

Memorandum

to : Don LaFaunce

REF 90606
Date: December 7, 1979

from : Department of Fish and Game - Yreka Fisheries Unit

Subject: Elk Creek Summer Steelhead Survey - 1979

On July 3 and July 4 a summer steelhead survey was conducted on Elk Creek from the trail crossing in section 5 to about one mile below Sulphur Springs Campground. Spot checks were made in the gorge farther downstream. Standard methods of diving in pools with the aid of faceplate and snorkel were used.

In the surveyed section, the traditional holding area for summer steelhead, none were seen. Flows were adequate and no barriers were located. Other year classes were present in what appeared to be normal numbers. It seems adult steelhead were absent by choice.

In 1977, the first year when a survey was conducted, 19 were seen. In 1978, 408 were counted, but most of these were, because of the lateness of the survey, judged to be fall-run fish.

David W. Rogers
Asst. Fishery Biologist

DWR:km