

STREAM INVENTORY REPORT SUBSECTION

Unnamed tributary to Redwood Creek

WATERSHED OVERVIEW

The unnamed tributary is a tributary to Redwood Creek, tributary to the Noyo River, located in Mendocino County, California (Map 1). The unnamed tributary's legal description at the confluence with Redwood Creek is T18N R15W S12. Its location is 39°27'2.3" north latitude and 123°28'49.8" west longitude. The unnamed tributary is an ephemeral stream according to the USGS Burbeck 7.5 minute quadrangle. The unnamed tributary drains a watershed of approximately 0.37 square miles. Elevations range from about 660 feet at the mouth of the creek to 1,000 feet in the headwater areas. Redwood/Douglas fir conifer forest dominates the watershed. The watershed is entirely privately owned and is managed for timber production. Vehicle access exists via Irmulco Road off of Highway 20.

HABITAT INVENTORY RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The habitat inventory of August 17, 2000, was conducted by Kasey Sirkin and Jennifer Jenkins (CCC Technical Advisors). The total length of the stream surveyed was 968 feet.

Flows were not measured on the unnamed tributary.

No channel type was taken on the unnamed tributary to Redwood Creek.

The water temperatures recorded on the survey day August 17, 2000, ranged from 56 to 59 degrees Fahrenheit. Air temperatures ranged from 59 to 76 degrees Fahrenheit. This is a suitable water temperature range for salmonids. For a more complete and accurate water temperature profile 24-hour temperatures would need to be monitored throughout the warm summer months.

Based on the total length of this survey, Level II habitat units consisted of 74% flatwater units, 12% dry units, 7% pool units, 4% riffle units and 3% culverts. The pools are relatively shallow, with only 1 of the 6 pools having a maximum depth greater than 2 feet.

All of the 6 pool tail-outs measured had embeddedness ratings of 3 or 4. None had a rating of 1. Cobble embeddedness of 25% or less, a rating of 1, is considered best for the needs of salmon and steelhead. In the unnamed tributary, sediment sources should be mapped and rated according to their potential sediment yields, and control measures should be taken.

The mean shelter rating for pools was low with a rating of 0. The shelter rating in the flatwater habitats was 12. A pool shelter rating of approximately 100 is desirable.

All of the pool tail-outs measured had gravel as the dominant substrate. This is generally considered good for spawning salmonids.

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The mean percent canopy density for the stream was 92%. The percentage of right and left bank covered with vegetation was moderate at 34% and 32%, respectively.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) The unnamed tributary should be managed as an anadromous, natural production stream.

COMMENTS AND LANDMARKS

The following landmarks and possible problem sites were noted. All distances are approximate and taken from the beginning of the survey reach.

Position

(ft): Comments:

0'	Begin survey at confluence with Redwood Creek. Four foot plunge at confluence. Creek dry at start. Fish observed above the plunge and dry unit.
86'	Culvert. 2.5' diameter and 25' long. No flow coming through. Two foot jump into culvert. Rust line extends approximately 1/3 way up the culvert.
389'	Log debris accumulation (LDA), 10' long x 5' wide x 2' high; not retaining sediment or impeding flow.
401'	Plunge 3.5 feet high.
519'	Eroding left bank begins and continues for 15 feet.
633'	LDA, 7' long x 4' wide x 3' high; retaining some sediment.
830'	Multiple plunges observed. Gradient begins to become steeper.
958'	LDA, 30' long x 3' wide x 6' high; retaining sediment. Dry unit upstream.
968'	End of survey due to a series of LDA's. Six foot jump above this with a long dry unit upstream. No fish have been observed for 200 feet.