

Steelhead/rainbow trout resources of Los Angeles County

Arroyo Sequit

Arroyo Sequit consists of about 3.3 stream miles. The arroyo is formed by the confluence of the East and West forks, from where it flows south to enter the Pacific Ocean east of Sequit Point.

As part of a survey of 32 southern coastal watersheds, Arroyo Sequit was surveyed in 1979. The *O. mykiss* sampled were between about two and 6.5 inches in length. The survey report states, “Historically, small steelhead runs have been reported in this area” (DFG 1980). It also recommends, “...future upstream water demands and construction should be reviewed to insure that riparian and aquatic habitats are maintained” (DFG 1980).

Arroyo Sequit was surveyed in 1989-1990 as part of a study of six streams originating in the Santa Monta Mountains. The resulting report indicates the presence of steelhead and states, “Low streamflows are presently limiting fish habitat, particularly adult habitat, and potential fish passage problems exist...” (Keegan 1990a, p. 3-4).

Staff from DFG surveyed Arroyo Sequit in 1993 and captured *O. mykiss*, taking scale and fin samples for analysis. The individuals ranged in length between about 7.7 and 11.6 inches (DFG 1993). As reported in a distribution study, a 15-17 inch trout was observed in March 2000 in Arroyo Sequit (Dagit 2005).

Staff from NMFS surveyed Arroyo Sequit in 2002 as part of a study of steelhead distribution. An adult steelhead was observed during sampling (NMFS 2002a). Additional documentation of steelhead using the creek between 2000-2007 was provided by Dagit *et al.* (2005) and Dagit and Abramson (2007). The Santa Monica Steelhead Habitat Assessment noted “keystone” barrier projects in Arroyo Sequit including removing in-stream road crossings in the lower and upper campground, stabilizing creek banks in the lower creek, and replacing the Mulholland highway culvert to facilitate passage to the upper watershed (CalTrout 2006). Development of a watershed management plan for Arroyo Sequit also has been identified as a critical need (Dagit pers. comm.).

West Fork Arroyo Sequit

West Fork Arroyo Sequit consists of about 1.8 stream miles and is tributary to Arroyo Sequit. It flows southeast to join the East Fork and form Arroyo Sequit. A waterfall at about stream mile two comprises the upstream limit of anadromy.

Staff from the Coastal Commission visited West Fork Arroyo Sequit in 1992 and observed adult rainbow trout (CCC 1992).

East Fork Arroyo Sequit

East Fork Arroyo Sequit consists of about 2.6 stream miles. It flows southwest, joining the West Fork to form mainstem Arroyo Sequit.

As part of a study of steelhead distribution of streams of the Santa Monica Mountains, interviews were conducted with “local informants” regarding specific streams. The study cites Giles Manwaring as observing “several small trout or fry” and “one large trout” in East Fork Arroyo Sequit in 1992 (Dagit *et al.* 2005).

Zuma Canyon

Zuma Canyon Creek consists of about 6.6 stream miles. It flows south, entering the Pacific Ocean northwest of Point Dume.

As part of a survey of 32 southern coastal watersheds, Zuma Creek was surveyed in 1979. *Oncorhynchus mykiss* was not observed during the survey but the report states, “Reportedly, some fishing does exist in the upper reaches of Zuma Creek” (DFG 1980).

According to staff from the Santa Monica Mountains Resource Conservation District, steelhead were present in Zuma Creek historically and local residents observed *O. mykiss* in the creek in the 1970s and 1980s (Dagit 2007a).

An analysis of steelhead restoration opportunities in streams of the Santa Monica Bay area addressed Zuma Creek. The resulting report states, “Streamflow volume appears to be the greatest limiting factor...” (Keegan 1990a, p. 3-3). It also noted sediment impacts from urbanization, and passage problems and elimination of lagoon habitat by beach grooming.

Solstice Canyon

Solstice Canyon Creek consists of about 3.8 stream miles. It flows south, entering the Pacific Ocean at Dan Blocker State Beach.

A study of steelhead distribution in streams of the Santa Monica Bay region involved collecting historical observations. The report cites various observations from the 1920s and 1930s, and from 1956 to the late 19820s (Dagit *et al.* 2005). According to a 1999 NMFS memo, “Anecdotal reports indicate steelhead were present in the creek until mid 1940, when the Highway 1 culvert was installed at the creek mouth” (NMFS 1999, p. 2).

According to staff from the National Park Service, no steelhead have been reported in Solstice Canyon Creek in the last 50 years (Busteed 2007 pers. comm.). This period corresponds to the existence of the Highway 1 crossing of the creek.

Solstice Canyon Creek was surveyed in 1989-1990 as part of a study of six streams originating in the Santa Monta Mountains. The resulting report does not indicate the presence of fish and states, “Low streamflows are presently limiting fish habitat, particularly adult habitat, and potential fish passage problems exist...” (Keegan 1990a, p. 3-4).

Staff from NMFS conducted a habitat assessment of Solstice Canyon Creek in 1999. The resulting report states, “Two highway culverts, four Arizona crossings, and several other man-made structures preclude steelhead from the creek” (NMFS 1999, p. 2). It adds, “The habitat of Solstice Creek is relatively complex and appears suitable for juvenile steelhead ontogeny and survival” (NMFS 1999, p. 6).

Malibu

Malibu Creek consists of about 8.5 stream miles draining a watershed of about 105 square miles. It flows south from headwaters near Triunfo Canyon to enter the Pacific Ocean at Malibu Lagoon State Beach. Rindge Dam was constructed in the 1920s at about stream mile three.

Field notes from DFG staff from 1947 indicate the presence of steelhead in Malibu Creek (DFG 1953). The creek was surveyed in 1952. The survey report states, "SH can migrate upstream about 10-12 miles before they are stopped at Craggs dam" (DFG 1952a).

A 1969 survey report states, "Steelhead have apparently been making runs into Malibu Creek in recent years and will probably continue to do so if water quality and flow are maintained. Steelhead could migrate up the creek as far as Rindge Dam; approximately 3 miles" (DFG 1969). A fish kill occurred in Malibu Creek in 1970 that was investigated by DFG and the Interior Department. According to a resulting report, an estimated 30 rainbow trout averaging six inches in length and 20 "small" steelhead trout were killed in a two mile reach downstream from a treatment works (Interior 1970).

According to a 1973 DFG report regarding the Ventura River, Malibu Creek supported the only southern California steelhead run besides that of the Ventura at the time (DFG 1973a). A 1974 DFG letter responding to an inquiry states, "We do not stock trout in Malibu Creek...in all probability the trout you saw caught in Malibu Creek were naturally propagated in the stream" (DFG 1974). A 1975 study of southern California fishes notes, "...a small but persistent run [of steelhead] still enters Malibu and Topanga canyon..." (Swift 1975, p. 343). In a 1979 report on fishes in Malibu Creek the author states, "...native rainbow trout are absent above Rindge Dam" (Soltz 1979).

As part of a survey of 32 southern coastal watersheds, Malibu Creek was surveyed in 1979. The *O. mykiss* sampled were between about five and 7.5 inches in length. The survey report notes the presence of perennial flow and states, "A much larger stream habitat and the presence of numerous predators probably accounted for the absence of young trout during the survey" (DFG 1980). It also recommends, "...future upstream water demands and construction should be reviewed to insure that riparian and aquatic habitats are maintained" (DFG 1980).

Rainbow trout were first stocked in lower Malibu Creek in 1984 (DFG 1985). In 1989, consultants carried out an investigation of steelhead in the creek. The study report states, "Good quality adult and juvenile steelhead habitat is found in the narrow gorge extending downstream from the dam..." (Keegan 1990b, p. 2-2). It further notes, "Since 65 percent of the available rearing habitat in Malibu Creek is currently inaccessible to juvenile steelhead, then at least a three-fold increase in the juvenile stream-rearing population would result by providing passage for adults over Rindge Dam" (Keegan 1990b, p. 5-2).

In 1991, CalTrout staff estimated that the steelhead run in Malibu Creek consisted of about 60 individuals, depending on the water year type (Botham 1991). Staff from DFG surveyed Malibu Creek in 1992 and observed "several steelhead, one approximately 16 inches in length" downstream from Rindge Dam (DFG 1992a). Another survey from that year produced observations of multiple year classes, with individuals to about 14 inches in length (DFG 1999).

Notes from a 1992 meeting indicate DFG staff's opinion that addresses passage issues in Malibu Creek "...can open up approximately 86% of the total potential spawning habitat of the system" (DFG 1992b, p. 6). Conference proceedings from 1993

indicate the results of genetics studies on California steelhead. The abstract states, “Malibu Creek, the southern most anadromous population, maintained anadromous and resident spawners carrying the dominant southern ‘wild’ type” (Gan 1993).

Staff from NMFS surveyed Malibu Creek in 2002 as part of a study of steelhead distribution. “Steelhead!” was observed during sampling (NMFS 2002b). According to a study of the genetic structure of southern California *O. mykiss*, fish from Malibu Creek “are clearly not [of hatchery ancestry]” (Girman and Garza 2006). As part of a study of steelhead distribution in streams of the Santa Monica Bay region, numerous *O. mykiss* observations were summarized (Dagit *et al.* 2005).

During 2006 snorkel surveys of Malibu Creek, researchers noticed “yellow” individuals in the *O. mykiss* population. Over the course of about four months the entire population, estimated at about 250 fish, died (Dagit pers. comm.). Investigators have not determined the cause of the die off (Orton pers. comm.). Additional snorkel and habitat surveys conducted between 2004 and 2007 indicate that significant suitable habitat is present in the reach below the dam that is still accessible to steelhead (Dagit 2007b). Identified limiting factors include high densities of exotic invasive fishes, the recent invasion of New Zealand Mud Snails, and continued water quality impairments (Dagit 2007b). In addition to Malibu Dam, the double culvert at Las Virgenes Creek-Crags Road and the dam at White Oak Farms present passage barriers (Abramson 2005). Water quality concerns include nutrients and sediment (Dagit pers. comm.).

Las Flores Canyon

Las Flores Canyon Creek consists of about 3.5 stream miles. It flows south, entering the Pacific Ocean at Las Flores.

Las Flores Canyon Creek was surveyed by DFG staff in 1997. The resulting report does not indicate the presence of fish but states, “...good steelhead stream...Good steelhead habitat” (DFG 1997).

A study published in 2005 examined the range of anadromous *O. mykiss*. The study report indicates that evidence was not found of historical use of Las Flores Canyon Creek by steelhead. The current occurrence value is “Absent” (NMFS 2005).

Topanga Canyon

Topanga Canyon Creek consists of about 8.7 stream miles. It flows south, entering the Pacific Ocean at Topanga Beach.

A 1974 DFG letter states, “A small population of trout manages to survive in...Topanga Canyon Creek. In years of good rainfall, and good water conditions, some steelhead are reported..., and it is probable that some of these successfully spawn” (DFG 1974). A 1975 study of southern California fishes notes, “...a small but persistent run [of steelhead] still enters Malibu and Topanga canyon...” (Swift 1975, p. 343).

As part of a survey of 32 southern coastal watersheds, Topanga Canyon Creek was surveyed in 1979. The *O. mykiss* sampled were between about four and 12.5 inches in length (DFG 1980). The survey report states, “...future upstream water demands and construction should be reviewed to insure that riparian and aquatic habitats are maintained” (DFG 1980). A 1982 DFG memo relays staff’s observations of juvenile *O. mykiss* in Topanga Canyon Creek (DFG 1982).

The *O. mykiss* population in Topanga Creek was monitored during the period 2001-2007. The resulting report indicates continuing reproduction, access by spawning steelhead, and smolt production (Dagit 2007c). In 2003, a dead gravid female steelhead about 19 inches in length was observed in Topanga Creek (Dagit 2003). A report produced in 2003 proposed restoration activities in the Topanga Creek watershed. These included improving conditions in the lagoon, restoring the channel at the Narrows and other locations, and developing a water budget for the creek (Dagit 2003).

The *O. mykiss* population's genetic structure was characterized recently based on samples from 18 individuals collected between 2002 and 2006: "The Topanga Creek fish sampled were a mixture of fish with either predominantly hatchery or native steelhead genotypes, as well as some that appear intermediate" (Girman and Garza 2006, p. 26).

The role of groundwater, seeps and springs in the steelhead resources of Topanga Canyon Creek has been studied, revealing that these year round water sources are directly correlated to distribution of steelhead in Topanga Creek (Tobias 2006). Also, the Santa Monica Mountains Steelhead Habitat Assessment (CalTrout 2006) and a recent monitoring report by Dagit, Reagan, and Tobias (2007) identify key issues related to steelhead including passage barriers, maintaining suitable water quality, preventing introduction of exotic invasive aquatic species (crayfish, bullfrogs, New Zealand Mud Snails, etc.), and addressing private development and road alignment encroachments in the upper watershed.

Los Angeles River

The Los Angeles River is channelized throughout its 52 mile length. It is formed by the confluence of Arroyo Calabasas and Bell Creek in Canoga Park and flows east in its upper portion before turning south. It enters the Pacific Ocean at San Pedro Bay.

The Los Angeles River is described here as fisheries information was found concerning several of its tributaries.

Rio Hondo

The historical alignment of Rio Hondo is difficult to determine. It has been culverted and flows southwest to enter the Los Angeles River at about stream mile 12.

A 1992 report on the Rio Hondo Channel indicates that *O. mykiss* was observed in Rio Hondo Creek during 1948 and 1951 surveys (Soltz 1992). The report states, "Steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) migrated upstream to the headwaters to spawn and downstream to the Pacific Ocean as smolts before dams and diversions disrupted their passage through the drainage" (Soltz 1992, p. 4).

Mission

The historical Mission Creek channel could not be determined. A survey report states, "This is a seepage stream picking up water in the San Gabriel wash and emptying into Rio Honda Wash" (DFG ca 1934a). The creek is located downstream from Legg Lake.

Mission Creek was stocked with rainbow trout in 1930 and 1931. Staff from DFG surveyed Mission Creek, probably in the 1930s, and relayed observations of *O. mykiss*. The survey report states, "A good trout stream..." (DFG ca 1934a). Rainbow trout also were noted in a 1951 survey (DFG 1951a).

Eaton Canyon

Eaton Canyon Creek flows through about 5.3 stream miles before entering lower gradient area and becoming the Eaton Wash near the city of Altadena. The creek historically was tributary to Rio Hondo, with confluence in the vicinity of the Whittier Narrows Dam County Recreation Area.

Staff from DFG surveyed Eaton Canyon Creek in 1946 and observed *O. mykiss*. The survey report notes “fair” to “poor” natural propagation and states, “Fine deep pools which carry a limited trout population because of poor food” (DFG 1946a). Notes from 1949 indicate “not abundant” YOY as well as adult rainbow trout (DFG 1949a). The creek was historically stocked with rainbow trout (DFG 1956).

Arroyo Seco

Arroyo Seco consists of more than 12 stream miles before entering lower gradient area in the vicinity of Devils Gate Reservoir. The lower portion of Arroyo Seco is channelized throughout about 9.6 miles to its confluence with the Los Angeles River east of Dodger Stadium.

Field notes from DFG staff in 1947 indicate the presence of *O. mykiss* in Arroyo Seco. The notes state, “Natural reproduction is very much in evidence...” (DFG 1947a). A survey report from that year states, “This is one of the best trout streams in the Pasadena – Los Angeles area” (DFG 1947b).

Arroyo Seco was surveyed as part of a fisheries investigation in 2000. Multiple year classes of *O. mykiss* including YOY and individuals to 13 inches in length were observed in the upper portion of the arroyo (Stoecker 2001).

Bear Canyon

Bear Canyon Creek consists of about 3.4 stream miles and is tributary to Arroyo Seco. It flows west, entering Arroyo Seco north of Brown Mountain.

Field notes from DFG staff in 1947 indicate the presence of *O. mykiss* in Bear Canyon Creek, including fingerlings. The notes state, “...those [trout] in large pools should carry over” (DFG 1949b).

Bear Canyon Creek was surveyed as part of a fisheries investigation in 2000. Rainbow trout were observed in the lower portion of the creek (Stoecker 2001).

Little Bear Canyon

Little Bear Canyon Creek consists of about two stream miles and is tributary to Arroyo Seco. It flows west, entering Arroyo Seco downstream from Commodore Switzer Camground.

Field notes from DFG staff in 1947 indicate the presence of *O. mykiss* in Little Bear Canyon Creek. The notes state, “Trout run up this creek out of the Arroyo Seco and there are always fingerlings present up to the falls...” (DFG 1949c).

Little Bear Canyon Creek was surveyed as part of a fisheries investigation in 2000. Rainbow trout were observed in the lower portion of the creek (Stoecker 2001).

Big Tujunga

Big Tujunga Creek consists of about over 29 stream miles upstream of Hansen Lake. Downstream from the lake, the channelized Tujunga Wash is about 9.8 miles long and ends at the Los Angeles River channel confluence at Studio City. Big Tujunga Dam is located about 14.5 miles upstream from Hansen Lake.

Big Tujunga Creek was stocked with rainbow trout in 1942 and later years (DFG 1946b). Staff from DFG survey Big Tujunga Creek in 1947 and observed *O. mykiss*. The survey report notes “abundant” natural reproduction in middle portion of the creek and “excellent spawning areas” (DFG 1947c).

An angler observed rainbow trout fingerlings and juveniles in upper Big Tujunga Creek in 2004 and 2005. These trout are believed to be the progeny of recently stocked fish (Culver pers. comm.).

Mill

Mill Creek consists of about 8.3 stream miles and is tributary to Big Tujunga Creek. It flows southwest, entering Big Tujunga Creek in The Narrows section of Big Tujunga Canyon.

Rainbow trout were stocked in Mill Creek in 1944 and subsequent years (DFG 1944). Field notes from 1947 indicate the presence of *O. mykiss* fingerlings in Mill Creek (DFG 1954a). A 1971 DFG memo records observations of “good trout habitat” in Mill Creek (DFG 1971a).

San Gabriel River

The San Gabriel River runs over 58 miles from headwaters in the San Gabriel Mountains to its mouth at Long Beach. The river is channelized throughout the 30 mile section downstream from Santa Fe Dam near Irwindale. The San Gabriel Canyon portion of the river consists of almost 24 stream miles with Morris Dam located about 2.7 miles upstream from the mouth of the canyon and San Gabriel Dam located about six miles from this point. Morris Dam was completed in 1934, while San Gabriel Dam was finished in 1939. The portion of the San Gabriel River upstream from, and east of, San Gabriel Reservoir may be referred to as East Fork San Gabriel River on maps and in reports.

The San Gabriel River was stocked in 1930 and subsequent years (DFG 1939). Staff from DFG surveyed the San Gabriel, probably in the 1930s, and observed rainbow trout. The survey report notes “scant if any” natural propagation in the area between the West Fork and Cattle Canyon Creek confluences. The report states about the San Gabriel, “Does not support heavy fish population. Aged fish have best chance in this stream on account of more water than other L.A. streams” (DFG ca 1934b). An issue of the DFG journal from 1938 refers to the San Gabriel River as having “consistently good” trout fishing (DFG 1938).

Field notes from DFG staff in 1948 note the presence of adult rainbow trout and report a 22-inch individual caught in the upper San Gabriel River (DFG 1954b). A 1951 DFG stream survey report deemed natural propagation in the river to be “fair” (DFG 1951b).

A 1983 DFG letter states, “The upper portion of the [San Gabriel] river drainage presently supports a self-sustaining population of wild rainbow trout” (DFG 1983). The letter also indicated that stocking did not occur upstream from the Cattle Canyon Creek confluence. In 1984, DFG staff recommended including the San Gabriel River and its tributaries upstream from the Cattle Canyon Creek confluence in the department’s “Wild Trout program”. The memo on this topic stated, “Habitat destruction from recent and present mining activities was very evident” (DFG 1984).

In 1988, DFG opposed a sluicing project in the San Gabriel Reservoir on the grounds that it “...would destroy a fairly intense fishery for large rainbow trout which annually migrate from San Gabriel Reservoir to the north, west, and east forks of the San Gabriel river to spawn” (DFG 1988a). The letter from DFG also notes the presence of a “remnant trout” fishery downstream from Morris Dam.

A 1988 report describes DFG investigations on the West Fork between 1984 and 1986. The report states, “It is highly unlikely that remnants of the early steelhead stocks of the pre-dam era remain in the system today” (DFG 1988b, p. 5).

In 2000, a draft study presented the results of genetic analysis of 53 rainbow trout sampled in the East Fork (upper mainstem) San Gabriel River. According to the report, “The trout of the East Fork San Gabriel River do show genetic signatures indicative of [southern steelhead] diversity, but at very low levels and in mixtures that suggest significant impacts of out-of-basin rainbow trout introductions into this river” (Nielson 2000, p. 15).

According to an angler familiar with the streams of the San Gabriel River basin, a self-sustaining *O. mykiss* population occurs in the portion of the San Gabriel River immediately downstream from Morris Dam. Individuals to 17 inches in length have been observed in recent years (Yin pers. comm.).

An angler reports observing rainbow trout in upper East Fork (mainstem) San Gabriel River in 2005 and 2007. Multiple year classes occur, with individuals to about 11 inches in length. The fish are believed to be “wild” trout although the ancestry is uncertain (Nosek pers. comm.).

San Jose

The historical San Jose Creek channel could not be determined. In its present configuration, it appears to carry runoff from Thompson Wash beginning in the vicinity of the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds. The San Jose Creek channel runs west about 19.5 miles to join the San Gabriel channel in the vicinity of the Whittier Narrows Dam.

A 1991 DFG memo relays information from DFG surveys in the 1940s and 1950s regarding San Jose Creek. The original survey reports are not available. According to the memo, *O. mykiss* occurred in San Jose Creek historically (DFG 1991).

Walnut

Walnut Creek is tributary to the San Gabriel River. It flows west, entering the San Gabriel channel in the city of El Monte. Fisheries information was not available for the creek itself, but was available for some tributaries as described below.

Big Dalton Canyon

Big Dalton Canyon Creek consists of about 3.2 stream miles and flows into the Big Dalton Wash in the vicinity of the city of Glendora.

A letter to DFG from 1971 indicates that Big Dalton Reservoir “appears to have abundant fish life” (Brown 1971). Possible fish salvage activities were proposed as part of draining the reservoir, suggesting that “game” species such as rainbow trout might have been present.

Little Dalton Canyon

Little Dalton Canyon Creek consists of about 4.1 stream miles with the canyon. It flows into Little Dalton Wash, which has been channelized and conveys water to Big Dalton Wash when the channels join near the city of Irwindale.

Little Dalton Canyon Creek was stocked with *O. mykiss* in 1945.

San Dimas Canyon

San Dimas Canyon Creek consists of about 5.5 stream miles. It flows into San Dimas Wash, which has been channelized and conveys water to Big Dalton Wash when the channels join east of the city of Irwindale. San Dimas Dam is located less than one mile from the entrance to San Dimas Canyon.

An issue of the DFG journal from 1938 refers to San Dimas Canyon Creek as having “consistently good” trout fishing upstream from the dam (DFG 1938).

Santa Anita Canyon

Santa Anita Canyon Creek flows through about 5.5 stream miles before entering lower gradient area and becoming the Santa Anita Wash near the city of Santa Anita. The creek historically was tributary to the San Gabriel River, with confluence in the vicinity of the city of Arcadia.

Santa Anita Canyon Creek was stocked with rainbow trout in 1930 and later years (DFG 1945). Staff from DFG surveyed Santa Anita Canyon Creek, probably in the 1930s, and did not observe fish. The survey report states, “A few fish which go up stream early are caught each season” (DFG ca 1934c). An issue of the DFG journal from 1938 refers to Santa Anita Canyon Creek as having “consistently good” trout fishing upstream from the Santa Anita Reservoir (DFG 1938).

Field notes from DFG staff in 1947 indicate the presence of “common” fingerling trout in Santa Anita Canyon Creek, while notes from 1946 state, “Very few fish seem to hold over from one year to next” (DFG 1952b).

According to an angler familiar with the streams of the San Gabriel River basin, *O. mykiss* occurs in Santa Anita Canyon Creek. Individuals between about 7 and 14 inches in length have been observed in recent years (Yin pers. comm.).

Monrovia Canyon

Monrovia Canyon Creek consists of about three stream miles and appears to have drained into the Santa Anita Wash historically. It flows south from headwaters on the south flank of Rankin Peak to enter the wash area north of the town of Monrovia.

According to an angler, multiple year classes of rainbow trout and individuals to about 12 inches in length were observed in Monrovia Canyon Creek in recent years (Grubbs pers. comm.). He noted that flood control activities had led to severe habitat degradation in the creek’s lower portion.

Winter

Winter Creek consists of about 2.3 stream miles and is tributary to Santa Anita Canyon Creek. It flows southeast, entering Santa Anita Canyon Creek about one mile upstream of Santa Anita Reservoir.

Winter Creek was stocked in 1947 and later years (DFG 1952c); (DFG 1956). Staff from DFG surveyed Winter Creek in 1946 and observed *O. mykiss*. The survey report notes “little” natural propagation (DFG 1946c).

Fish Canyon

Fish Canyon Creek consists of about 3.3 stream miles and is tributary to the San Gabriel River. It flows south, entering the San Gabriel immediately downstream from the entrance to San Gabriel Canyon.

Trout were stocked in Fish Canyon Creek in 1948 and subsequent years (DFG 1956). Field notes regarding Fish Canyon Creek from DFG in 1951 state, “A few native fish 4 [inches] in length were observed” (DFG 1951c).

An angler notes that *O. mykiss* move between the mainstem San Gabriel River and Fish Canyon Creek (Yin pers. comm.). The origin of the population is uncertain.

Roberts Canyon

Roberts Canyon Creek consists of about 3.4 stream miles and is tributary to the San Gabriel River. It flows south, entering the San Gabriel at the entrance to San Gabriel Canyon.

Staff from DFG surveyed Roberts Canyon Creek in 1947 and observed multiple *O. mykiss* year classes. Natural propagation was deemed “fair” in the creek (Ehlers 1947).

An angler notes that *O. mykiss* move between the mainstem San Gabriel River and Roberts Canyon Creek (Yin pers. comm.). The origin of the population is uncertain.

West Fork San Gabriel

West Fork San Gabriel River consists of about 19.3 stream miles and is tributary to the San Gabriel River. It flows east, entering the San Gabriel about 2.2 miles upstream from San Gabriel Dam. The San Gabriel Reservoir inundated the confluence of the West Fork and mainstem San Gabriel rivers. Cogswell Dam is located at about stream mile nine.

Staff from DFG surveyed the West Fork San Gabriel River in 1947 and multiple *O. mykiss* year classes were observed (DFG 1947d). Severe sedimentation impacts occurred from reservoir operations in the West Fork San Gabriel River in 1966 (DFG 1988b).

A 1971 DFG letter states, “The West Fork of the San Gabriel River below Cogswell supports substantial wild trout and catchable trout fisheries...” (DFG 1971b). Staff from DFG sampled West Fork San Gabriel River downstream from Cogswell Dam in 1975 and observed multiple *O. mykiss* year classes (DFG 1975).

Severe sedimentation impacts occurred from reservoir operations in the West Fork San Gabriel River in 1981 (DFG 1988b). A 1988 report describes DFG investigations on the West Fork between 1984 and 1986. The report states, “Until Morris Dam was completed (1934), steelhead trout migrated and spawned in the West Fork. When the downstream movement of steelhead was blocked, ...fish movement occurred between Morris Dam and areas upstream” (DFG 1988b, p. 5).

A 1992 DFG letter states, “In January 1992, sever turbidity and sedimentation of the fisheries habitat occurred in the West Fork San Gabriel River” (DFG 1992c).

North Fork San Gabriel

North Fork San Gabriel River consists of about 4.7 stream miles and is tributary to West Fork San Gabriel River. It flows south, entering the West Fork about one mile upstream from the western extent of the San Gabriel Reservoir.

North Fork San Gabriel River was stocked in 1930 and subsequent years (DFG 1930a). Staff from DFG surveyed North Fork San Gabriel River in the 1930s and observed *O. mykiss*. The survey report deemed that the extent of natural propagation to be “Probably none” (DFG ca 1934d).

An angler notes observing rainbow trout in North Fork San Gabriel River in recent years (Yin pers. comm.). The origin of the population is uncertain.

Soldier

Soldier Creek consists of about 2.9 stream miles. It flows south to its confluence with Coldbrook Creek, which forms the headwaters of North Fork San Gabriel Creek.

Staff from DFG surveyed Soldier Creek in 1952. The survey report noted the presence of *O. mykiss* showing “poor” to “fair” natural propagation (DFG 1952d). A 1964 letter to DFG reports rainbow trout to 14 inches in length in Soldier Creek (DFG 1964). In response, DFG examined the creek and found “many” juvenile rainbow trout but unsatisfactory conditions for stocking (DFG 1964).

Bear

Bear Creek consists of about 9.3 stream miles and is tributary to West Fork San Gabriel River. It flows south, entering the West Fork about two miles upstream from the western extent of San Gabriel Reservoir.

Bear Creek was stocked in 1931 and in subsequent years (DFG 1931). Staff from DFG surveyed Bear Creek in the 1930s and observed *O. mykiss*. The survey deemed natural propagation not to occur in the creek, and called stocking “Problematical on account of stream being intermittent” (DFG ca 1934e).

A 1947 survey report notes “fair” natural propagation in Bear Creek (DFG 1947e). By 1948, DFG staff deemed natural spawning to be “good” in the creek and called it “...one of the best trout streams of the district” (DFG 1948a).

An angler reports observing rainbow trout in Bear Creek in 2005-2006. Multiple year classes occur, with individuals to 12 or 13 inches in length. Both “wild” trout and stocked fish are present in the creek (Lightner pers. comm.). The ancestry of the native fish is uncertain.

West Fork Bear

West Fork Bear Creek consists of about 4.5 stream miles and is tributary to Bear Creek. It flows southeast, entering Bear Creek between Lower and Upper Bear campgrounds.

Field notes from DFG staff indicate multiple *O. mykiss* year classes in West Fork Bear Creek in 1948. The notes state, “This stream no doubt goes dry so is unimportant to fishing” (DFG 1948b). A 1948 stream survey report finds “good” natural propagation in the creek and states, “This is a fine trout stream with abundant fingerlings” (DFG 1948c).

Chileno Canyon

Chileno Canyon Creek consists of about 3.2 stream miles and is tributary to West Fork San Gabriel River. It flows south, entering the West Fork near Glenn Trail Camp.

Staff from DFG surveyed Chileno Canyon Creek in 1947 and observed multiple *O. mykiss* year classes. Regarding the creek the field notes state, “A nice little stream...but lacks summer flow” (DFG 1952e).

Devils Canyon

Devil's Canyon Creek consists of about 9.6 stream miles and is tributary to West Fork San Gabriel River. It flows south, and its confluence with the West Fork was inundated by Cogswell Reservoir.

Field notes from 1947 notes rainbow trout in Devil's Canyon Creek, including "abundant" fingerlings. The notes indicate that successful spawning and over-summering occur in the creek, at least in some years (DFG 1947f).

Cattle Canyon

Cattle Canyon Creek consists of about 8.4 stream miles and is tributary to the San Gabriel River. It flows west, entering the San Gabriel downstream from the East Fork Station.

A 1933 survey report for Cattle Canyon Creek notes the natural propagation "probably" does not occur in the creek (DFG 1933a). Cattle Canyon Creek was stocked in 1931 and subsequent years (DFG 1930b).

An angler reports observing rainbow trout in Cattle Canyon Creek since the 1990s. Both "native" trout, ranging from about three to seven inches in length, and stocked fish are present in the creek (Kunitomi pers. comm.). The ancestry of the native fish is uncertain.

Coldwater Canyon

Coldwater Canyon Creek consists of about 5.5 stream miles and is tributary to Cattle Canyon Creek. It flows southwest, entering Cattle Canyon Creek at Thompson Flat.

Staff from DFG surveyed Coldwater Canyon Creek in 1981. Multiple *O. mykiss* year classes were observed (DFG 1981). An angler notes that this creek "has never shown any appreciable flow" (Kunitomi pers. comm.).

Devil Gulch

Devil Gulch Creek consists of about two stream miles and is tributary to the San Gabriel River. It flows east, entering the San Gabriel downstream from The Narrows section of the river.

Devil Gulch Creek was stocked in 1931 (DFG 1931). A 1930s survey report notes "light" natural propagation in Devil Gulch Creek (DFG ca 1934f).

Field notes from DFG staff in 1948 indicate the presence of *O. mykiss* fingerlings in lower "Devils Canyon Creek" (DFG 1954b). The context of the survey report suggests the author was referring to Devil Gulch Creek.

Iron Fork San Gabriel River

Iron Fork San Gabriel River consists of about 4.7 stream miles and is tributary to the San Gabriel River. It flows southeast, entering the San Gabriel in The Narrows portion of the San Gabriel Canyon.

Staff from DFG surveyed Iron Fork San Gabriel River in 1933 and observed *O. mykiss*. The survey report indicates that natural propagation “probably” does not occur in the stream (DFG 1933b).

A 1951 survey report called the Iron Fork “a good producer” of *O. mykiss*. Natural propagation was said to be “good” (DFG 1951d).

An angler reports observing rainbow trout in Iron Fork San Gabriel River between 2004 and 2007. Multiple year classes occur, with individuals to 12 or 13 inches in length. Both “wild” trout and stocked fish are present in the creek (Nosek pers. comm.). The ancestry of the native fish is uncertain.

Fish Fork San Gabriel River

Fish Fork San Gabriel River consists of about 6.5 stream miles and is tributary to the San Gabriel River. It flows west, entering the San Gabriel upstream from The Narrows section of the San Gabriel Canyon.

Staff from DFG surveyed Fish Fork San Gabriel River in 1951 and observed numerous *O. mykiss* fingerlings. The survey report recommends against stocking due to good natural production (DFG 1951e).

Staff from DFG surveyed “Upper Fish Canyon” in 1973. Based on the context of the resulting memo, the survey appears to have been of Fish Fork San Gabriel River. The memo states, “There now exists a good population of trout in the mainstream, which seem to be self-sustaining” (DFG 1973b).

An angler reports observing rainbow trout in lower Fish Fork San Gabriel River in 2005 and 2007. Multiple year classes occur, with individuals to about 9 inches in length. The fish are believed to be “wild” trout although the ancestry is uncertain (Nosek pers. comm.). Wild trout also occur in upper Fish Fork, according to the angler.

Prairie Fork San Gabriel River

Prairie Fork San Gabriel River consists of about six stream miles and constitutes the headwaters of the San Gabriel. It flows west to its confluence with Vincent Gulch Creek.

Prairie Fork was stocked, probably in the 1930s and subsequently, with rainbow trout. A stream survey report from 1951 notes that natural propagation is “poor” in the Prairie Fork. The surveyor noted the presence of *O. mykiss* (DFG 1951f). A letter to DFG, probably from 1981, indicates the presence of adult rainbow trout (Brubaker ca 1981).

An angler reports observing rainbow trout in Prairie Fork San Gabriel River between 2000 and 2004. Multiple year classes occur, with individuals to about 12 inches in length. The fish are believed to be “wild” trout although the ancestry is uncertain (Nosek pers. comm.).

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Table 7. Distribution status of *O. mykiss* in coastal streams of Los Angeles County, California¹

Watershed	Stream/Tributary	Historical Presence	Current Presence	Evidence of Decline	Anadromy	Current Population Status
Arroyo Sequit	Arroyo Sequit	DF	DF	Y	Y	1
Arroyo Sequit	West Fork Arroyo Sequit	DF	DF		Y	1
Arroyo Sequit	East Fork Arroyo Sequit	DF	DF		Y	2
Zuma Canyon	Zuma Canyon	DF	UN		UN	0
Solstice Canyon	Solstice Canyon	DF	PA	Y	N	0
Malibu	Malibu	DF	DF	Y	UN	0
Las Flores Canyon	Las Flores Canyon	PS	PA		UN	0
Topanga Canyon	Topanga Canyon	DF	DF	Y	Y	3
Los Angeles River	Los Angeles River	DF	PA	Y	N	0
Los Angeles River	Rio Hondo	DF	PA	Y	N	0
Los Angeles River	Mission	DF	PA	Y	N	0
Los Angeles River	Eaton Canyon	DF	PA	Y	N	0
Los Angeles River	Arroyo Seco	DF	DF	Y	N	3
Los Angeles River	Bear Canyon	DF	DF	Y	N	3
Los Angeles River	Little Bear Canyon	DF	DF	Y	N	3
Los Angeles River	Big Tujunga	PS	PS		N	0
Los Angeles River	Mill	PS	UN		N	0
San Gabriel River	San Gabriel River	DF	DF	Y	N	3
San Gabriel River	San Jose	PB	UN		N	0
San Gabriel River	Walnut	UN	PA		N	0
San Gabriel River	Big Dalton Canyon	UN	PA		N	0
San Gabriel River	Little Dalton Canyon	UN	PA		N	0
San Gabriel River	San Dimas Canyon	PS	PS		N	0
San Gabriel River	Santa Anita Canyon	DF	DF		N	0
San Gabriel River	Monrovia Canyon	DF	DF		N	0
San Gabriel River	Winter	PS	UN		N	0
San Gabriel River	Fish Canyon	DF	DF	Y	N	0
San Gabriel River	Roberts Canyon	DF	DF	Y	N	0
San Gabriel River	West Fork San Gabriel River	DF	DF	Y	N	3

¹Please see Methods section for an explanation of titles and values used in this table.

Table 7. Distribution status of *O. mykiss* in coastal streams of Los Angeles County, California¹

Watershed	Stream/Tributary	Historical Presence	Current Presence	Evidence of Decline	Anadromy	Current Population Status
San Gabriel River	North Fork					
San Gabriel River	San Gabriel River	DF	DF	Y	N	3
San Gabriel River	Soldier	DF	UN	Y	N	0
San Gabriel River	Bear	DF	DF	Y	N	3
San Gabriel River	West Fork Bear	DF	UN	Y	N	0
San Gabriel River	Chileno Canyon	DF	UN	Y	N	0
San Gabriel River	Devils Canyon	DF	PS	Y	N	0
San Gabriel River	Cattle Canyon	DF	DF	Y	N	3
San Gabriel River	Coldwater Canyon	DF	UN	Y	N	0
San Gabriel River	Devil Gulch	DF	UN	Y	N	0
	Iron Fork					
San Gabriel River	San Gabriel River	DF	DF	Y	N	3
	Fish Fork					
San Gabriel River	San Gabriel River	DF	DF	Y	N	3
	Prairie Fork San Gabriel River					
San Gabriel River	Gabriel River	DF	DF	Y	N	3

¹Please see Methods section for an explanation of titles and values used in this table.