

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
STREAM SURVEY**

FILE FORM NO.....

NAME...(Big) Bear Haven Creek.....COUNTY...Mendocino.....
STREAM SECTION..... FROM.....Headwaters.....TO.....Mouth.....LENGTH...5..miles
TRIBUTARY To.....Clark or Middle Fork, Ten Mile RiverTWP...20N,..R.16WSEC...31....
OTHER NAMES.....None.....RIVER SYSTEM...Ten Mile River.....
NAME OF SURVEYORJ. Rowell .and H. Adams.....DATE...24 and 25 July and 1 August 1961
SOURCES OF DATA.....Personal observations and Union Lumber Co. Foresters.....

EXTENT OF OBSERVATION: At total of 3 days the entire stream was walked out by J. Rowell and H. Adams on July 24, 25th and August 1, 1961.

LOCATION - Approximately 10 airline miles northwest of Fort Bragg flowing southward into the Clark or middle Fork of Ten Mile River.

RELATION TO OTHER WATERS - This tributary is a small but important spawning and nursery tributary of the Ten Mile River System.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION - WATERSHED Typical Northern California coastal terrain with steep sided V canyons in the redwood forest areas.

IMMEDIATE DRAINAGE BASIN – The basin is primarily a steep sided narrow canyon running through a logged over area. This area is primarily covered with second growth redwood and manzanita, alders on the slopes and willows grow profusely in the stream bed. This stream is about 5 miles in length.

ALTITUDE - Rises at about 1,000 feet at the headwater and drops to about 130 at the mouth.

GRADIENT - Moderate in lower 4 miles averaging about 2 ft. per 100. Steep in upper 1 mile, averaging about 15 ft. per 100.

WIDTH - Average stream width was 2.5 feet, while the channel width or the distance from bank to bank averaged 10 to 20 feet.

DEPTH - Averaged 4 to 6 inches.

FLOW - .(Range) - An Average of .75 cfs with a range up to 1 cfs

VELOCITY - Moderate.

BOTTOM – The bottom was primarily covered with silt and organic matter but had some gravel. Log jams have created silting basins which have filled in with silt from logging operations covering what have been fair to good spawning gravel.

SPAWNING AREAS – About 30% scattered throughout the whole stream. Number of fish present indicate that the available spawning areas were well utilized by steelhead.

POOLS – About 60% being of for the most part created by logs embedded in the stream bottom. Pools ranged from 3' x 6' x 2' deep to 6' x 10' x 6 ft. deep.

SHELTER - Excellent in the form of log jams. Alders and willows grow in stream bed.

BARRIERS – None

DIVERSIONS – None observed

TEMPERATURE – On these dates - July 24, 25 and August 1, the water temperature ranged from 58 to 59° F. Small temperature variance due to good shade.

FOOD – Rocks in the stream showed very small numbers of food organisms. However, the steelhead fingerlings appear to be well fed.

AQUATIC PLANTS – None observed.

WINTER CONDITIONS – Appear to be mild. Any high waters are slowed by the numerous alders growing in the stream bottom.

POLLUTION – None observed.

SPRINGS – None observed.

FISHES PRESENT AND SUCCESS – Steelhead appear to be quite successful. Pools contained a dozen steelhead on the average, ranging from 3" to 6" in length. No silver salmon or other fish were present. When compared with Hatchery fingerlings, these steelhead seem well fed. Estimate about 60 trout/100 ft.

OTHER VERTEBRATES – Frogs, snakes and Western newts.

FISHING INTENSITY – None.

OTHER RECREATIONAL USE – None known.

ACCESSIBILITY – Accessible by driving 14.4 miles along Union Lumber Co. roads to Clark Fork road, thence 3 miles along Clark Fork to mouth of Big Bear Haven. The logging road parallels 95% of stream length. A wash out stops vehicular travel 1 mile upstream from mouth. Permission must be obtained from Union Lumber Company. Main gates into the area are usually open from 5 A.M. to 9 P.M.

OWNERSHIP – Union Lumber Co.

POSTED OR OPEN – Posted.

IMPROVEMENTS – None.

PAST STOCKING – None known.

GENERAL ESTIMATE – In its present condition this stream doesn't contribute too much toward a steelhead fishery. The small amount of spawning area has apparently been well utilized. The deep shade and shelter makes this a good nursery area.

RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT – Removal of log jams. This should cause water action to wash out the silt and organic material and uncover the gravel bottom. From then on, this stream and let the stream stabilize itself.

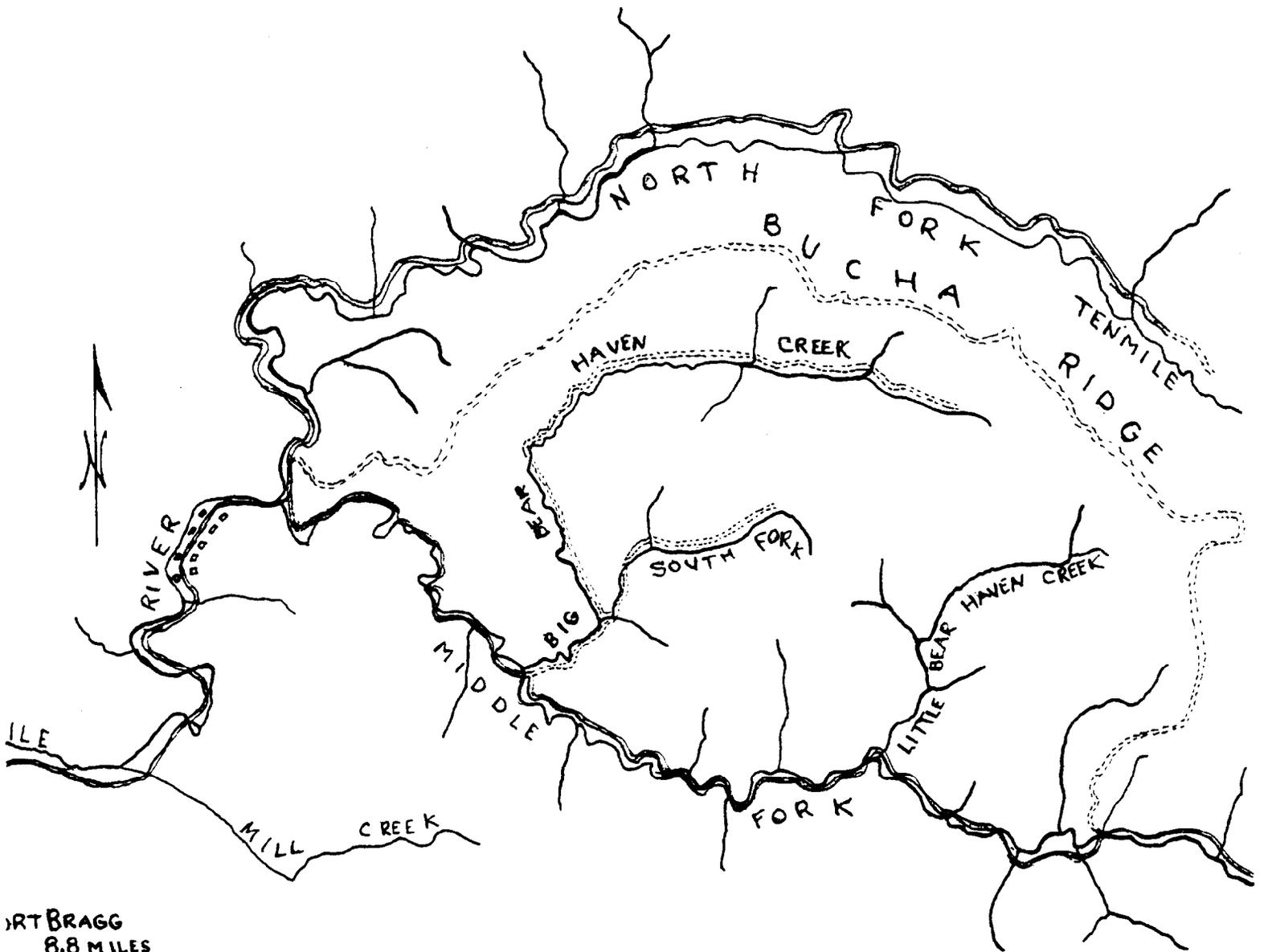
SKETCH MAP:

REFERENCES AND MAPS - U.S.G.S. 15-minute series topographic map Branscomb quadrangle, 1951. Union Lumber Co. Foresters.

JTA:cm

BIG BEAR HAVEN CREEK

BRANSCOMB QUADRANGLE
Twp: 20N R: 16W Sec: 31
MENDOCINO COUNTY



PORT BRAGG
8.8 MILES

