

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

STREAM SURVEY

File form No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: MAACAMA CREEK COUNTY: Sonoma  
 STREAM SECTION: \_\_\_\_\_ FROM: Headwaters TO: Mouth LENGTH: 9 mi.  
 TRIBUTARY TO: Russian River TWP: 9N R: 8W SEC: 9  
 OTHER NAMES: Unknown RIVER SYSTEM: Russian River  
 SOURCES OF DATA: Personal Observation

- 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 - Surveyed on foot and by vehicle from upper forks of Maacama (better known as McDonnell and Ingalls Creeks) to mouth excluding the following tributaries: Bear Creek, Little Briggs Creek and Briggs Creek on September 18, 19, 20, 1962 by Jack Santos.  
 LOCATION - The headwaters of this stream lies in rough mountainous country 5 miles northwest of Mt. St. Helena. The stream runs north and south and enters the Russian River approximately 1½ miles northeast of Healdsburg.  
 RELATION TO OTHER WATERS - This stream has a large drainage. Its primary value today is that of a limited spawning and nursery area for steelhead.  
 GENERAL DESCRIPTION - Watershed & Immediate Drainage Basin  
 The upper or headwater section of Maacama Creek lies in steep V-shaped canyons which are predominately bedrock by nature. In the middle section the streambed begins to widen for about 2½ or 3 miles. In the lower section at a point about 1/4 mile from Highway 128, the stream bed narrows, entering a steep-sided valley for about a mile then in the last one mile the canyon is more open and the stream runs thru a small valley to enter the Russian River. There is oak-grass association throughout with the exception of the headwaters area where a digger pine, oak, grass association exists.

Altitude - 200' - 2800' approximate.  
Gradient - Steep in upper section, moderate in mid and lower sections.  
Width - Stream bed 0 - 90'; average 30'.  
Depth - 0 - 6'; average 6" deeper pools found in mid section.  
Flow - Intermittent in all sections.  
Velocity - Rapid to slow throughout.  
Bottom - Predominantly bedrock, boulder, rubble and gravel.  
Spawning Areas - Good to excellent throughout except upper forks area. See accompanying map for spawning areas.  
Pools - Pools found throughout mid and upper sections and on the forks; McDonnell and Ingalls creeks. 0 - 40' length, 0-25' width, 0 - 6" depth.  
Shelter - Very good to excellent in upper mid and upper sections; pools formed by boulders and large rocks provided most of the shelter.  
Barriers - No barriers were observed but several sumps were in the process of being built in the lower stretches of Maacama. No other barriers were observed.  
Diversions - Diversions were numerous in the lower section of Maacama and were in the form of wells and well sumps. Several were also observed in the upper mid section.  
Temperatures - Water temperatures were in the 60's; air 65° to 75°F.  
Food - Caddis fly and mayfly larvae found intermittently but never in any great amounts. In the mid section, mayfly and caddis fly larvae six to eight to an 8-inch rock were found.

Aquatic Plants - None observed.

Winter Conditions - Moderate to severe flows have been experienced.

Pollution - None observed.

Springs - Poor spring development observed throughout the drainage.

FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS - Cyprinids were observed about 50 to a 100' stretch of water in the mid and upper sections of Maacama Creek. They averaged ½ to 4" in length. Success considered good.

OTHER VERTEBRATES - Snakes and frogs were the other vertebrates observed.

FISHING INTENSITY - None observed and believed to be light if any at all.

OTHER RECREATIONAL USES - Hunting and some private camping.

ACCESSIBILITY - Entire drainage with the exception of upper forks region is paralleled by roads privately owned. Lower two miles of Maacama is paralleled by Highway 128.

POSTED OR OPEN - Privately owned and heavily posted.

IMPROVEMENTS - See recommendations.

PAST STOCKING - None known.

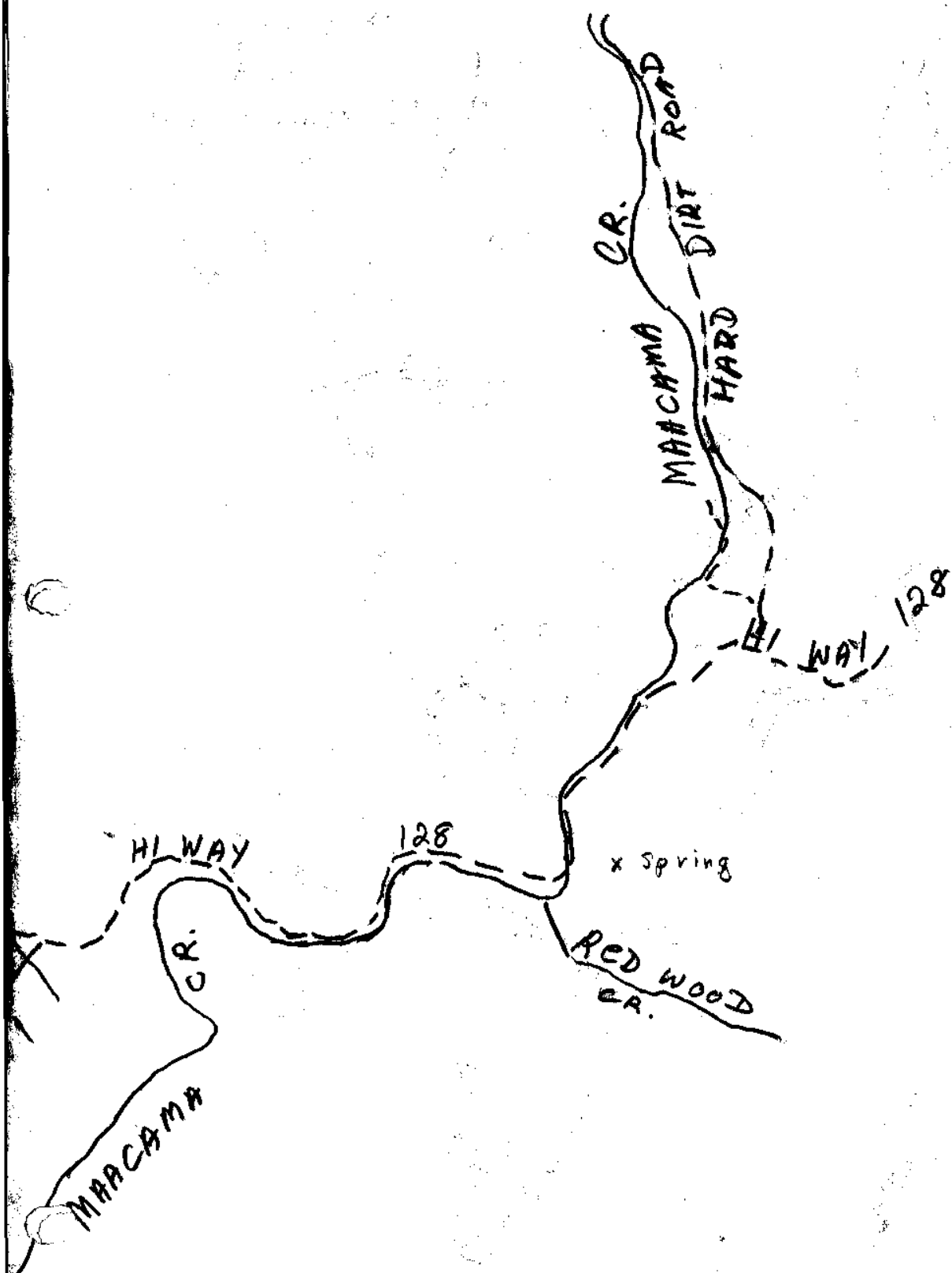
GENERAL ESTIMATE - All of the tributaries of Maacama and Redwood Creeks with the exception of Ingalls Creek (tributary to Maacama and Maacama's Northeast Fork) have in the past, held great runs of steelhead and silver salmon that in the last five years runs of these fish have continued to dwindle in numbers, residents of the area claim. In general, Maacama Creek and its tributaries provide some very good spawning areas but due to low flows and the complete absence of water in the lower 2 miles of stream now, nursery area is considered poor.

RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT - It is recommended that Maacama Creek be managed as a spawning area for steelhead-silver salmon as it has been in the past.

REFERENCES & MAPS - USGS Quadrangle Mt. St. Helena.

NOTES ON MAACAMA CREEK STREAM SURVEY - The Maacama Creek stream survey was not completed due to a lack of time. Only Redwood Creek or the main branch or fork of Maacama Creek was surveyed. The following tributaries of Maacama Creek drainage were not surveyed - Bear Creek, Little Briggs Creek, Briggs Creek, Franz Creek and its tributaries. The following tributaries of Redwood Creek were not surveyed - Kellogg Creek, Yellow Jacket Creek and Foote Creek.

Jack Santos/cd  
1-18-63



LOWER HALF  
MAACAMA CR.  
SONOMA CO.

UPPER  
HALF  
MAACAMA CR.  
SONOMA CO.

Spring  
+

END  
FISHCRIES  
VALVE

McDonnell

Jeep TRAIL / INGALLS CR.

100 ft high falls.

FISHCRIES  
VALVE

CEC  
BEAR CR.  
UNSURVEYED  
CEC

ROUGH ROAD  
No Fok for 2-wheel  
7-4-65

ROUGH ROAD  
Of for 2-wheel  
7-4-65

MAACAMA

LITTLE BRIGGS  
UNSURVEYED

Briggs CR

1 1/2 MILES  
NHWY 128

ROAD

