

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE
HABITAT PROGRAM
Salmonid Screening, Habitat Enhancement &
Restoration Division (SSHEAR)

OFF-CHANNEL SITE INVENTORY DATA

General Information:

Region: North Coast	Observer(s): Nettnin/Powell
River System: W.F. Dickey	Date: 3/8/95
Site Identifier: WD-0153	WRIA: 20.0153
River Mile Location: 22.8	RB/LB: Right Shore of Dickey Lake
Local Name: Ponds Creek	Trib. to: Dickey Lake
Legal Description: NE¼ Sec. 9 T30N R14W	County: Clallam
Habitat Type: Terrace tributary	
Landowner: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Other Government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	
- Dept. Of Natural Resources	
- Rayonier Timberlands Operations Co.	
- Other private landowners are also indicated on the landowner map.	

Directions to site: Go north from Forks on Hwy 101 about 8.4 mi. then turn left at the Lake Pleasant Grocery Store (0.4 mi. north of MP 200) onto Lake Pleasant Road. Stay on the main road going past the community park and across the Lake Cr. bridge. Turn right and continue up the county road (along the NW shore of the lake) to the end of the pavement. This road then becomes the 9000 line. Continue on the 9000 for 16.5 mi. to a gate (just past the jct of the D-5000, a key is required to get through the gate. A key can be acquired at the Rayonier Timberlands Operations Co. office or the Dept. of Natural Resources office). Continue through the gate for 2.6 mi. Turn left onto an unmarked spur road for and follow for 0.6 mi. to Ponds Cr. (on the old maps the spur is referred to as the 16E). To get to the mouth, cross the bridge on foot and follow about 0.1 mi, then take the next left (you can also drive to this area via the new 16-E - see map) and follow this spur downstream to WD-153R-01. Follow this stream down to Ponds Creek and Lake Dickey.

Area Overview: Ponds Creek is approximately 3.9 miles long (stream catalog indicates it is 3.1 miles long). It has six significant tributaries (\approx 2 cfs average winter flow) and seventeen minor tributaries. It is a low gradient stream (gains 80 ft of elevation in 4.0 mi.), flows in a southerly direction and drains \approx 4200 acres. The valley floor is about a half mile wide and the walls rise to about 1,500 ft on the easterly side and about 800 ft on the westerly side. The land supports multiple age stands of mixed conifer, and deciduous stands ranging from newly planted fir plantations to 70 year old second growth. A small amount of old growth timber is left in the RMZ. The soil is deep loam-clay that does not drain well, hence numerous wetlands and very limited gravel recruitment. Most of the tributaries that have gravel substrate must flow through some of these wetlands so the gravel does not reach the mainstem. There is not any apparent recent slope failures in this drainage.

Habitat Information:

Water source:

- Surface runoff, wetlands, springs, terrace tributaries and valley wall tributaries.

Intermittent/year-around: Year-around

Estimated flows (cfs): Lower end: 15 - 100+ Upper end: 1 - 2 (above Haehule Cr.)

Water temperatures: Lower end: 3 - 7°C Upper end: 3 - 7°C
- This stream and its tributaries were inventoried over a period of about two months.

Adjacent stream temperature: Dickey Lake temperature was not taken.

Other water observations: Tannic water, high flow fluctuations

Site area measurements: Indirect Direct Combination

Widths: Channel- 0.5 - 8.0 m Ponds- 50 m Wetlands- 50 - 100 m

Depths: Channel- 0.1 - 1.1 m Ponds- 0.2 - 0.6 m Wetlands- 0.6 - 1.0 m

Total length (includes ponds and wetlands): 3.9 mi.

Total existing habitat area (est.): 82,500 m²

Spawning area: Mainstem- 500 m² Tribs- 7800 m² Total- 8300 m²

Impounded area: Mainstem- 500 m² Tribs- 6500 m² Total- 7000 m²

Other rearing area: Mainstem- 34,000 m² Tribs- 33,200 m² Total- 67,200 m²

- These totals are not to be construed as absolute, since not all the tributaries were inventoried to the end of useable trout habitat.

Spawning Habitat conditions: None Poor Fair Good Excellent

Describe spawning habitat:

- Spawning habitat in the mainstem is very limited due to low gradient and the lack of gravel. The only tributary that contributes gravel to the mainstem is Thunder Creek (20.0155). The cleanest spawning gravel is from the confluence of Thunder Creek to about 100 m downstream. There are scattered pockets of clean gravel mixed in with sandy gravel for the next 500 m. The rest of the streams substrate consists of sand, clay, woody debris and pockets of fine fill gravel.

Rearing habitat conditions: None Poor Fair Good Excellent

Describe pond and other rearing habitat:

- This stream is low gradient and rather sluggish throughout.
- It has incised banks allowing for a deep channel throughout most of its reach.
- The side-stream cover is provided by over hanging salmonberry, sedges, fallen tree limbs and some willow.
- Instream cover is provided by large organic debris, tannic colored water, bank overhang and deep pools.
- Shade is variable. In the lower mile an RMZ of old growth timber provides excellent shade. The next mile, a mix of scattered old growth and second growth combine to provide good shade that improves year by year. The next two miles there is a mix of good shade, provided by second growth timber, and a lack of shade due to wetland conditions.
- In the upper reach beaver dams add to the ponding effect. Most of the dams have breached or fallen into disrepair due to the absence of beavers.

Describe unaccessible habitat:

- All usable habitat in the mainstem of Ponds Creek appears to be accessible.

Describe wetland: Bog Marsh Scrub-shrub Wetland Forested Wetland

- Near the source of Ponds Creek there is 20 acre sedge marsh surrounded by second growth plantations and scattered cedar snags. Along the banks there are numerous other small marshes and large forested wetlands that drain directly into Ponds Creek. These are described in the individual writeups.

Flooding potential: Low Medium High

- The flooding potential comes from high flows within the system itself.

Fish Information:

Site entry condition to Lake Dickey: () Poor () Fair (X) Good

- Ponds Creek enters Lake Dickey in the northern most bay. A wide deep channel permits fish to find this stream and enter with ease.

Coho access and use: Juvenile (X) Unknown () None () Poor () Fair () Good
Adult (X) Unknown () None () Poor () Fair () Good

- It is not known at this time, the extent of coho use in the mainstem but coho fry have been observed in some of the tributaries, and spawning was observed in Haehule Creek. Since gravel is very limited through out this drainage, it is assumed that spawning production is also limited.

Other species access and use: () Chum () Pink () Sockeye (X) Res. trout (X) Trout

- It is not known to what extent trout use this system but spawners and fry have been observed in the tributaries.

- In winter of 1994, T. Powell observed trout feeding on Pea Mouth Chub. A local landowner reports his mother talked about the chub run in Sands Creek (20.0150), a tributary to Lake Dickey.

Habitat Improvements:

Enhancement opportunities:

Possible project type: Spawning pads

Equipment access is not good except at bridges

Additional Comments:

HABITAT SYNOPSIS

SITE	TOTAL EXISTING HABITAT/STREAM	SPAWN	IMPOUNDED	OTHER	POTENTIAL
WD-0153	35,000 m ²	500 m ²	500 m ²	34,000 m ²	
WD-0154①	5,600 m ²	300 m ²	1,400 m ²	3,900 m ²	600 m ²
WD-0155①	6,830 m ²	300 m ²	30 m ²	6,500 m ²	900 m ²
WD-0156	2,400 m ²	100 m ²	0	2,300 m ²	
WD-0157②					
WD-0158	2,100 m ²	1,600 m ²	0	500 m ²	
WD-0159	1,400 m ²	100 m ²	400 m ²	900 m ²	300 m ²
WD-0160①	3,835 m ²	3,360 m ²	0	475 m ²	300 m ²
WD-0161	400 m ²	200 m ²	0	200 m ²	200 m ²
WD-153L-01	400 m ²	0	0	400 m ²	
WD-153L-02	2,500 m ²	400 m ²	1,000 m ²	1,100 m ²	
WD-153L-02A	300 m ²	0	250 m ²	50 m ²	

WD-153L-02B	300 m ²	0	0	300 m ²	
WD-153L-03	240 m ²	40 m ²	0	200 m ²	
WD-153L-04	400 m ²	0	60 m ²	340 m ²	
WD-153L-05	2325 m ²	325 m ²	0	2,000 m ²	
WD-153L-06	150 m ²	150 m ²	0	0	200 m ²
WD-153R-01	6,020 m ²	20 m ²	2,000 m ²	4,000 m ²	
WD-153R-02	620 m ²	0	600 m ²	20 m ²	
WD-153R-03	460 m ²	0	460 m ²	0	
WD-153R-04	2,100 m ²	0	0	2,100 m ²	200 m ²
WD-153R-05	1,600 m ²	0	0	1,600 m ²	
WD-153R-06	200 m ²	0	0	200 m ²	
WD-153R-07	25 m ²	0	0	25 m ²	
WD-153R-08	1,050 m ²	400 m ²	150 m ²	500 m ²	200 m ²
TOTALS	76,300 m²	780 m²	6,800 m²	61,600 m²	2,900 m²

① Habitat totals include tributaries of this stream.

② This trib was not inventoried, but may have resident trout present.

③ These stream were not inventoried to the upper most usable habitat. The area was estimated using updated stream typing maps and measuring from end of survey to the end of the type three reach.

Attachments Available:

Contact respective SSHEAR habitat biologist for the following checked items:

(X) Aerials

(X) Sketch

(X) Maps

(X) Other references

() Spawning surveys

() Juvenile trapping

DATE: 11/16/95

OBSERVER: Nettnin

On this date the flows were estimated at 20 - 50 cfs and the temp was 9.5° C at the confluence with WD-153L-02.

