

Saxon Creek
El Dorado Co

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
INTRAOFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: September 23, 1960

TO: File Reference

FROM: D. W. Kelley, Fisheries Biologist III

SUBJECT: Saxon Creek, El Dorado County

I walked up Saxon Creek from the road crossing T 12 N, R 18 E, S 22 to the falls, one mile above there on September 1, 1960. Most of the stream flows through meadow land which is badly overgrazed. Banks are eroding and the stream bottom is mostly sand. There is almost no shelter for adult fish and no good food producing riffle. The Creek is flowing about 1/4 cfs and contains some rainbow trout fingerlings - probably an average of one every 10 feet or so.

About a mile upstream Saxon Creek falls through a tumble of boulders the size of automobiles. Fish could not ascend the stream above here and it would require acrobatics to do so even at flows of 100 cfs or so. I doubt if fish do move above there.

Saxon Creek in this section is of little value as a fishing stream because of the sediment. Flush this out and it will be a fine small trout stream, easily accessible and surrounded by land most suitable for recreation.

There was no accretion in this section, but one dry wash which may be the tributary Meyers Water Company wants to divert.

I also looked at Saxon Creek at several places downstream from the road crossing. The bottom is still mostly sand but banks are more stable. It could be an excellent small trout stream.

Flow releases on Saxon Creek should be about 10 cfs or n.f. during April, May, and June, and at least two on the natural flow at other times.

I see no reason at the present time for recommending a water release from WA 18021. However, the exact location should first be checked with the Meyer Water Company.

DWK

D. W. Kelley
Fisheries Biologist III

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