

----- Original Message -----

From: "Cochran, Sean@Wildlife" <Sean.Cochran@wildlife.ca.gov>

To: "johncbarnes@comcast.net" <johncbarnes@comcast.net>

Cc: "Nelson, Jennifer@Wildlife" <Jennifer.Nelson@wildlife.ca.gov>

Date: 11/08/2022 9:38 AM

Subject: RE: Agua Puerca Creek

Hey John,

Thanks for your question. I don't believe we have any recent sampling records on Agua Puerca Creek, however, there are records of rainbow/steelhead trout in Agua Puerca Creek.

Becker and Reining have this historical description in their report on CA Steelhead populations South of the Golden Gate

Unnamed coastal stream (Ferrari) Ferrari Creek [AKA Agua Puerca Creek] consists of about 2.5 stream miles. It flows southwest, entering the Pacific Ocean at the town of Davenport Landing. In 2008, DFG staff noted that in the most downstream 700 feet of the stream, it is channelized and flows through an abalone hatchery building (Nelson pers. comm.). According to a 2001 memo by Coast Dairies, Ferrari Creek is an intermittent stream and is diverted for irrigation purposes. As part of preparing a resource protection plan, Ferrari Creek was surveyed in spring 2001, and YOY and/or yearling O. mykiss were observed (ESA 2001). The resulting report states, "...Ferrari Creek appears to provide adequate habitat for a small salmonid population. Clearly the primary limiting factor on this creek is the presence of...migration barriers..." (ESA 2001, p. 3.3-15)

In the California Fish Passage Assessment Database <https://www.calfish.org/ProgramsData/HabitatandBarriers/CaliforniaFishPassageAssessmentDatabase.aspx.aspx> there are mention of two major fish passage barriers, the HWY 1 culvert, and a concrete dam slightly above that. Both are considered passage barriers to all lifestages of steelhead/rainbow trout, under survey notes there is mention of confirmed presence of rainbow trout and suitable habitat above and below the barriers. Presumably, these fish are now landlocked resident rainbow trout that were descended from a run of steelhead that used to inhabit the creek and is no longer present. It is also plausible steelhead may occasionally stray from other nearby streams and attempt to reproduce in accessible reaches below Highway 1.

I am Ccing a colleague in case they have any further info that I may be unaware of.

Let me know if you have further questions.

Sean Cochran

District Fisheries Biologist

San Francisco, San Mateo & Santa Cruz Counties

CA Department of Fish & Wildlife

Bay Delta Region