



### **Conner Creek Barrier Removal Project**

**Brief Summary (Abstract):** The purpose of the Conner Creek projects were to provide full passage for all life stages of coho salmon and steelhead to the natural limits of anadromy by removing two County road culverts that were migration barriers to salmonids.

**Project Location:** Conner Creek is a tributary to the Trinity River in the Junction City area of Trinity County, California. The project consisted of the removal of two migration barrier structures on county roads in the Conner Creek watershed. The projects are located in Section 2, T33N, R11W, MDBM on the USGS 7.5 Dedrick Quadrangle and are accessible by taking Highway 299 west out of Weaverville 8 miles, turn left at Dutch Creek Road and cross the Trinity River, turn right on Red Hill Rd. The downstream project, on Conner Creek Road is accessed by turning right onto Conner Creek Road from Red Hill Road at approximately road mile 2.2. The upstream project site is located on Red Hill Road approximately 500' past the Conner Creek Road turnoff. The staging area for both projects is located at the intersection of Conner Creek Rd and Red Hill Rd. Refer to page 4 for a detailed map of the Project area.

**Partners:** California Coastal Conservancy (geotechnical investigation, design, permitting, construction); California Department of Fish and Game's Fisheries Restoration Grant Program (CDFG FRG); United States Forest Service Resource Advisory Committee (RAC), US Forest Service/National Fish and Wildlife Foundation; the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); a joint National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and National Association of Counties (NACo) grant (construction and monitoring); the US Bureau of Reclamation-Trinity River Restoration Program Watershed Restoration Program (construction); the Trinity County Department of Transportation (TCDOT), The National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHP) and LanMark Forestry (construction).

**Project Goals:** Provide full passage for all life stages of coho salmon and steelhead to the natural limits of anadromy by removing two County road culverts that were migration barriers to salmonids.

**Strategy Goals Implemented:** 3, 4

**Climate Impacts Addressed:** 3.2, 3.4

**Status of Project Implementation (Timeline, Milestones, Next Steps):** Project Completed -Conner Creek barrier projects received an "Honorable Mention Distinguished Project in Fisheries Engineering and Ecohydrology Award" by the American Fisheries Society during the AFS Fish Passage 2013 conference in Corvallis, Oregon June 26, 2013.

**Project Outcomes:** The completion of the Conner Creek Road site in 2011 opened up 1,100 feet of habitat to adult and juvenile salmonids. It also established the staging and storage area which was re-used in the Red Hill project and was decommissioned by ripping (de-compaction and seeding) during renovation of the site.

**Funding Sources:** Total project cost \$719,488



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CLIMATE ADAPTATION STRATEGY

- US Forest Service Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) - \$61,712
- US Forest Service - \$130,000
- California Coastal Conservancy - \$71,207
- Trinity County Department of Transportation (TCDOT) - \$72,719
- LanMark - \$750
- California Dept. Fish and Wildlife FRGP - \$120,067
- NOAA/National Association of Counties (NACO) - \$100,000
- California Fish Passage Forum (NFHP) - \$30,000
- USFWS \$89,432
- TRRP - \$43,600

**Photos/Attachments:**

Video—<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r5/news-events/audiovisual/?cid=stelprdb5422846>

Photo/Figure Credits (do we have permission to print):

Suggested Photo Caption:

**Final report with Photos:**

[http://cafishpassageforum.org/media/publications/meetingminutesagendas/december2013/Conner\\_Creek\\_Final\\_Report\\_NFHAP.pdf](http://cafishpassageforum.org/media/publications/meetingminutesagendas/december2013/Conner_Creek_Final_Report_NFHAP.pdf)