

October 2, 1944

WJK44-10-02-01

Searched the Rio Pueblo about one mile above the town of Rio Pueblo.

A good sized stream about 30 feet wide and 10-12 inches deep in the channel. The bottom is of coarse rubble and boulders. The current moderate to strong, mostly strong. No vegetation other than a little algae. Pools seem to be a limiting factor here. Most of the stream paralleled by the road is riffle. Those pools present are small but good. W.C.W., stream low but rising due to last night's storm. Food a little better than poor, mostly small species. One difficulty seems to be that the stones are firmly embedded and allow very little room underneath for insects. At this point the stream flows through mountains covered with yellow Pine. At Tres Picos, upstream, it is in spruce. Gradient moderate. Spring? (may be rain water) and ditches all along. Fished about 1 1/2 hours with little success. Deep pools could not be worked alone. 750 W 5011 MST. Cloudy. Elev. 7880 ft.

Had a rain last night that turned to snow. We had very little here but the peaks are white this morning. We had a half inch or so of rain.

October 2, 1944 #2

Talked with Archie Balanda of the Forest Service today. According to him:

Eels occurred commonly in the Rio Grande as far up as Pilar prior to World War I.

Prior to World War I, the Rio Grande was primarily a cut-throat trout stream with a few rainbows present, of several years after the rainbows became more abundant, the C.T. less so. Still later, during the last 10 years, the stream has been taken over by browns. C.T. are practically absent and rainbows few in number. Chubs became fewer with the advent of the browns. Common suckers (Eagle Nest Suckers) first noted about ten years ago.

Rio la Junta once used to float ties downstream. As a result ^{it} became a straight gravel channel subject to severe floods as much of the bank-protecting brush and trees had been removed. Siren beavers were introduced into the canyon in 1933. They became established. Stream improvements placed in depression. Willows planted at the same time. Stream has improved considerably ~~over~~ in the last ten years.

October 2, 1944 #3

Improvements were also placed in the Rio ~~San~~ Pueblos at the same time. They however went out the following spring.

Trampas lakes are 12-13 feet deep except the one with rainbows in it which is 17.

The upper part of the Trampas River or r. l. along the entrance of the Rio San Leonardo, was without trout before they were planted along. Too many small falls and barriers are present a short distance along the entry of this stream.

Beaver were also placed in Agua Piedra and Augustina creeks in 1933.