

COLEMAN CREEK
Sonoma County

Field Note

5-8-58: In connection with the proposed Sonoma County stream improvement project, the upper portion of this stream was investigated as a prospective site for the stream improvement project. In this headwaters section extending from the old Coleman Valley School downstream for approximately 1½ miles, the stream meanders thru Coleman Valley, and is heavily shrouded with dense growth of alder and willow. The lower end of the valley was logged off many years ago and since has become the watershed has become fairly stable and has apparently recovered from this logging. Some land-clearing activities are going on in this area, at the present time, possibly, to increase acreage of pasture. This land clearing, other than the possible erosion is not affecting the stream directly. This stream was checked for fish life at several places throughout this valley and found to be totally void of any fish life. The estimated stream flow at this time was approximately 1 c.f.s. and inquiries of residents of the area stated that the stream goes dry except for scattered pools throughout the valley. It was noted at this time excellent quality the stream has for salmonid spawning. It appears to me that something is wrong with the stream in that there must be a barrier downstream some place that is preventing the passage of this salmonid fishes during the spawning run. This resident of this area that was questioned, mentioned that they had never observed at any time, fish in the stream through Coleman Valley. It was felt that further investigation would be carried out the early part of the summer from the lower end of Coleman Valley to the mouth of Coleman Creek where it enters Salmon Creek. This involves a distance of approximately 3 miles of which will need to be surveyed by foot. GH:cd

Survey