

Scotia Pacific Co, LLC.

8 February 2000

TO: John Clancy – NMFS
FROM: Robert Darby

Hi John,

Sorry this letter was not sent to you earlier but the crew that worked on the project was not available to ask questions of until just recently. Attached please find a diagram of the culvert to give you a brief example of what the conditions are. Here are a few brief notes about Stitz Creek

At the end of September 1999, a PALCO field crew did a brief presence absence survey above the Stitz Creek Culvert (approx. 3 Miles south of the town of Scotia). The survey consisted of a 250 ft stretch of creek above the culvert. This stretch had two pools considered likely to contain fish. Only three fish were encountered, two from one pool and one from the other. The first pool contained a 0+ rainbow trout (Approx 37 mm, steelhead or resident is unknown) and one cutthroat trout (approx 170mm). The other pool contained one cutthroat trout (220 mm). The area directly above the culvert had a debris torrent from a side tributary a year earlier. The amount of LWD in this immediate area is excessive (over 200 pieces in less than 500 ft). If any proposed work below the culvert required the use of LWD, wood from above the culvert should be considered. In addition, due to the amount and size of the LWD and the size of the culvert, natural movement or recruitment of LWD downstream to below the culvert is most likely not possible. The Culvert and the road which passes over it belong to County of Humboldt.

PALCO has very little historic data on this creek. However if there is an interest in any research or enhancement work on Stitz Creek, PALCO would like to be informed and would be willing to assist if possible.

I am sorry there is not more data available. I appreciate your interest and if I can be of any help in the future please let me know.

Robert Darby
Aquatic Biologist, Scotia Pacific Co., LLC
(707) 764-4193 Wk
(707) 764-4118 Fax

A Brief Look At Stitz Creek Culvert

