

Tributary Streams by
All

Development Projects in Tahoe Drainage of El Dorado National Forest
Fallen Leaf Lake
Comments Fish and Wildlife

H. K. Chadwick - Field Station, Sacramento

January 10, 1963

- Almo J. Cordone, Lake Tahoe Fisheries Study, Tahoe City

Fish and Wildlife Development Projects in Tahoe Drainage of El Dorado National Forest.

Please refer to a letter from Montgomery to Robert Entzinger of the U. S. Forest Service dated December 3, 1962. Various possibilities were discussed regarding subject but major emphasis was given to fisheries development on Taylor Creek. I have some thoughts which you may or may not wish to bring to Region 2's attention.

1. Except for kokanee in some years, Taylor Creek presently supports few spawners from Tahoe. Temperature may be a problem. How does operation of Fallen Leaf Lake Dam affect temperatures? It is recommended that a temperature recorder be operated in conjunction with the flow recorder to more fully evaluate Taylor Creek as a spawning stream.
2. One reason for the lack of rainbow spawners in Taylor Creek may be the operation of the Fallen Leaf Lake Dam fish ladder. We have observed that each spring this ladder remains open and rainbow spawners migrate freely into Fallen Leaf where some are caught by anglers and where suitable spawning areas seem to be lacking. With large quantities of apparently ideal spawning grounds unused in Taylor Creek, why is the ladder permitted to remain open? This problem should be resolved and stabilized as soon as possible, if there is some expectation in the future of testing various means of improving reproduction in Taylor Creek.
3. General Creek could be a valuable Tahoe spawning tributary if it had more water. A search for suitable stream flow maintenance dam sites should be made.

Almo J. Cordone
Fishery Biologist III

AJC:cmh
cc: Ted Frantz