

Sept. 29, 1954

FIELD NOTEGreen Valley Creek  
Sonoma County

With Johnson, Marble, Biegel, Bravo, Hand and Emory this stream was chemically treated to control rough fish beginning on this date and continuing until Oct. 5, at which time the treatment was finished. Treatment was begun at a point 2½ miles up stream from the bridge crossing on Highway #12. The drainage in this area consisted of long, apparently stagnant pools, ranging from five to 25 feet in width and up to 10 feet in depth. Throughout much of this low plain area, the banks were lined with trees and brush, making accessibility extremely difficult. The bottom of the stream throughout this area was composed of thick black mud. No flow was discernable any of this section. Many of the pools were covered with scum and the water was black. Visibility was limited to an inch or less of the surface water. Wherever possible, treatment was applied using the jeep pickup and the 250 gal. tank operated with a gasoline motor. Elsewhere, back pumps were resorted to. Because of lack of flow, large amounts of cube powder were used to insure complete distribution and kill. Unfortunately, because of the turbidity of the water, it was impossible to make a sample check of the results which would have proper significance. Three post-checks, however, were made. The first check was at a point on a county road about ¼ mile north of State Highway 12 where stream went under a bridge (T7N, R9W, Sec 6) where water was channelized, canal-like, brown and opaque. Dead fish were 7 carp from 15"-24", including 1 without an anal fin and 1 green sunfish. There were many dead tadpoles.

The second section post-checked was at the State Highway #12 bridge crossing. Here the channel was weed and brush filled. The water was leaf covered, black and nearly opaque. Again, the only fish seen were those which were floating. In this instance, only one sucker 12" in length was seen and many dead of sick tadpoles.

The third section post-checked included a general observation of the area at the termination of treatment just above and below Reno's Drive-in on the old River Road below Rio Dell, downstream to the mouth. Here again, the water was too murky and too deep to permit adequate 100' samples of the fish kill. The following fishes were observed dead; green sunfish, very abundant, some appeared as if they could be BG-GS hybrids; black crappie, about a dozen up to 8" long; white catfish, four, all about 3" long; Cottids, fairly abundant. hitch, one; roach, two; viviparous or tule perch, three; Sacramento squawfish, one; carp, two; sticklebacks and lamprey, larvae very numerous.

H.E.P