

Salmonid Restoration Federation

15th Annual Coho Confab on the Trinity River

August 17-19, 2012

The 15th Annual Coho Confab will be held at Indian Creek Lodge on the mainstem of the Trinity River. Salmonid Restoration Federation and Trees Foundation are the permanent co-hosts of this educational event. The Confab is also sponsored by the California Department of Fish & Game and the Five Counties Salmonid Program. The Coho Confab is a symposium to explore watershed restoration, learn restoration techniques to recover coho salmon populations, and to network with other fish-centric people.

The Coho Confab will open with a Friday evening community dinner. The evening will feature orientation talks including a presentation by Mark Lancaster, Five Counties Salmonid Program, on Weaver Creek as a microcosm of the challenges facing coho in California, followed by a discussion with Arnold Whitridge, Trinity River Advocate, on whether the \$16 million per year Trinity River Restoration Program will be effective in restoring salmon populations. Research Geneticist, Carlos Garza, will present about coho salmon population structure in the Klamath Basin.

On Saturday there will be several concurrent field tours including an all-day tour of migration barriers, large wood management and up-slope restoration projects on several Trinity River tributaries. Other Saturday morning tours include a look at instream macro-invertebrates and how they can help restoration projects, and a tour of road upgrades and stream crossings with a discussion of sediment reduction techniques. Saturday afternoon tours include the ever-popular underwater fish identification workshop and a look at Sidney Gulch, a coho-bearing urban stream.

When participants return from tours they can refresh in the river or swimming pool and then join an Open Forum discussion on The "Landscape of Coho Recovery" that will include presentations from Julie Weeder, NOAA Fisheries Recovery Coordinator, Darren Miereu of Cal Trout, and a representative of the NOAA Fisheries Restoration Center.



Lowden Creek and Indian Creek on the mainstem of the Trinity River

This long summer day will culminate with a BBQ feast and a serenade by river troubadour, Alice di Micele. Sunday concludes with a half-day of concurrent tours and workshops including a river restoration tour from Lewiston Dam to Indian Creek, a second offering of macro-invertebrates sampling, and a tour and discussion of mainstem channel rehabilitation design on the Trinity River.

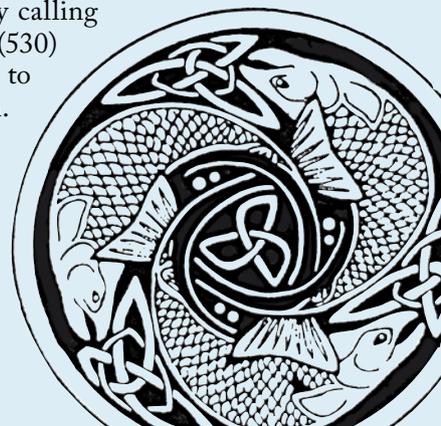
Logistics: Come prepared. If you are planning on attending the macro-invertebrate sampling workshop, you may want to bring waders. The underwater fish identification workshop will require a snorkel and mask.

This is a destination Confab. The entire Indian Creek Lodge has been reserved for our exclusive event. This is an ideal place to bring your family and enjoy the Confab with the comfort of full accommodations. There a variety of rooms including single rooms with king-size beds, double rooms, suites and deluxe suites. Please make your reservation directly by calling Indian Creek Lodge at (530) 623-6294, <http://iclodge.net> to reserve your room soon. Limited camping is also available.

To register for the Confab or to view the full agenda:
www.treesfoundation.org
 or www.calsalmon.org



With some fishing luck, the Yurok tribe will hopefully be preparing Klamath salmon traditionally for this year's Coho Confab.



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Coastal Off-channel and Tidal Habitat Restoration Symposium

Salmonid Restoration Federation, Five Counties Salmonid Program, and the California Department of Fish and Game are sponsoring a Coastal Off-Channel Habitat and Tidal Restoration Symposium on the North Coast on November 15-16, 2012. This symposium will include workshop presentations on fish passage design and engineering, tidal estuarine restoration, creation of off-channel habitat for salmonids, and experimental wood-loading designs. This workshop will feature innovative leaders in these restoration techniques including engineer Mike Love, fisheries biologist Mike Wallace, licensed geologist Rocco Fiori, project manager Mitch Farro, fluvial geomorphologist Conor Shea, and tidegate specialist Leo Kuntz.

Participants will tour of some of the completed project sites in the Humboldt Bay Wildlife Refuge including specially designed tide gates that mute the peak tides to avoid flooding adjacent infrastructure. Recently, construction was completed on over 3,500 feet of new channels and over two acres of off-channel habitat located in the freshwater to brackish water transitional zone of the estuary. Since completion, DFG has been monitoring fish use and water quality within these off-channel features, finding a positive response for salmonids and other sensitive estuarine fish. The project tour will include discussions of the geomorphic and engineering design process, lessons learned to date regarding sedimentation patterns and water quality, the biological monitoring

techniques being employed, and fish utilization patterns being observed in these newly formed tidally influenced off-channel habitats.

The second day of the symposium will include a tour of Humboldt Bay tributaries and estuaries including Jacoby Creek and McDaniel Slough. Jacoby Creek is one of the larger tributaries to Humboldt Bay and supports coastal cutthroat trout, steelhead trout, coho salmon, and Chinook salmon. In 2011, the City of Arcata and USFWS restored 15 acres of tidal marsh and associated tidal channels by constructing a new set-back levee. The Jacoby Creek Estuary project is one component of a series of habitat improvement projects undertaken in the City's 1300-acre Arcata Baylands Project that strives to restore historical connectivity of bay-side, seasonal freshwater wetlands and to increase the amount of rearing habitat for pre-emigrant salmonids.

There will also be a concurrent tour of process-based restoration near the Klamath River estuary to highlight innovative work undertaken by the Yurok tribe and Geologist Rocco Fiori. These projects are designed to mimic natural processes to restore ecological function. Monitoring of natural ponds revealed that thousands of juvenile coho salmon were utilizing these off-channel ponds. The Yurok Tribal Fisheries Program and Rocco Fiori have been designing and building restoration projects using whole trees and side-channel ponds to create natural conditions that draw salmonids to functioning habitat.

McDaniel Slough is a tidal slough located on the north shore of the Humboldt Bay's upper bay. The McDaniel Slough Wetland Enhancement Project will restore and enhance over 400 acres of coastal and riparian wetland habitats on the northern portion of Humboldt Bay. Projects improvements include construction of a set-back levee, breaching of the bay-front levee, and construction of interior tidal channels and off-channel habitats.



Diversifying the Culture of Restoration

By John Griffin, California Conservation Corps

Checking out the crowd at the most recent SRF conference, I felt enthused about how much better attended and more prestigious the conference has become since the first one I attended 16 years ago. It appears that attendance has grown at a rate comparable to our nation's population. But while the US population has diversified greatly, the "salmon restoration movement" has not.

Last year was the first in our nation's history in which more non-white Americans were born than white. Americans of color are now almost 37% of the total US population. Yet, you would never know that if your only point of reference was the memberships and employees of environmental groups. According to the Center of Diversity and the Environment, only 11% of employees at natural resource organizations are non-white. If conservation groups wish to remain relevant into the future they will need to diversify. There are all kinds of people living in watersheds who could be advocating for salmon, but one rarely sees much diversity on speaker panels or in attendance at environmental conferences. It's time to recruit more allies for nature and for salmon.

Most of the time when I mention the importance of diversifying the environmental movement to white conservationists, I'm met with enthusiasm. Other times the reaction is defensiveness. I am not suggesting that white folks stay home so there will be seats left open for people of color. I'm actually talking about adding seats. As biologically-minded people, the benefits of diversity are already apparent to you.

We need to figure out more ways to recruit a broader spectrum of people to advocate for salmon, watershed restoration, and ecological integrity. That doesn't necessarily mean that those of us who have spent decades in the "save the salmon movement" have to stop preaching to the choir. It just means that we also need to take a place in the choir and sing loud enough so the people who have yet to be invited will hear and want to join in.



The diverse group of youth that work with in the California Conservation Corps motivated John Griffin to write a multicultural eco-fantasy book for teens titled Totem Magic: Going MAD. He is donating 100% of the book's profits from sales. A third of those donations are going to groups that promote ethnic/racial diversity within the conservation movement. For more information visit: TotemMagic.com.

According to a poll conducted by the Los Angeles Times, we shouldn't have to sing that many songs to reach our goal of becoming a multi-cultural congregation. The poll found that (even way back in 2002), when California voters were presented with a \$2.6 billion bond issue for water quality enhancement and open space protection (Prop 40), 77% of Blacks, 74% of Latinos, and 60% of Asians (as compared to 56% of Whites) voted in favor of it.

Lots of different kinds of people want to protect nature, and the salmon need all of them to be engaged now. So how do we become more multi-cultural? Step One: Make the effort. In fact, it needs to be a priority. Several large conservation groups like The Nature Conservancy, Audubon, and the Children and Nature Network have already committed a lot of resources toward diversifying their own organizations. They recognize that it will take ALL people to address the magnitude of environmental problems that we're faced with today. For the sake of salmon, we should follow suit. It would be great to see at least one workshop on diversifying the watershed

restoration movement at an upcoming SRF conference. There are plenty of resources and speakers available. One candidate would certainly be Marcelo Bonta, the director of the Center for Diversity and the Environment. He and Charles Jordan, board chair emeritus of The Conservation Fund, wrote an essay titled "Diversifying the American Environmental Movement" in the book *Diversity and The Future of the Environmental Movement*. In it they said: "Diversifying is not an option. It is a necessity. In the very least, it means survival of the environmental movement. At most, it means creating a healthy, influential and sustainable movement." The full essay and more information is available at: environmentaldiversity.org.

By 2042 half of all Americans will be people of color. That estimate drives home Marcelo Bonta's quote that "diversifying is not an option." Even if we were successful in all our restoration and political efforts between now and 2042, salmon are still going to need guardians. And those guardians need to look like everyone and represent everyone. We all have a stake in the salmon's survival.

6th Annual Spring-run Chinook Symposium

August 16-17, 2012 on the Trinity River

The Salmonid Restoration Federation will host the 6th Annual Spring-run Chinook Symposium at the Indian Creek Lodge on the beautiful Trinity River, August 16-17, 2012. This year's Chinook Symposium offers two full days of informative presentations and tours addressing issues specific to Spring-run Chinook populations.

The Spring-run Chinook Symposium starts the morning of August 16th with an orientation presentation on the salmonid population trends in the Trinity River basin, followed by an overview of the Trinity River geography and Spring-run Chinook population. Participants will then have a choice of two tours: a tour of the South Fork Trinity River watershed, looking at the relationships between Spring-run Chinook, streams, roads, fires, and geology, or a whitewater rafting tour of Upper Trinity River restoration sites and Spring-run holding and rearing habitat. Following dinner, there will be several evening presentations including Josh Strange's talk on Spring-run Chinook migration, management and restoration; Yurok Tribal perspectives on Spring-run Chinook by Yurok Policy Analyst, Troy Fletcher, and a presentation by Geneticist Carlos Garza regarding the biological issues in NOAA

Fisheries Spring-run status determination in the Klamath-Trinity system.

The Symposium wraps up on Friday with two all-day tours. One will visit the Trinity River Hatchery, upriver spawning habitat and look at gravel augmentation and restoration sites. The other will be a repeat of the popular whitewater rafting tour of Upper Trinity restoration sites, and Spring-run Chinook rearing and holding habitat.

The Spring-run Chinook Symposium takes place immediately before and in the same location as the 15th Annual Coho Confab and we encourage participants to attend both events. The Indian Creek Lodge [(530)623-6294, <http://iclude.net>] is a beautiful fishing lodge right on the mainstem of the Trinity. We encourage people to reserve a room at the lodge (not included in the price of the Symposium).



Spring-run Chinook may have once been the dominant run in the Klamath-Trinity River basin. Unregulated snowmelt flows in the spring allowed these fish to reach higher elevation mountain tributaries where deep pools remained cold all summer with clean spawning gravels nearby. This arrangement allowed Chinook salmon to make maximum use of the drainage network and created spatial and temporal segregation from Fall-run Chinook salmon, resulting in genetic divergence.

Being the first salmonids to return after the lean season of winter and having a high fat content, Spring-run Chinook salmon were especially valuable to native tribes and wildlife alike. Native tribes conducted first salmon ceremonies in the spring that were part of a management system that ensured adequate escapement of spawners. Stream-type and ocean-type life histories can be expressed from Spring-run Chinook salmon in the Klamath-Trinity basin, with juveniles having the option of spending a year in their natal reaches or migrating downstream early.

Currently, dams on the mainstem Klamath River block access to historic habitat and year-round cold water areas in

Spring-run Chinook Salmon in the Klamath-Trinity Basin

By Josh Strange, Yurok Tribal Fisheries Program

the upper basin, leaving a small population of around 500 to 1,000 spawners in the Salmon River. Iron Gate Hatchery produces no Spring-run Chinook salmon. On the Trinity River, dams also block access to historic habitat but cold water releases from Trinity Dam recreates year-round cold-water habitat for approximately 40 miles below the dams. Trinity River Hatchery produces a substantial amount of Spring-run Chinook salmon with tens of thousands of spawners annually, although there is concern and evidence of introgression with Fall-run fish due of the loss of spatial segregation. A small wild run of around 250 to 500 spawners persists on the South Fork of the Trinity River, which had tens of thousands of spawners prior to the 1964 flood. Currently, Spring-run are not part of the Pacific Fisheries Management Council's harvest quota system for ocean and river fisheries.

Escapement of Spring-run Chinook salmon is monitored through a combination of creel surveys, tribal net harvest monitoring, a weir at Junction City on the Trinity River, and snorkel survey on the Salmon and South Fork Trinity rivers. Improvements of rearing habitat conditions in the upper Trinity River as part of the Trinity River Restoration Program's efforts should benefit Spring-run Chinook salmon as well as Fall-run.

30th Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference



Photo: Thomas B. Dunklin

The 30th Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference in Davis was heralded to be the largest salmon restoration conference in the Pacific Northwest if not on the globe. Fisheries scientists, habitat restorationists, academics, engineers, students, watershed stewards, and representatives from every agency concerned with protecting salmon congregated at this epic conference.

The conference theme was *30 Years of Fisheries Restoration – Focusing on a New Generation of Watershed Recovery* because the restoration field is at a critical turning point with how we prioritize fisheries restoration and advance towards restoring natural processes and recovering functioning watersheds. SRF created a diverse and wide-ranging conference agenda to match our watershed view of the future of restoration.

Educational workshops focused on pressing issues like instream flows, floodplain restoration, fish passage and protection, and community partnerships to promote restoration. Field tours highlighted concepts like restoring the natural hydrograph and meander in Putah Creek, tidal marshland restoration in the Yolo Bypass, floodplain restoration at the Cosumnes River and the McCormack Tract, and Suisun Marsh Fish Habitat Restoration followed by a tour of the UC Davis Center for Aquatic Biology and Aquaculture.

The Conference Plenary session was particularly inspiring. Assembly member Jared Huffman gave a welcome speech. He has been a long-term advocate for instream flows and fisheries recovery and demonstrated incredible leadership on behalf of fisheries-related issues. The next speaker was revered fisheries scientist Jim Lichatowich, author of *Salmon Without Rivers* who unabashedly shared his concerns about the effects of

hatcheries on wild populations of salmon. Xanthippe Augerot, author of the *Atlas of Pacific Salmon*, gave an impressive global perspective and overview of worldwide salmon populations, trends, and patterns.

The new Director of the California Department of Fish and Game led the packed theater in a rousing call-and-response, in which all participants vowed to bring back California's salmon populations. The closing speaker was Secretary of Natural Resources, John Laird who was impressed by the congregation of 600 participants gathering for the single purpose of restoring and recovering salmonids in California. We are at a unique moment in California legislative history where we have great appointments and allies and a host of legislative bills that could benefit fish. We must share our collective expertise and build on this momentum to protect fisheries and habitat.

Other conference highlights included the Dam Removal session that featured presentations on some of the biggest dam removal projects, including Jeff Duda's talk about the planning and success of the Elwha Dam removal in Washington, and Geomorphologist Gordon Grant's presentation called, "The Remains of the Day: Lessons

Learned from the Marmot Dam Removal." These presentations will be available on the SRF website shortly.

Biological sessions looked at the genetic effects of hatcheries on Chinook salmon, using existing fish tagging data to guide restoration planning, monitoring, and evaluation, and steelhead restoration and recovery. Physical sessions focused on the role of coastal lagoons and oceans, geomorphological frontiers in river restoration, and floodplain processes. The environmental issues addressed were region-specific and included dam removal, conservation hatcheries, managing the Bay Delta for water and fish, and restoring the San Joaquin River.

SRF recognizes the value of networking and socializing at the conference. Evening events included the SRF Annual meeting and membership dinner, an informative poster session and a scrumptious reception, and our fabulous banquet, cabaret, and awards ceremony. Congratulations to Brock Dolman who received the Golden Pipe Award, Gary Burica from the California Conservation Corps who received the Lifetime Achievement Award, and Rich Marovich from the Putah Creek Streamkeeper who won the prestigious Restorationist of the Year award.



SRF paid a tribute to previous Restorationist of the Year award recipients who were present including Mitch Farro, Meredith Hardy, Richard Gienger, Danny Hagans, Dave Highland (left to right) and Rich Marovich from Putah Creek Streamkeeper in the center who is this year's Restorationist of the Year.

Why the Fisheries Restoration Community Needs to Engage in Forestry Practices Reform

.....By Richard Gienger, excerpted from Trees Foundation's Spring 2012 newsletter *Forest and River News*

The Timber Harvest Working Group (THWG) is currently shaping what forestry will look like in salmon and steelhead watersheds in California. The restoration community needs to be represented in the process that will affect forestry and future conditions of watersheds.

2012 is a hot and heavy year in the California Legislature in regards to forestry, watershed, and fisheries issues. Timber Harvest Plan (THP) fee hearings combined with the financial state of California, the lack of personnel to carry out multi-disciplinary review of THPs, the related pressures to 'streamline' regulatory process, and the needs of threatened and endangered salmonids, particularly coho salmon, and other species have contributed to a myriad of new proposed legislation and negotiations involving multiple parties. Several institutions, organizations, advocates, and agencies responsible for maintaining public trust values are involved in the legislative process. The restoration community is not adequately represented or included in the environmental reform process that affects fisheries and watershed management.

We are at a crossroads for determining the future conditions of forests, fisheries, wildlife, and water in California. One venue to resolve these important issues is within the Dickinson/Chesbro THWG working committee that is wrestling with the various crises described above. Current participants include nine 'environmental' groups, ten 'industry' representatives, 15 administration representatives from assorted agencies and the Governor's office, and ten representatives from the Legislature. The mission statement for this group is to:

"Develop reforms to the timber harvest regulatory program so the cost of the program (1) is reasonable for the state,



"Approximately 85-90% of the last remaining population of CCC coho salmon exist on private forestlands," excerpted from a National Marine Fisheries Service letter to the Board of Forestry

landowners, and timber industry, (2) establishes adequate funding for an efficient state regulatory program that meets the requirements of the Forest Practice Act, the California Environmental Quality Act, the California and federal Endangered Species Act, and other applicable environmental laws, and (3) does not lead to unintended consequences of accelerated forest land conversion and job loss."

There is a lot at stake, and typically, almost all those involved are overwhelmingly "Sacramento-centric". If you don't work in Sacramento or have a Sacramento-based lobbyist your concerns just might not be thought of or considered. Important and valid concerns are brought forward but a lot of on-the-ground realities for North Coast residents and communities are often not taken into account.

The Governor's office is the big player in this scenario. DFG took a budget cut of \$1.5 million from former Governor Schwarzenegger, which eliminated all DFG review of THPs in the Sierra Nevada. I have advocated for years for certain common sense and ethical reforms in the existing range of forestry regulation that would give a more transparent and credible process that would benefit the plan submitter, landowner, agencies, and public.

Two potential reforms are to organize information by CalWater Planning Watersheds, and to establish a cumulative watershed evaluation and response template that would standardize the minimum format for such evaluation and response to include pertinent information, maps, and scale. Assemblyman Chesbro currently has a bill, AB 380 supported by both environmental and industry interests, that would enable these reforms and which passed the Assembly and must pass the Senate Appropriations Committee to be signed into law.

The 2004 California Coho Recovery Strategy calls for recovery plans, limiting factors for Coho, and data collection to be conducted on a CalWater Planning Watershed basis — the same scale that almost all Cumulative Watershed Effects evaluations and responses are required to be done for every Timber Harvest Plan. THPs are currently organized by county, making comprehension of actual Planning Watershed conditions and opportunities for restoration work extremely time consuming and difficult at best. **Foresters have collected a vast amount of pertinent watershed and fisheries information that could and should be utilized for forest, watershed, and fisheries recovery and restoration planning. A good cumulative impacts process will provide a blueprint for recovery actions by landowners, restoration practitioners, and the public and private restoration community.**

The restoration community needs to participate in these vital processes and to share its valuable understanding and experience. For starters, fisheries advocates and restoration practitioners can inform legislators that we would like the restoration community to be represented in venues where decisions that affect forests and watersheds are made.

Current California Fisheries Legislation

Salmonid Restoration Federation is currently keeping our eye on three important pieces of legislation. The following proposed bills could have significant effects on funding and permitting of watershed restoration, and protection of California salmonids and their habitat. Please visit the new and improved www.leginfo.ca.gov to find additional information on these bills including status, analyses, and a list of those who support and oppose these bills.

One of the most important bills on the table is **AB 1532, the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Account**, introduced by Assembly Speaker Perez. This bill establishes procedures for deposit and expenditure of regulatory fee revenues derived from the auction of Greenhouse Gas allowances pursuant to the cap and trade program under AB 32. The bill creates the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Account and requires that all funds collected be deposited in the account and spent on 1) investments in clean and efficient energy, 2) investments in low-carbon transportation and infrastructure, 3) investments in natural resource protection, including natural resource management programs and projects, land conservation and restoration, and development and implementation of sustainable agriculture, forestry, and related water, land, and resource management practices, and 4) investments in

research, development, and deployment of innovative technologies, measures, and practices related to programs and projects funded pursuant to this part. The bill analysis states that the Governor's proposed 2012-13 budget assumes \$1 billion will be raised from the auctions for the budget year, and \$500 million of this will be devoted to the investments mentioned above, including natural resource protection.

You can see how important this bill is at a time where funding for watershed restoration is dismal. California Watershed Network has been working with SRF and others to help support AB 1532. In a letter we sent to Speaker Perez, we asked for the funds to go to existing state programs that are already set up and staffed, and that no less than 20% of the funds be used for watershed restoration programs. As of May 29, the bill had passed the Assembly Committees on Natural Resources and Appropriations and ordered to the Senate.

Another important bill for coho salmon is Assemblymember Huffman's proposed bill **AB 1961, the Coho Salmon Habitat Enhancement Leading to Preservation Act**, also known as the Coho HELP Act. AB 1961 not only makes legislative findings regarding the decline of coho salmon and the need to prevent their extinction, but also works to prevent their extinction by allowing California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) to expedite the approval of watershed restoration projects that meet specific criteria. The geographic scope and type of projects that can be approved under the Coho HELP Act are projects within a region identified in a recovery plan that does one or more of the following: restores stream banks, modifies water crossings, or places wood to enhance habitat or increase stream complexity. The projects must also be consistent

with fish passage guidelines and recovery plans, be less than five acres in size or 500 linear feet, be completed within five years, and have less than significant negative effects. The Director's approval of a Coho HELP Act project is in lieu of any other permit, license, or approval issued by DFG. In addition, the Coho HELP Act allows DFG to adopt emergency regulations in order to prevent the extinction of coho salmon. The Act will be repealed on January 1, 2018.

As of May 30, AB 1961 had passed both the Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife and the Committee on Appropriations with no opposition (12-0 and 17-0 respectively) and had been ordered to the Senate.

Another interesting bill is **SB 1486**, proposed by Senator Lieu. SB 1486 requires retail food facilities that sell seafood and operate 19 or more locations to provide the common name, country of origin, and whether the seafood was wild caught or farm-raised to consumers on a menu insert, brochure, or display. This proposed bill is a result of routine examinations finding substantial mislabeling of seafood. The bill analysis states that examinations from NMFS National Seafood Inspection Laboratory between 1988 and 1997 found that 37 percent of fish and 13 percent of other seafood from randomly selected vendors were mislabeled. Examples of commonly substituted seafood includes yellowtail for mahi mahi, Alaska Pollock for cod, sea bass for halibut, steelhead trout for salmon, tilapia for snapper, and paddlefish for caviar. A more recent study conducted by Oceana found 55 percent of fish samples at restaurants in Los Angeles and Orange counties were mislabeled. Of the various retailers sampled, sushi restaurants had the highest rate of mislabeling (87 percent), followed by restaurants (45 percent), and grocery stores (31 percent). Oceana found that nine out of every 10 sushi samples were mislabeled. As of April 26, the bill had passed the Assembly Committee on Health and was referred to the Committee on RLS.



Salmonid Restoration Federation

PO Box 784

Redway, CA 95560



www.calsalmon.org

srf@calsalmon.org

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Save the Dates for SRF's Upcoming Trainings

Coastal Off-channel and Tidal Habitat Restoration Symposium

November 15-16, North Coast, California

This two day symposium will provide overviews and methodologies of innovative restoration techniques that were employed in the Humboldt Wildlife Refuge, coastal tributaries, and the Klamath estuary including restoring the natural meander of the estuarine side-channel, wood loading to provide structure and diversity, and restoring the salt marsh. Participants will tour estuary and wetlands restoration sites, coho off-channel habitat, and tide gate designs.



The delta of Salmon Creek, the third largest tributary to Humboldt Bay, joins the bay within the National Wildlife Refuge. Efforts began in 2002 to reintroduce estuarine conditions to Salmon Creek to improve geomorphic function and enhance habitat for coho salmon and other estuarine dependent species.

Photo: Dave Kentworthy

South Coast Fish Passage Field School

January 15-17, 2013, Ventura, CA

Salmonid Restoration Federation with the support of the California Department of Fish & Game will offer a South Coast Fish Passage Design and Engineering Field School in Ventura County, CA. Instructors include engineers Michael Love and Kosmo Bates and fisheries biologist Ross Taylor. This intensive workshop will include two days in the classroom comprised of presentations, group exercises and local case studies. The third day will feature field visits to local projects, and a specialized half-day workshop targeted specifically for engineers to explore in more detail the calculations used to develop successful designs. The agenda will also highlight the "Fish Passage and Design Implementation" chapter of the California Salmonid Stream Habitat Restoration Manual that addresses fish passage at road-stream crossings, small dams, and other in-stream obstructions. It details contemporary design methods and provides guidance on implementation.

SRF will open registration for this course in August.

31st Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference

March 13-16, 2013, Fortuna River Lodge

If you are interested in chairing a session, field tour, or workshop, please email srf@calsalmon.org a brief proposal that will be considered in late July when we build the conference agenda. SRF will be posting the First Call for Abstracts in August.