



**NOAA  
FISHERIES**

## **West Coast Merger & Status of Recovery Planning**

**Charlotte Ambrose**

**Salmon & Steelhead Recovery Coordinator  
North Central California Coast Recovery Domain  
NOAA Fisheries, West Coast Region  
Santa Rosa, California**

**[Charlotte.A.Ambrose@noaa.gov](mailto:Charlotte.A.Ambrose@noaa.gov)**

# NOAA Fisheries West Coast Merger

## The Merging of Oregon, Washington, Oregon, and Idaho with California

- October 1, 2013 NOAA Northwest & Southwest formally merged into a single region
  - Merging of States and Protected Resources and Habitat Conservation Divisions

## New Title: West Coast Region

- Administration's FY13 Budget Proposal & Congressional Direction
  - Satisfy budget cuts of \$3 million for NOAA Fisheries
    - All field offices remain in place
  - Eliminated several upper management positions
    - Divisions Reorganized

West Coast Region

Branch Offices

Sustainable Fisheries

New Protected Resources (Marine)

Operations & Management

Communications

# NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region



## Regional Leadership

William Stelle, Regional Administrator (RA), WA

Barry Thom, Deputy RA, Oregon

Donna Darm, Associated Deputy RA, Oregon

## Four Branch Offices

Interior Columbia Basin

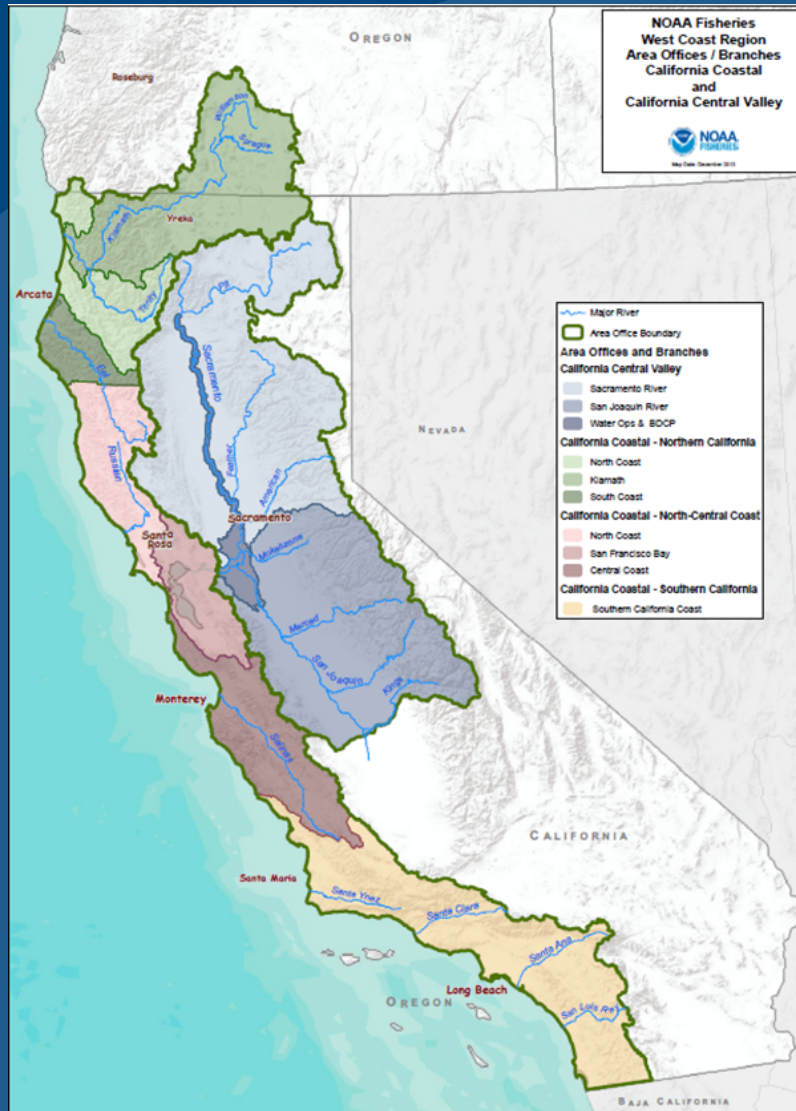
Oregon & Washington Coast

California Central Coast

Central Valley

Each Branch Office has an Assistant Regional Administrator (ARA) who reports to Donna Darm

# NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region: CA



## California Coastal Branch

Coastal Streams from  
Oregon to Mexican Border

**ARA: Irma Lagomarsino**

**Arcata – Branch Office**

**Santa Rosa – Field Office**

**Joyce Ambrosius, Acting Supervisor**

**Long Beach – Field Office**

**Anthony Spina, Supervisor**

## Central Valley Branch

Central Valley Streams

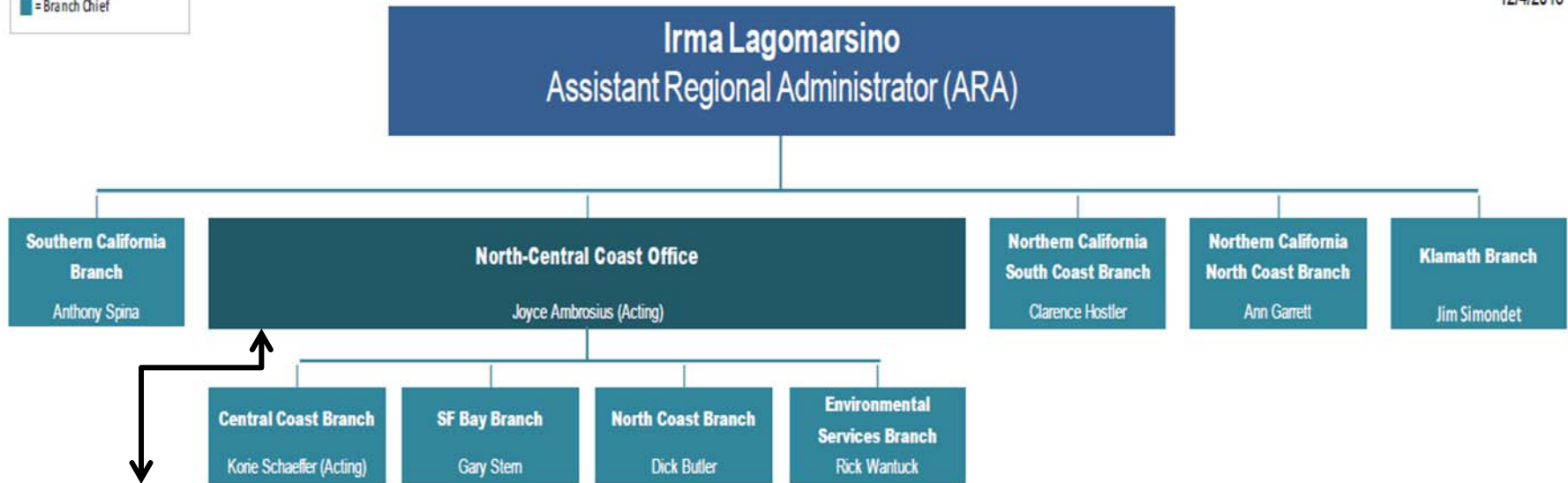
**ARA: Maria Rea**

**Sacramento – Branch Office**

# California Coastal Area Office

12/4/2013

■ = Office Supervisor  
■ = Branch Chief



**Charlotte Ambrose**  
*Recovery Coordinator*

**Maura Moody**  
*Assistant Recovery Coordinator*



**NOAA FISHERIES**  
**West Coast Region**



**Steelhead**  
**Distinct Population**  
**Segments**

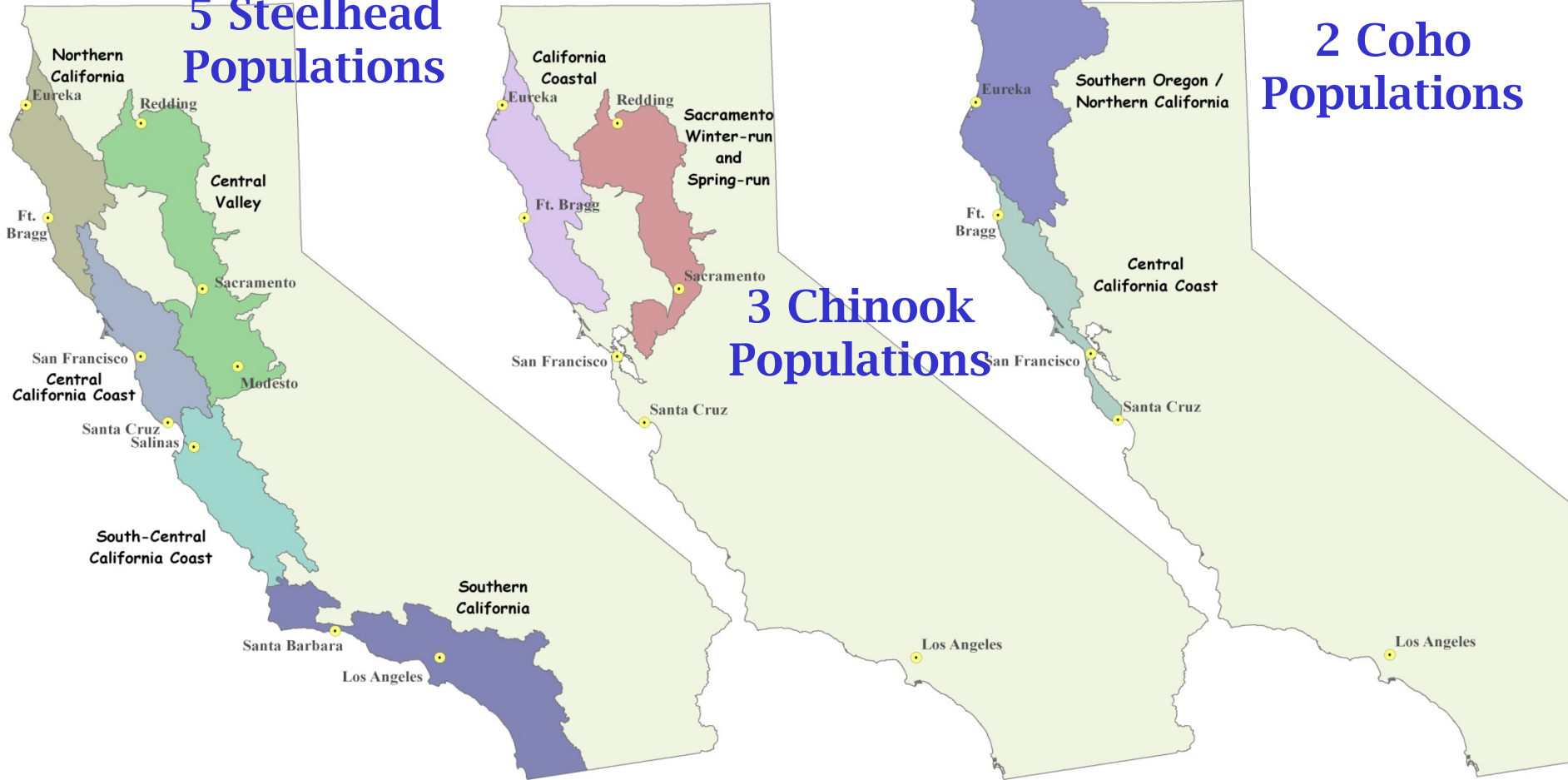
**Chinook**  
**Evolutionarily Significant**  
**Units**

**Coho**  
**Evolutionarily Significant**  
**Units**

**5 Steelhead**  
**Populations**

**2 Coho**  
**Populations**

**3 Chinook**  
**Populations**




**10 Species of Salmon and Steelhead Listed as Federally Threatened or Endangered in California**

*A Federal Plan for their recovery must be developed for all 10*

# STATE & FEDERAL RECOVERY PLANS

**PUBLIC DRAFT RECOVERY PLAN**


FOR  
THE EVOLUTIONARILY SIGNIFICANT UNITS  
OF  
**SACRAMENTO RIVER WINTER-RUN CHINOOK SALMON**  
AND  
**CENTRAL VALLEY SPRING-RUN CHINOOK SALMON**  
AND  
THE DISTINCT POPULATION SEGMENT  
OF  
**CENTRAL VALLEY STEELHEAD**




Winter-run      Spring-run

Steelhead


National Marine Fisheries Service  
Southwest Regional Office  
Sacramento, California



**SOUTH-CENTRAL CALIFORNIA STEELHEAD RECOVERY PLAN**




West Coast Region  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Long Beach, CA




December 2013

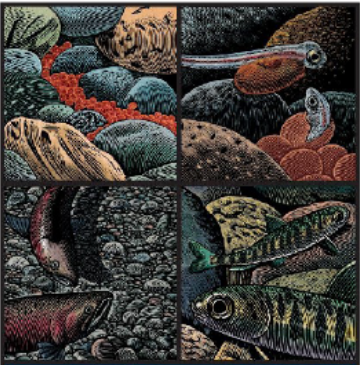
**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA STEELHEAD RECOVERY PLAN**



Southwest Regional Office  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Long Beach, CA




January 2012



**Recovery Strategy for California Coho Salmon**

Report to the California Fish and Game Commission  
February 2001

STATE OF CALIFORNIA      RESOURCES AGENCY      DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME



**RECOVERY PLAN**

FOR THE NORTH CENTRAL CALIFORNIA COAST DOMAIN  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA STEELHEAD  
CALIFORNIA COASTAL CHINOOK SALMON  
CENTRAL CALIFORNIA COAST STEELHEAD





Photo Courtesy of Cathy Myers, Deer River, El River California Coastal Chinook Salmon

Center for Independent Experts REVIEW DRAFT  
Version: SEPTEMBER 20, 2011

National Marine Fisheries Service  
Southwest Regional Office  
Santa Rosa, California




**RECOVERY PLAN**  
**Volume I**

FOR THE SOUTHERN OREGON NORTHERN CALIFORNIA  
COAST EVOLUTIONARILY SIGNIFICANT UNIT OF

**COHO SALMON**  
(*Oncorhynchus kisutch*)

Public Review DRAFT  
Version: January 2012  
Southwest Regional Office  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Arling, CA





# North Central Coast Recovery Planning

## Salmon & Steelhead:

Northern California Steelhead

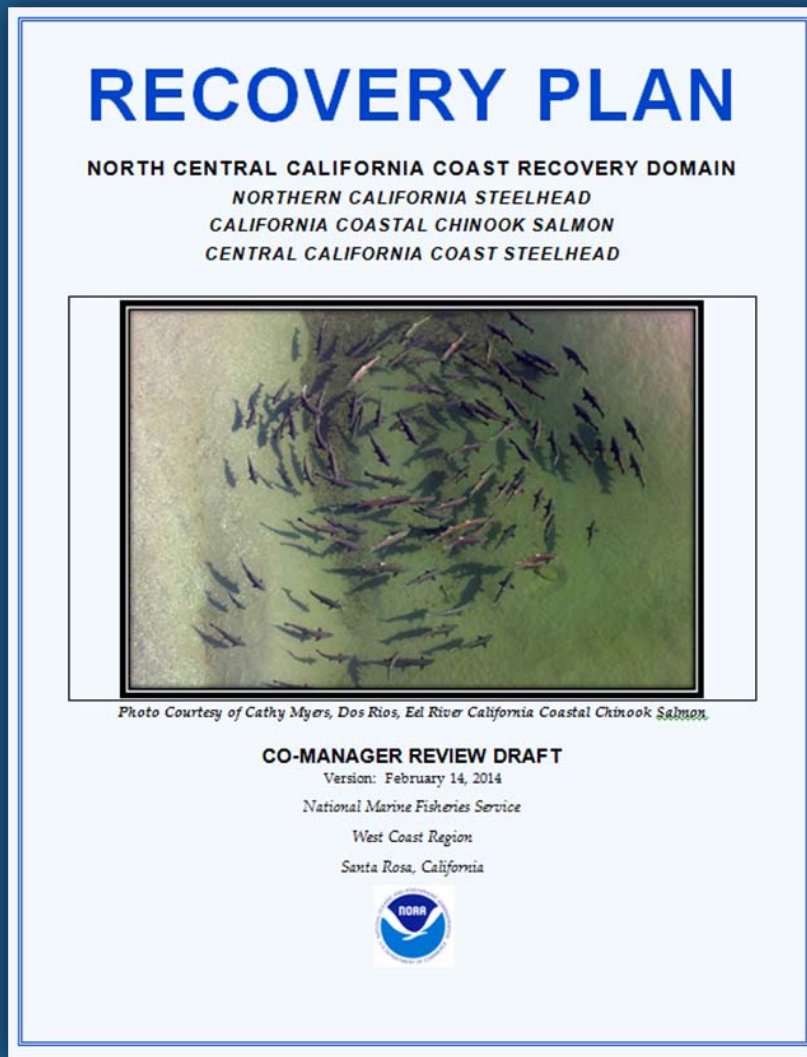
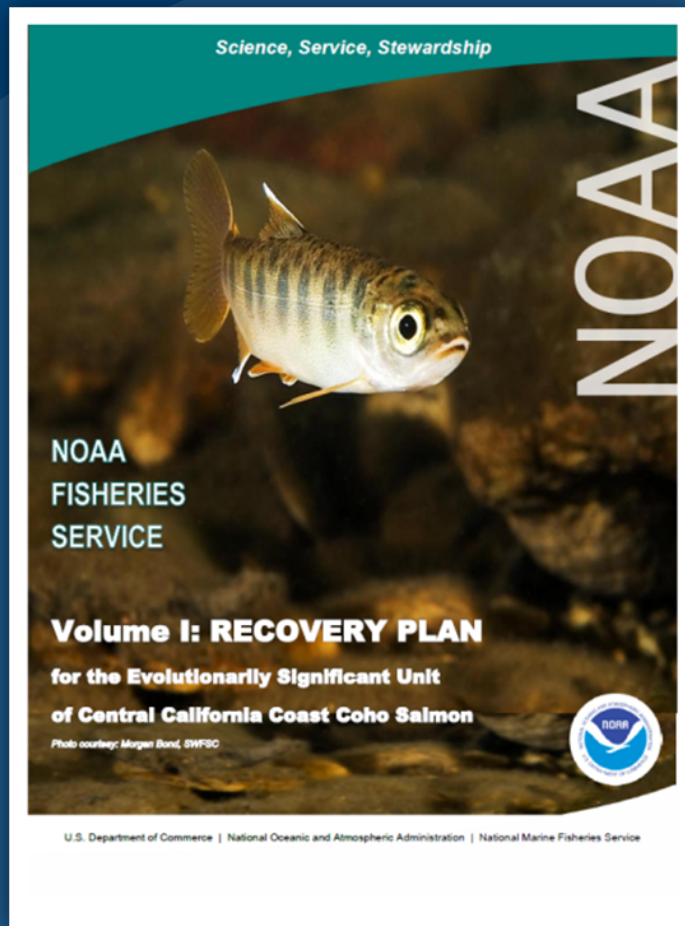
California Coastal Chinook Salmon

Central California Coast Coho Salmon

Central California Coast Steelhead



# North Central Coast Recovery Planning



# CCC Steelhead 2009 Statement of Understanding



## Statements of Understanding Central California Coast Steelhead Recovery Program

### Background

This informal and non-binding document entitled Statements of Understanding (SOU) is between the National Marine Fisheries Service, Santa Rosa Office of the Southwest Region (NMFS), and local public agencies (Agencies). The purpose of the SOU is to set forth how the Agencies will

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recovery mitigation measures into their future plans for capital expenditure, maintenance, and operations, and (b) consider how to collaborate amongst themselves and with other stakeholders to move restoration forward efficiently in priority streams.

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3. Development of the Plan includes at least two important steps: (a) obtain and analyze site- or reach-specific critical data, and (b) with that data NMFS shall develop a series of strategies that, when implemented, will effectively and reasonably contribute to the recovery of CCC steelhead.

6. It is of benefit to both the Agencies and NMFS that a competent and knowledgeable person or consulting firm (a) coordinate the collection of data from the Agencies, NGOs and other sources; (b) compile it in a uniform manner consistent with current methods used by NMFS; and (c) assist the Agencies and NGOs in discussions and other efforts regarding recovery strategies. NMFS already has engaged the services of the Sonoma Ecology Center to assist in gathering data for the development of the Plan.

7. The Agencies may engage the services of an individual or organization with significant experience in CCC steelhead recovery to facilitate the gathering and application of data to support an effective collaboration amongst the signatories.

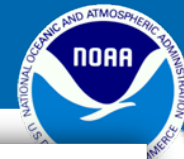
8. Other Federal and state agencies that may participate in the development of the Recovery Plan include, but are not limited to, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Game, State Water Resources Control Board, San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the California State Coastal Conservancy.

9. The Agencies will attempt to ensure the participation of other entities that are located within the Central California Coast Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) so that data collected and strategy recommendations provided address as much of the ESU as possible.

10. The activities and milestones that can be expected during the development of the Steelhead Recovery Plan include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Meet to exchange ideas for the development of the work program.
- b. Convene joint workshop for Agencies, NGOs and others.
- c. Agencies increase participation of entities across the range of CCC steelhead.
- d. NMFS provides Agencies with information on data needs and processing methods. Agencies will submit data in a format standardized and compatible with NMFS' recovery planning methods.
- e. NMFS analyzes data and will provide Agencies with relevant findings.
- f. Agencies provide informal individual comments and suggestions for consideration by NMFS.
- g. NMFS prepares draft strategies.
- h. NMFS prepares draft Plan.
- i. NMFS provides Agencies with draft Plan during co-manager review.
- j. Draft Plan released for public review.

# CCC Steelhead Statement of Understanding



Russell M. Strach  
Russell Strach, Assistant Regional Administrator  
NOAA's National Marine Fisheries  
Southwest Region, California

Date: March 2009

Randy Poole  
Randy Poole, General Manager  
Sonoma County Water Agency

Date: March 23, 2009

Jill Dierig  
Jill Dierig, General Manager  
Zone 7 Water Agency

Date: 12 Mar 2009

Paul Piraino  
Paul Piraino, General Manager  
Alameda County Water District

Date: 10/23/09

Julia R. Bueren  
Julia R. Bueren, Chief Engineer  
Contra Costa County Flood Control & Water Conservation

Date: Feb 23, 2010

Michael A. Gatzman  
Michael A. Gatzman, Executive Officer  
Alameda County Resource Conservation District

Date: 07-23-11

Chris DeGabriele  
Chris DeGabriele, General Manager  
North Marin Water District

Date: 11/3/2010

Daniel Woldeesenbet  
Daniel Woldeesenbet, Ph.D., P.E.  
General Manager  
Alameda County Flood Control & Water Conservation District

Janet Olave  
Janet Olave  
Mendocino County Resource Conservation District

Date: August, 8, 2011

Steelhead recovery planning will be  
non vision of developing plans that (1) are  
ovide focused

Dennis Diemer  
Dennis Diemer, General Manager  
East Bay Municipal Utility District

Date: October 29, 2009

Leigh Sharp  
Leigh Sharp, Executive Director  
Napa County Resource Conservation District

Date: 11/28/11

Additional goals a  
communications be  
recommendations

Brittany Heck  
Brittany Heck, Interim Executive Director  
Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District

Kara Heckert  
Kara Heckert, Interim Executive Director  
Southern Sonoma County RCD

Date: 11/22/2011

Beau Goldie  
Beau Goldie, Chief Executive Officer  
Santa Clara Valley Water District

Date: 3-4-10

Karen Christensen  
Karen Christensen, Executive Director  
Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County

Date: 9/14/2011

Carol Arnold  
Carol Arnold, Executive Director  
Contra Costa Resource Conservation District

Susan Adams  
Susan Adams, President of the Marin County Board of Supervisors

Date: 11-15-2011

Jack Batchelor  
Jack Batchelor, Chairman of the Board of Directors  
Solano County Water Agency

Date: 7-18-11

Paul Helliher  
Paul Helliher, General Manager  
Marin Municipal Water District

Date: March 15, 2010

James C. Porter  
James C. Porter, Director  
San Mateo County Department of Public Works

Date: 11-21-11

Date: August 16, 2011

Harry Seraydarian  
Harry Seraydarian, Executive Director  
North Bay Watershed Association

Date: 3/19/2010

Kellyx Nelson  
Kellyx Nelson  
San Mateo County Resource Conservation District

Mark Stone  
Mark Stone, Chairman  
County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors

Date: 12/12/11

Len Materman  
Len Materman, Executive Director  
San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority

Date: 8/10/2011

Leigh Sharp  
Leigh Sharp, Executive Director  
Napa County Resource Conservation District

Date: 11/28/11

By: Pat O'Brien  
Pat O'Brien, General Manager  
East Bay Regional Park District

Date: 4-20-10

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
By: Ted C. Radosevich  
Ted C. Radosevich, District Counsel

# Multispecies Recovery Plan

Northern California Steelhead, California Coastal Chinook &  
Central California Coast Steelhead

Initiated in 2009

Draft Plan for Review by SOU Partners in 2011

Overlapping jurisdictions with Arcata Office

Working on Consistency/Revisions

Submitted 2014 Draft to Arcata February 14<sup>th</sup> (2014)

Revise and distribute to co-managers and SOU partners May 2014

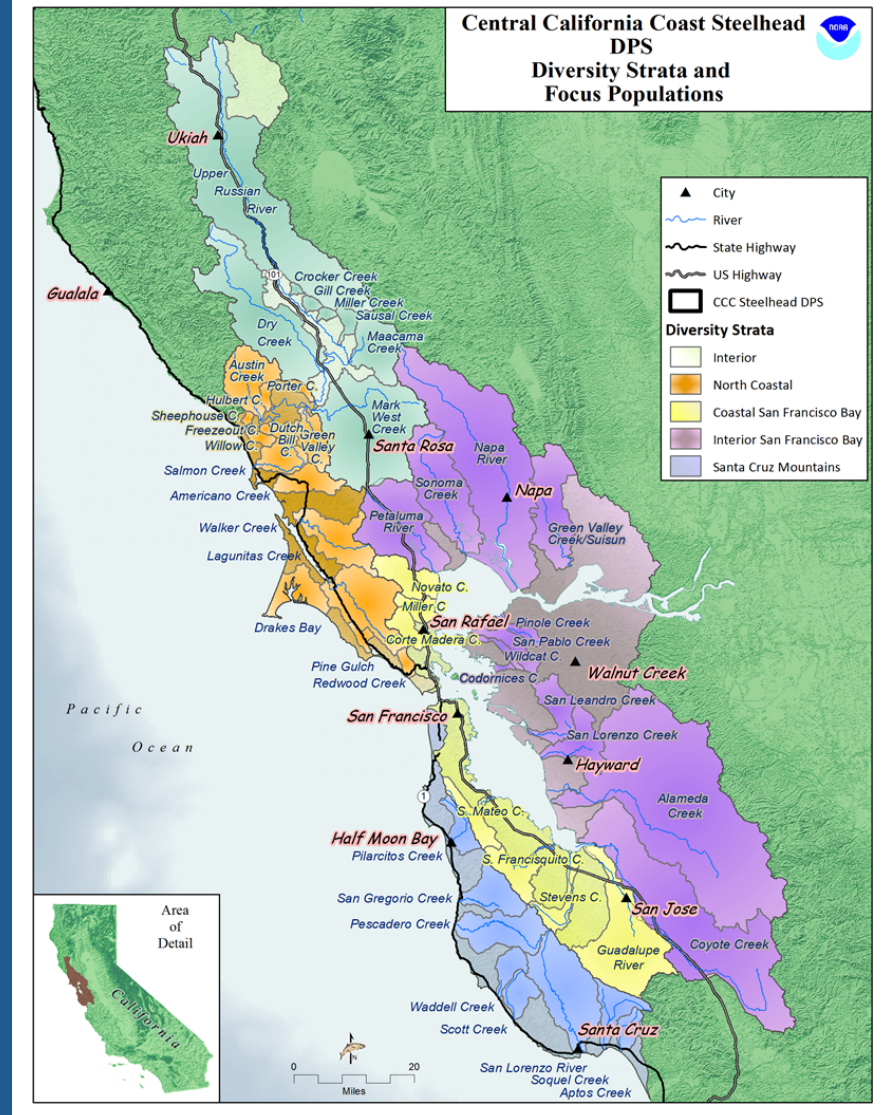
Public review draft expected in late Fall/early Winter 2014

# Multispecies Recovery Plan

56 watersheds for CCC steelhead recovery

Priority Restoration Activities:

- Passage
- Water Quality
- Floodplain reconnection
- Stream complexity



## 56 watersheds for CCC steelhead recovery

Criteria for recovery includes:

Adults spawner targets

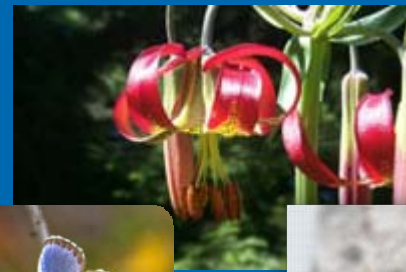
Improving conditions

Reducing future threats

Implementation of recovery actions

Diversity Strata	CCC Steelhead Populations	Independent/Dependent	Linear Miles	CAP Current Spawner Abundance	RA 6-12 Spawners/IP-km Abundance
Coastal S.F. Bay	Corte Madera Creek	I	27.2	800	
Coastal S.F. Bay	Guadalupe River	I	47.4	1500	
Coastal S.F. Bay	Miller Creek (Marin Co.)	D	14.9		65.2 - 132.4
Coastal S.F. Bay	Novato Creek	I	35.0	900	
Coastal S.F. Bay	San Francisco Bay Estuary	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Coastal S.F. Bay	San Francisquito Creek	I	30.7	1000	
Coastal S.F. Bay	San Mateo Creek	I	7.9		43.96 - 89.92
Coastal S.F. Bay	Stevens Creek	I	13.2	400	
Interior	Crocker Creek	D	4.6		25.0 - 52.0
Interior	Dry Creek	I	140.7	3000	
Interior	Gill Creek	D	9.0		46.6 - 95.2
Interior	Maacama Creek	I	86.6	2400	
Interior	Mark West Creek	I	191.9	3300	
Interior	Miller Creek (Russian)	D	3.4		16.6 - 35.2
Interior	Sausal Creek	D	12.0		64.6 - 131.2
Interior	Upper Russian River	I	409.4	8500	
Interior S.F. Bay	Alameda Creek	I	169.5	3200	
Interior S.F. Bay	Codornices Creek	D	N/A	N/A	N/A
Interior S.F. Bay	Coyote Creek	I	38.0	1200	
Interior S.F. Bay	Green Valley/Suisun Creek	I	117.1	2500	
Interior S.F. Bay	Napa River	I	286.5	4600	
Interior S.F. Bay	Petaluma River	I	125.6	2800	
Interior S.F. Bay	Pinole Creek	D	N/A	N/A	N/A
Interior S.F. Bay	San Leandro Creek	I	8.1		35.8 - 73.6
Interior S.F. Bay	San Lorenzo Creek	I	21.9		107.2 - 216.4
Interior S.F. Bay	San Pablo Creek	D	14.3		58.4 - 118.8
Interior S.F. Bay	Sonoma Creek	I	173.4	3200	
Interior S.F. Bay	Wildcat Creek	D	N/A	N/A	N/A
North Coastal	Americano Creek	I	51.1		210.4 - 422.8
North Coastal	Austin Creek	I	90.5	2800	
North Coastal	Drakes Bay	D	15.1	15.1	15.1
North Coastal	Dutch Bill Creek	D	15.5		77.2 - 156.4
North Coastal	Freezeout Creek	D	1.7		5.2 - 12.4
North Coastal	Green Valley Creek	I	30.0	1000	
North Coastal	Hulbert Creek	D	12.7		59.2 - 120.4
North Coastal	Lagunitas Creek	I	72.6	1900	
North Coastal	Pine Gulch	D	12.7		56.2 - 114.4
North Coastal	Porter Creek	D	11.7		59.8 - 121.6
North Coastal	Redwood Creek (Marin Co.)	D	8.0		38.2 - 78.4
North Coastal	Salmon Creek	I	40.1	1300	
North Coastal	Sheephouse Creek	D	4.8		20.2 - 42.4
North Coastal	Walker Creek	I	69.8	1900	
North Coastal	Willow Creek	D	10.6		47.2 - 96.4
Santa Cruz Mountains	Aptos Creek	I	31.0	1100	
Santa Cruz Mountains	Gazos Creek	D	13.2		73.0 - 148.0
Santa Cruz Mountains	Laguna Creek	I	12.3		71.2 - 144.4
Santa Cruz Mountains	Pescadero Creek	I	79.3	2200	
Santa Cruz Mountains	Pilarcitos Creek	I	34.6	1100	
Santa Cruz Mountains	San Gregorio Creek	I	64.1	1900	
Santa Cruz Mountains	San Lorenzo River	I	173.2	3200	
Santa Cruz Mountains	San Pedro Creek	D	N/A	N/A	N/A
Santa Cruz Mountains	San Vicente Creek	D	4.5		32.2 - 66.4
Santa Cruz Mountains	Scott Creek	I	18.6	700	
Santa Cruz Mountains	Soquel Creek	I	53.5	1900	
Santa Cruz Mountains	Tunitas Creek	D	11.7		62.2 - 126.4
Santa Cruz Mountains	Waddell Creek	I	14.4	500	





# 2013 Marked the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Federal Endangered Species Act





## The Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA)

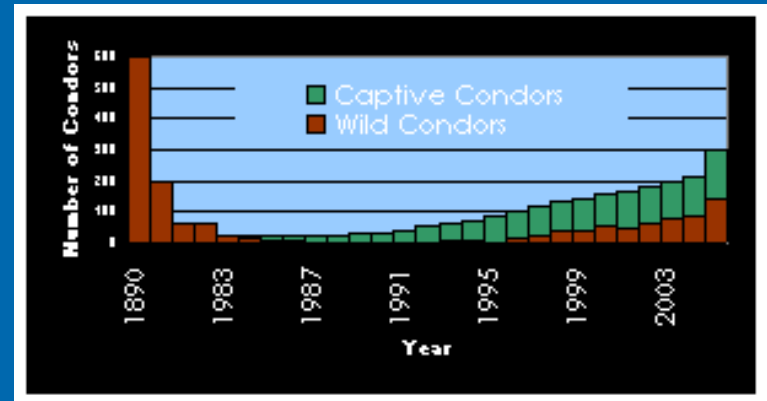
-Enacted by Congress and signed into law December 28, 1973 by President Nixon

-Established to “*safeguard the Nation’s natural heritage by conserving species in danger of extinction for the enjoyment and benefit of current and future generations.*”



“From the most narrow possible point of view, it is in the best interest of mankind to minimize the losses of genetic variations. The reason is simple: they are potential resources. They are the keys to puzzles which we cannot solve, and may provide answers to questions which we have not yet learned to ask.”

U.S. House of Representatives, 1973, when enacting the Endangered Species Act



# The California Condor

- 1986: 22 Condors in the wild
- Captive breeding contemplated
- Opponents to captive breeding said “it would change species habits and the cost was too great”.
- Today with the captive program approved, the total Condor population is 400 with 200 thriving and breeding in the wild for the first time in 100 years

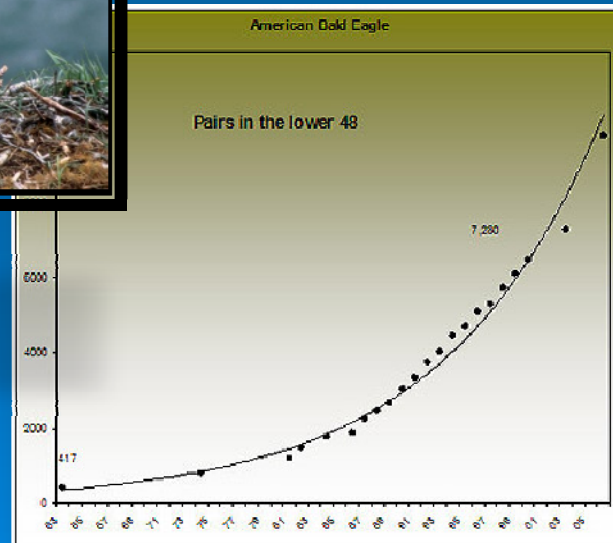
# The Bald Eagle



**Early 18<sup>th</sup> Century  
300,000 to 500,000**

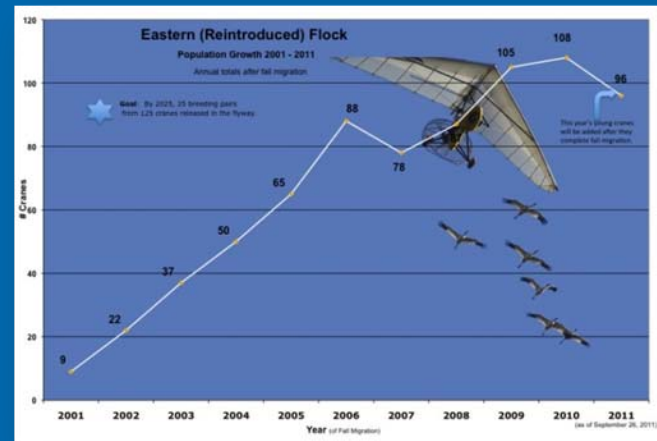
**1950's: 412 Nesting Pairs in  
the 48 contiguous USA**

**Banned DDT  
Increased Public Awareness  
Captive Breeding Programs  
Law Enforcement  
Habitat Protection**



**ESA Listed: 1967  
Delisted: 2007**

# The Whooping Crane



1941: 15 cranes in the wild

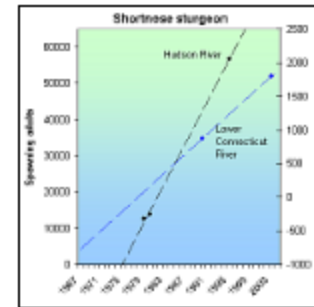
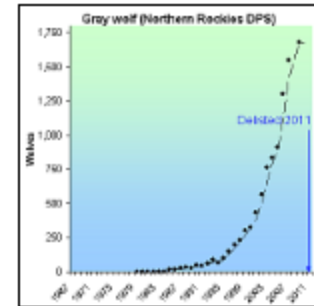
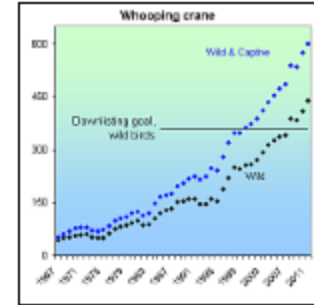
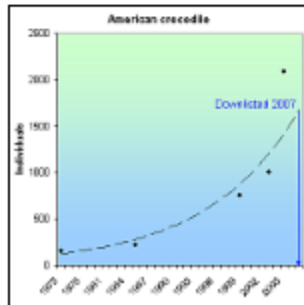
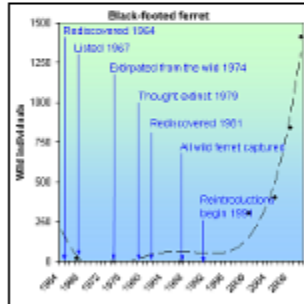
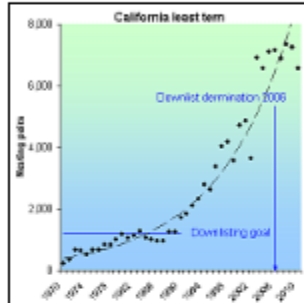
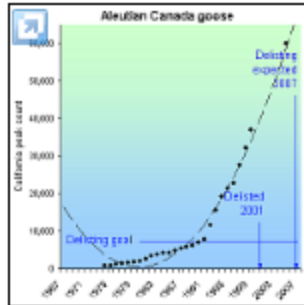
Outlandish idea to raise chicks in captivity using crane costumes and fly them on their historical migration route with an ultralight.

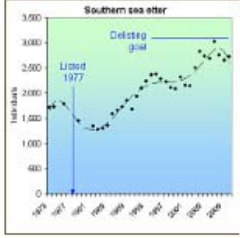
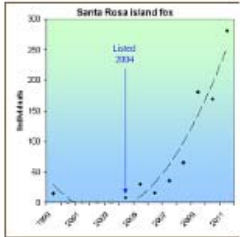
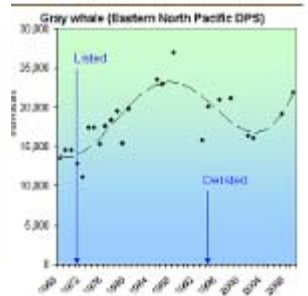
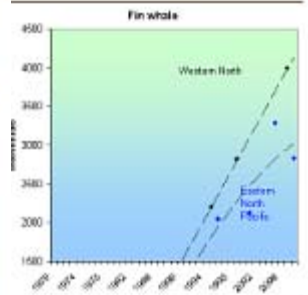
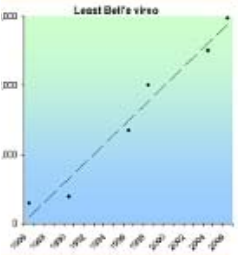
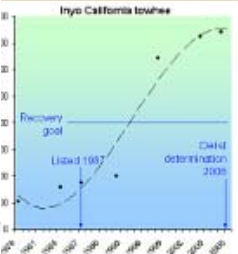
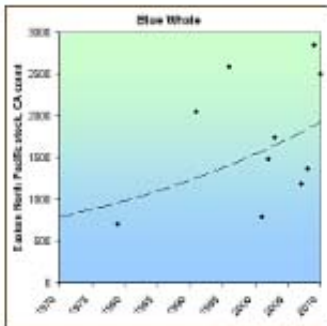
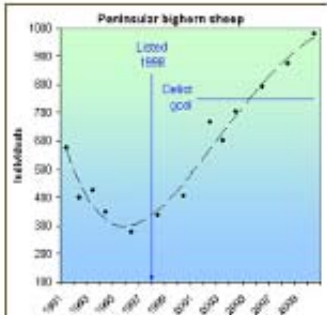
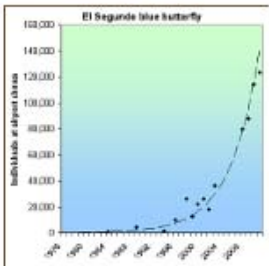
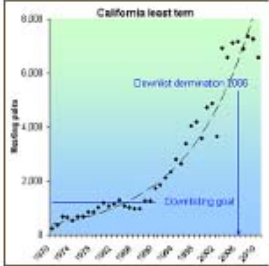
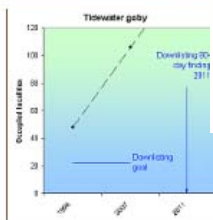
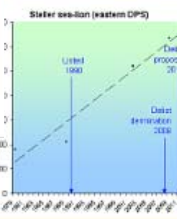
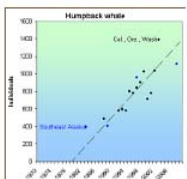
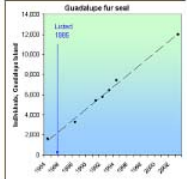
1,200 mile route across 7 states (WI; IL; KY; TN; AL; GA; FL) and ~30 stopover sites

2011 marked a decade of Operation Migration

Today: 300 Wild + 150 Captive = 450 cranes in North America

# 40 Years of the ESA







ESA001-00544

Image © Joel Sartore +1 402 474 1006 www.joelsartore.com All rights reserved

**THIS IS A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE LAST DUSKY SEASIDE SPARROW. HE WAS CALLED "ORANGE" AND he died alone in a cage at Disney World in Orlando, Florida. When he and his brothers were removed from the wild, they were listed as endangered, lived in critical habitat, and received the protection of the "most powerful environmental law" in the United States. These protections did not prevent the Dusky seaside sparrow from ending up only as a specimen in a museum.**

**This is what extinction looks like.**

We cannot point to a single action that, by itself, caused the Dusky seaside sparrow's extinction. Instead, it was the accumulation of thousands of small decisions, of thousands of individual acts that slowly, incrementally destroyed or degraded the sparrow's habitat, causing the population to decline in response. In the three decades that have passed since Orange and his brothers were removed from the wild, we are no better at protecting species from the thousands of small decisions and individual acts that accumulated to cause Orange to spend eternity in a jar.

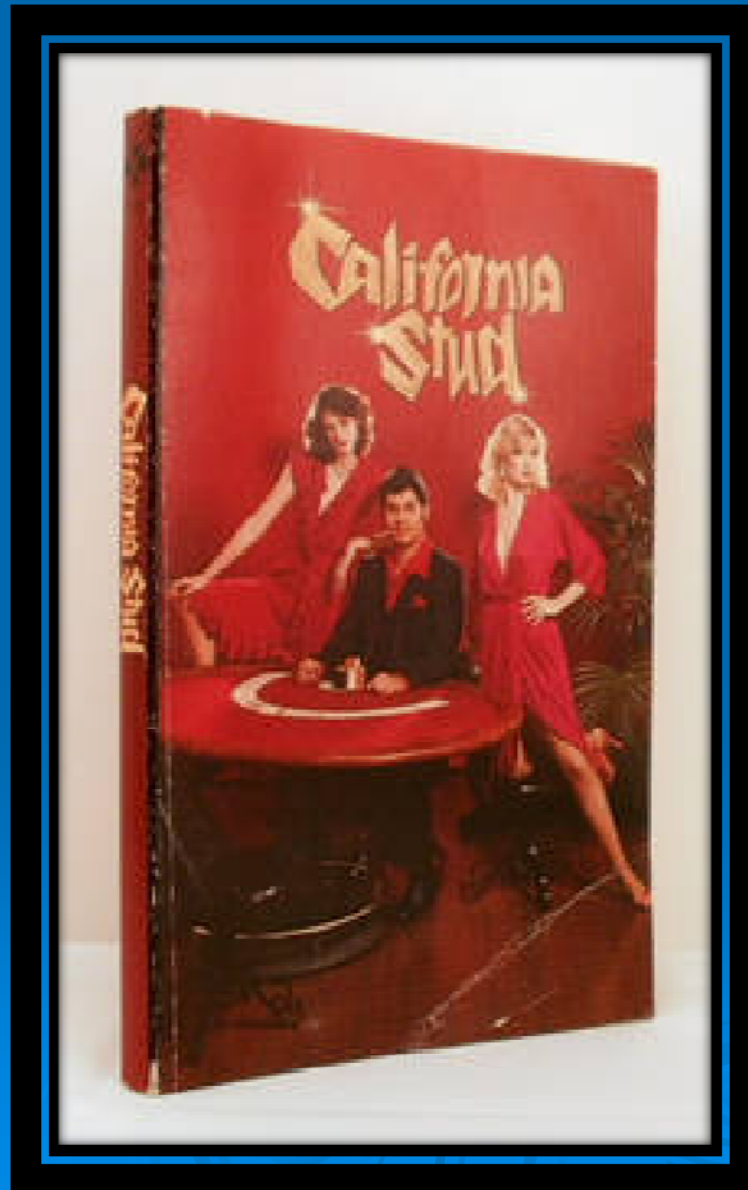
Whether you work on listing, recovery planning, cooperative agreements, research permits, HCPs, habitat conservation, habitat restoration, sanctuary management, technical assistance, legal counsel, or public outreach, you are united by a common purpose: ensure that no new species require the protections of the ESA and, if they require those protections, ensure they are restored to health so they do not end up like the small bird you see in this photograph.

For the sake of our children and their children's children, I hope you fare well.

It has been an honor to serve with you,

craig

# People Like...





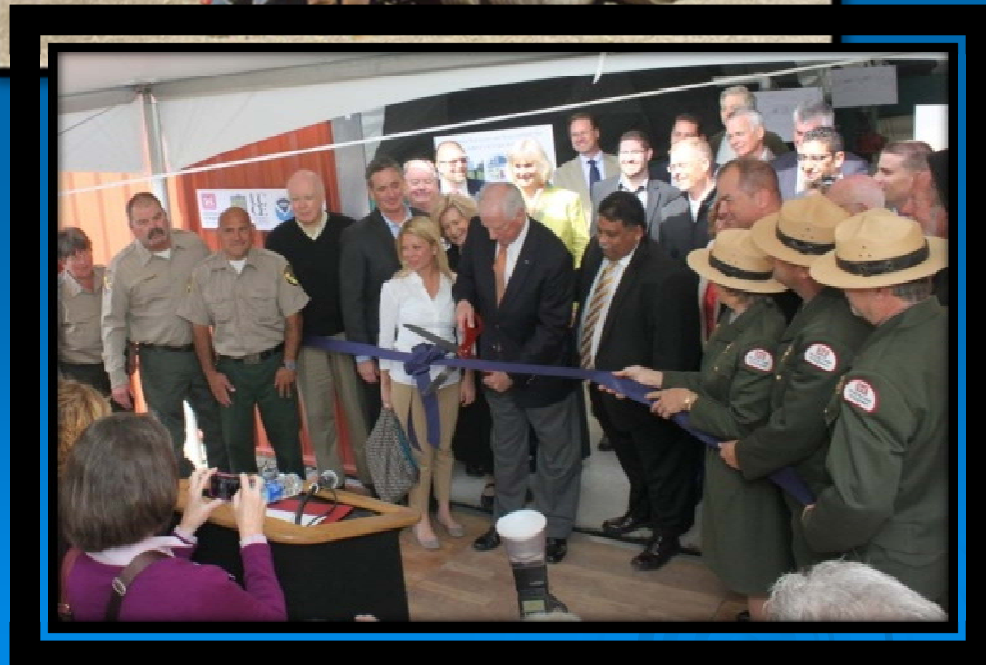
# Saving Steelhead: From the Homeless



# Saving Steelhead



# Saving Salmon & Steelhead

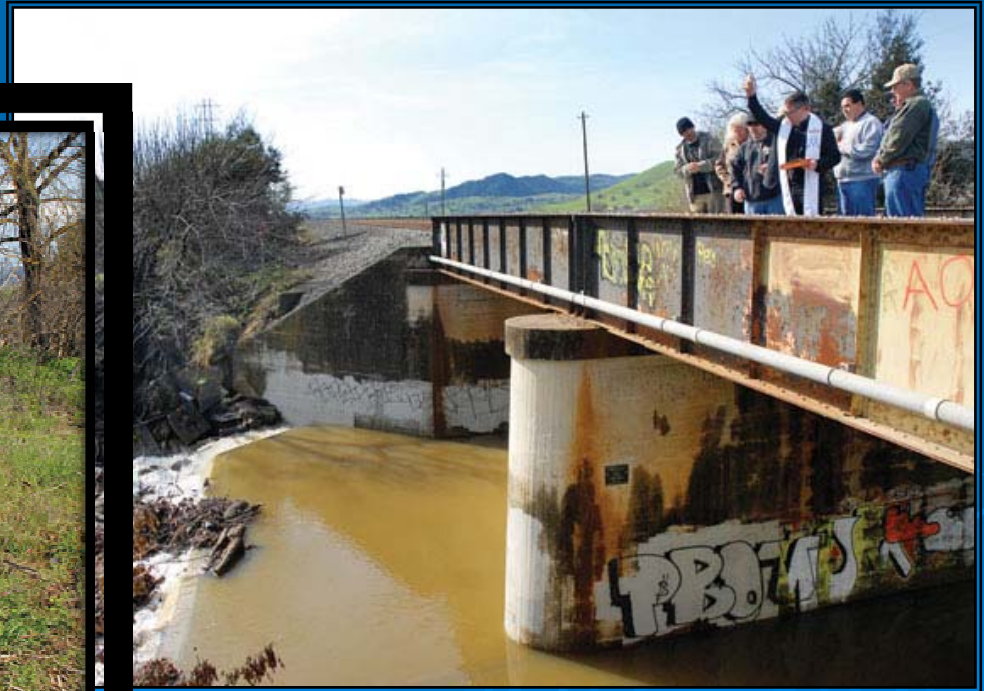


# People Like...

“A lot to CHEER About” ... A Lot To Be Hopeful For...

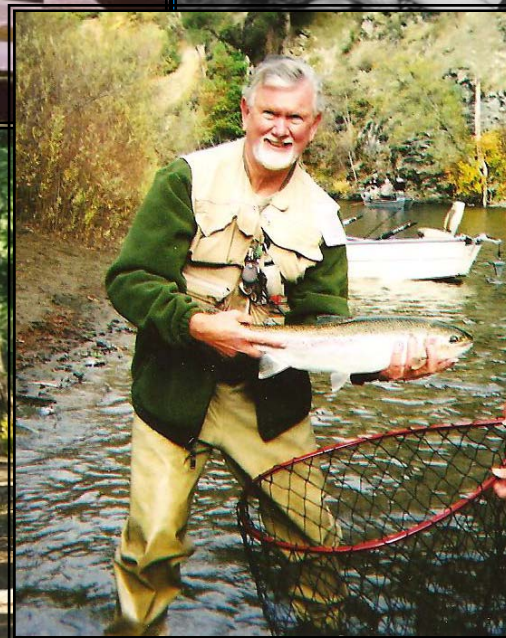
Herman Garcia, Raul Rivas, Bob Brem and others from CHEER

Father Edward Fitz-Henry from San Juan Bautistia blessing the fish after recent rains filled the creeks allowing them to spawn.



Within the living memories of California's elders are vivid accounts of salmon and steelhead in staggering abundance...

1954



Trout Unlimited

