



Dear Landowner,

As you may know, an effort has been underway since 2001 to recover endangered native coho salmon populations as part of a collaborative project known as the Russian River Coho Salmon Captive Broodstock Program (Broodstock Program). The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is working with several partners in support of this effort throughout the watershed: California Sea Grant at University of California (UC), the Sonoma County Water Agency (Water Agency), and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

We are currently reaching out to streamside landowners in the Russian River watershed, like you, to establish and renew temporary entry permits for our fish stocking, monitoring, and rescue activities. We are very grateful to have enjoyed productive relationships with many of you over the past 14 years. For those of you who are not yet familiar with our program and local coho recovery efforts, here is a brief overview:

In 1999, in response to dwindling numbers of coho salmon, state and federal resource protection agencies developed the Broodstock Program with the goal of re-establishing native runs of coho salmon in historical tributaries to the Russian River where they once existed. Beginning in 2001, biologists collected a small number of wild coho from local streams, reared them to maturity at the Warm Springs Hatchery, spawned them following a rigorous plan to maintain genetic variation, and released their offspring into carefully selected stream reaches. CDFW and USACE contracted with UC to evaluate the success of this effort by monitoring coho populations at all life stages. Since 2000, average coho salmon adult returns have increased from three fish per year (average observed counts, 2000-2005) to around 115 fish per year (average observed counts, 2009-2014). Average *estimated* counts in recent years are upwards of 360 per year (2010-2014).

UC and SCWA are also engaged in a broad-scale effort to conduct watershed-wide monitoring of steelhead trout, coho salmon, and Chinook salmon for the California Coastal Monitoring Program (CMP). This program, led by CDFW and NOAA Fisheries, is the most comprehensive effort ever attempted to provide information on the status and trends for all of California's coastal salmon and steelhead populations.

Support from landowners, like you, has been instrumental in the success of local coho recovery efforts. We would like to offer our sincere gratitude to those of you who have granted us access in the past. Without your cooperation, this program would truly not be possible. **At this time, we request your permission to allow CDFW, UC, SCWA, and USACE field crews temporary access to the stream on your property in order to conduct activities related to the Broodstock Program and CMP, including fish stocking and monitoring, habitat monitoring, and fish rescue.** Field visits covered under this request are *not* associated with regulatory activity.

Access generally consists of a team of two people visiting once each summer, and at set intervals during the winter. Crews conduct sampling entirely within the stream channel, only crossing properties adjacent to the stream at the beginning and end of each surveyed section. At your request, we can notify you prior to the crew's scheduled arrival. If we would like to install equipment or park on your property, we will consult with you for permission beforehand. There is also a chance that we will not need to visit your property at all, depending on the future direction and resources of this program.

If you are willing to allow our field crews temporary access to your property to conduct salmon and steelhead monitoring and recovery activities, please complete and sign the enclosed Temporary Entry Permit and return it in the enclosed envelope as soon as possible. If you have participated in this effort in the past, we

thank you whole-heartedly for your support and hope it will continue. If you have not had the opportunity to participate, we look forward to working with you. We believe that, with your help, we can achieve our goal of maintaining healthy populations of salmon and steelhead in their native Russian River streams.

If you have any questions, please email coho@ucsd.edu or call (707) 687-0999.

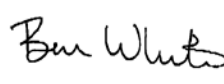
Thank you very much for your support and consideration,



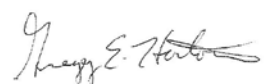
Derek Acomb,
CDFW
Environmental Scientist
Russian River Resource
Assessment & Restoration



Mariska Obedzinski
CA Sea Grant
Coho Monitoring Program
Coordinator



Ben White, USACE
Lead Fisheries Biologist
Hatchery Component,
Broodstock Program



Gregg Horton
Water Agency
Principal Environmental
Specialist

****Frequently Asked Questions****

Q: Do I have any say in the permit terms?

A: Yes. You can add a special written request to limit access in any way you like, specify acceptable dates or even limit access to certain partners. You can also request that we notify you before each survey. If you would like to discuss any concerns before filling out the permit, please feel free to contact us.

Q: What activities are included under this permit?

A: Activities may include stocking fish, snorkel surveys, habitat assessment surveys, PIT-tag monitoring, temperature monitoring, flow surveys, electrofishing surveys, downstream migrant smolt monitoring, adult spawner surveys, fish rescues and barrier assessment. Activities are generally limited to a crew of two to four surveyors carrying hand-held instruments and covering a distance of a few hundred feet to a few miles of stream in a day, depending on the type of survey work. Fish rescues may involve up to eight people.

Q: Does this permit include regulatory visits by the agencies?

A: Absolutely not. Field visits covered under this agreement are *not* associated with regulatory activity.

Q: How will this impact my property?

A: Our activities will not have a significant impact to your property. All surveys are conducted in the stream channel and most landowners never even see us. Crews may pass through your property in as little as 10 minutes, unless you have a parcel with extensive stream frontage. If necessary, crews may need to walk across the property to the stream channel at the beginning or end of the survey section. If we need to park on your property we will ask you ahead of time.

Q: Who will contact me?

A: Mariska Obedzinski, or her staff, and Gregg Horton, or his staff, will contact you for fish monitoring activities. Ben White, or his staff, may contact you with fish stocking requests. Derek Acomb, or his staff, may contact you for fish rescues, broodstock collection, or habitat assessment.

For more information, please visit:

<https://caseagrants.ucsd.edu/project/coho-salmon-monitoring>

<http://www.calfish.org/ProgramsData/ConservationandManagement/CaliforniaCoastalMonitoring.aspx>

TEMPORARY ENTRY PERMIT

Permission is hereby given to the Department of Fish and Wildlife's ("CDFW")'s employees, agents, representatives, contractors, and partners: CA Sea Grant, the Sonoma County Water Agency, and the US Army Corps of Engineers ("Partners") to enter upon that real property owned by _____ (the "Owner") located on the following stream(s): _____ (the "Property") with all necessary equipment to conduct fish surveys, to stock, monitor or rescue fish, and for such other purposes incidental to those activities, subject to the following provisions:

1. CDFW shall take every reasonable measure to ensure that its employees, agents, representatives, contractors, and Partners avoid damage to persons or property while conducting any use covered by this Temporary Entry Permit ("permit").
2. To the extent provided by law, including but not limited to Government Code section 14662.5, CDFW agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Owner for any injury to persons or property arising out of any use covered by this permit, unless the injury is due solely to the gross negligence or an intentional act of the Owner, and agrees to repair or pay for any physical damage to property proximately caused by CDFW's employees, agents, representatives, contractors, or Partners by reason of any use covered by this permit.
3. The Owner shall not be liable for any take of salmon or steelhead by CDFW's employees, agents, representatives, contractors, or Partners by reason of any use covered by this permit. "Take" shall have the same meaning as Fish and Wildlife Code section 86 defines that term.
4. This permit does not create an easement or right-of-way for CDFW or Partners over the Property.
5. The term of the permit shall start on the date below and expire on December 31, 2020.
6. This permit may be amended only by mutual agreement by CDFW and the Owner.
7. CDFW or the Owner may cancel this permit on 30 days written notice to the other party.

By: 
Derek Acomb, Department of Fish and Wildlife

By: _____ Accepted on: _____
Owner signature Date

Email: _____ Phone: _____ Preferred method of contact: _____

Primary contact if different from owner: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____ Preferred method of contact: _____

Comments or special requests (continue on back). Please include changes to ownership or contact info:

I would like to receive an annual email update about program activities and progress.

Please return this form to: CA Sea Grant, Salmon & Steelhead Monitoring Program, 600 American Way, Suite 1, Windsor, CA 95492 or email a signed copy to coho@ucsd.edu. Thank you!