



April 2020

Dear Landowner,

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has been working with local partners since 2013 to facilitate the California Coastal Monitoring Program (CMP); a comprehensive effort that provides scientific information on the status and trends of all of California’s coastal salmon and steelhead populations. As part of this program, California Sea Grant at the University of CA (UC) and Sonoma Water are monitoring steelhead, coho salmon and Chinook salmon throughout the entire Russian River watershed.

This effort relies on support from private landowners, like you, in order to be successful. If you are among the hundreds of landowners who have granted us access in the past, we are truly grateful to you! Without your cooperation, this program would not be possible. **We request your initial or renewed permission to allow CDFW, UC and Sonoma Water field crews temporary access to the stream on your property in order to conduct fish monitoring, habitat monitoring and, possibly, fish rescue and/or collection.** Property access covered under this request is *not associated with any regulatory activity*.

Field visits generally consists of a team of two people visiting occasionally each summer, and at set intervals during the winter. Crews conduct sampling entirely within the stream channel. At your request, we can notify you prior to their arrival. If we would like to park our vehicles on your property, or engage in any activities beyond standard surveys, we will consult with you for additional permissions beforehand.

**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 return the enclosed Temporary Entry Permit.** If you have any questions, please email [coho@ucsd.edu](mailto:coho@ucsd.edu) or call (707) 547-1910.

If you have participated 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 accomplish this significant step towards recovering healthy populations of salmon and steelhead in their native Russian River streams.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration,

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

Mariska Obedzinski  
California Sea Grant  
Salmon & Steelhead Monitoring  
Program Coordinator

Gregg Horton  
Sonoma Water  
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 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 allow regulatory visits by the agencies?

**A:** Absolutely not. Field visits covered under this agreement are *not* associated with any 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 (UC), or her staff, and Gregg Horton (Sonoma Water), or his staff, will contact you for fish and habitat monitoring activities. Derek Acomb (CDFW), or his staff, may contact you for fish rescues or habitat assessment.

**Q:** Will monitoring activities definitely occur on my property?

**A:** No. There are hundreds of streams in the watershed and we can only survey dozens each year. While we intend to visit all reaches over time, the specific location and extent of stream reaches surveyed changes annually and ultimately depends on the future direction and resources of our programs.

For more information, please visit:

<https://caseagrants.ucsd.edu/coho>

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

For updates, videos and more, visit us on social media!



**TEMPORARY ENTRY PERMIT**

Permission is hereby given to the Department of Fish and Wildlife's ("CDFW")'s employees, agents, representatives, contractors, and partners: California Sea Grant and Sonoma Water ("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 and habitat monitoring, to collect 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, 2025.
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, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Full name Owner/authorized rep. signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Primary phone Secondary phone Preferred: (circle) email phone

Primary contact, if different from owner: \_\_\_\_\_  
Full name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Primary phone Secondary phone Preferred: (circle) email phone

Special requests or property access instructions (continue on back):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

**Please return this form in the enclosed envelope, or scan and email to [coho@ucsd.edu](mailto:coho@ucsd.edu), as soon as possible.  
Thank you!**