

**Winter Conditions** - Winter flows are moderate judging from the high water marks, probably 2-4 feet above summer flows.

**Pollution** - None noted during survey other than litter along the stream.

**FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS** - An area below the Highway 101 crossing was sampled with electrofishing gear. The following species were collected: green sunfish - 5/100 feet, average size 4.3 inches FL; venus roach - 5/100 feet, average size 1.5 inches FL; western sucker - 4/100 feet, average size 2 inches FL; prickly sculpin - 2/100 feet, average size 4.1 inches FL. Spot checking the area above the Highway 101 crossing revealed roach (approximately 10/100 feet) and one steelhead/rainbow trout 4 inches FL. Permanent water occurs in the lower stream section (see map).

**ACCESSIBILITY** - Icaria Creek is accessible at Highway 101 crossing, along Hiatt Road and by taking Kelley Road (private) west from Highway 101.

**OWNERSHIP** - Private, posted.

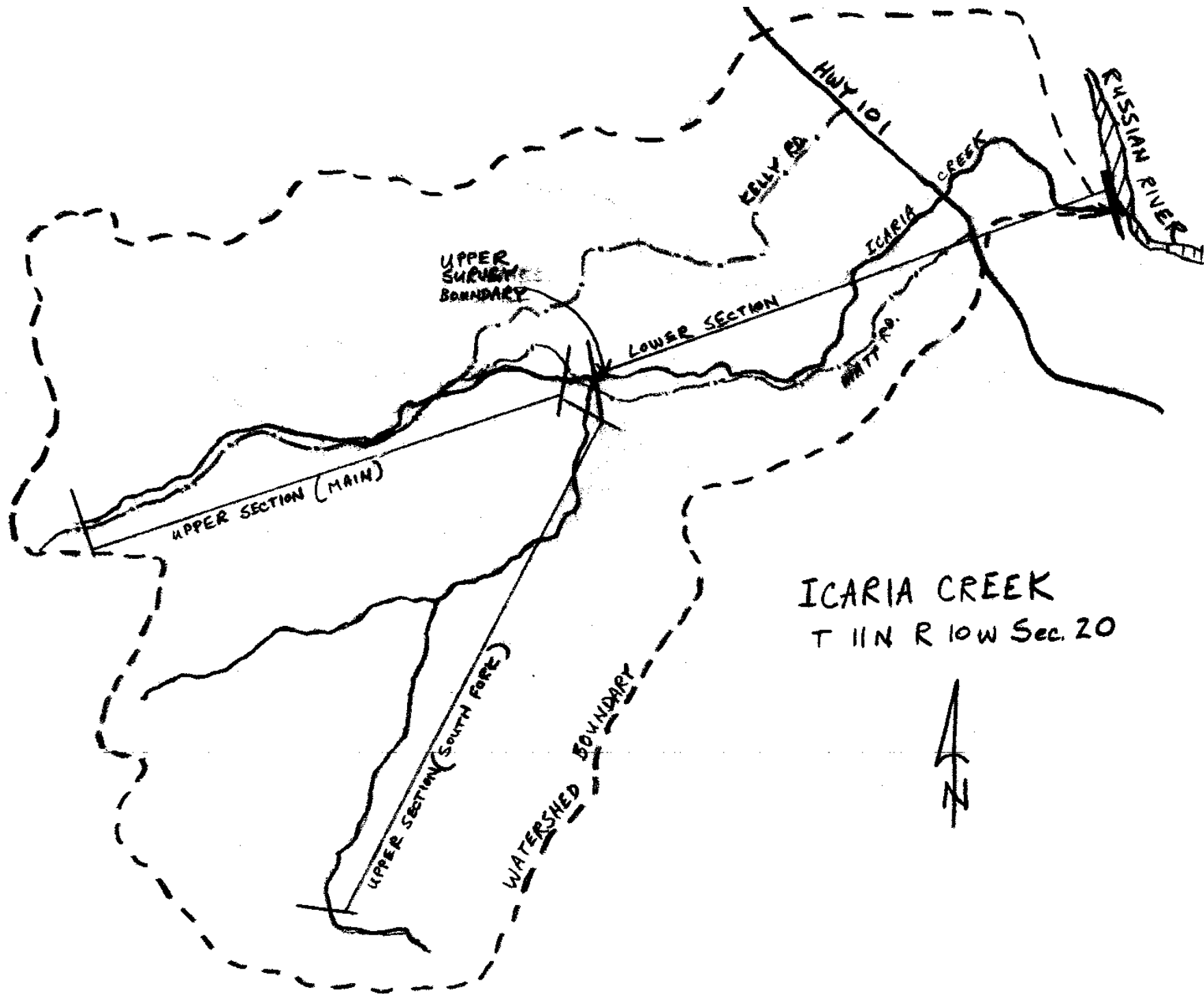
**PAST STOCKING** - None by C.D.F.&G.; however, in the early 1950's fish rescue work was done on Icaria Creek. In 1951, 2678 steelhead were rescued and placed in other waters.

**GENERAL ESTIMATE** - Icaria Creek is a relatively small tributary to the Russian River that offers a small amount of spawning and nursery habitat for steelhead and supports a small warmwater gamefish population. The stream's value as a nursery area for steelhead is severely restricted by the amount and quality of water during summer months; however, in good water years it offers some year-round nursery habitat in the area above Highway 101.

**RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT** - Continue to manage as a steelhead spawning and nursery area. Periodic surveillance is needed to insure that industrial and agricultural activities along the stream do not degrade its value further.

**SKETCH MAP** - Attached.

**REFERENCES AND MAPS** - U.S.G.S. Topo. 7 1/2 min. Cloverdale Quad.



ICARIA CREEK  
T 11 N R 10 W Sec. 20

