

FIELD NOTES

3-24-54. Subject stream was checked in the vicinity of the natural barrier falls on this date by Messrs. Evans, Fisher and Pintler. The flow on this date was estimated to be about 300 sec. ft. Numerous adult SS were observed trying to surmount this barrier but there was some question as to their success. Small SH or "bluebacks" were in the majority. The lower portion of the jump caused by this barrier was mostly white water which split and sprayed off from a rocky point in the center. The diversion of the flow appeared to prevent the fish from approaching the jump at the proper angle and most of them seemed to be unable to gain the pool above. This upper pool appeared to arise from beneath a crevice caused by the juxtaposition of two granite boulders. The question at the moment is whether or not the fish can go through this passage when the velocity of the flow is so great. The small steelhead were observed trying to jump over the top of the V notch formed by these rocks where backed-up waters create a small falls. None of these fish were successful. In climbing down the bank to the barrier it was noticed that slides in the blue clay had somewhat altered the position of the barrier rocks just since a previous inspection of only a week or so ago. Two days previously there were no fish running here at all according to Warden Groves. It is his plan to remove a portion of the rock barring and channel through the rocks above the upper pool. From the appearance of the general area it is felt that any radical changes using dynamite might easily either form a complete block to SH or make the falls passable even to rough fish. Whether we do anything or not, however, additional rains this spring will undoubtedly change this barrier falls still further. At present we can only try to keep track of these changes in order to make improvements later in the year when the flow is down. — HEP:mm

July 23, 1954: Harley Groves reported that few steelhead were able to pass above the barrier in Sulphur Creek this winter. As a result very few young fish may be seen throughout the stream, except for rescued steelhead which are being placed above the barrier. He has also noted the presence of rough fish above the barrier. This must mean that they were not completely eliminated in the chemical treatment.

WAE:fo