

Federation office a (707)923-7501 to request a survey if you haven't received one already.

Why did I receive more than one survey in the mail? In order to gain a more thorough understanding of residential water use patterns and community perceptions of Redwood Creek, the organizers of this feasibility study are hoping to obtain one survey for every parcel of land in the area. If you own more than one parcel of land, you were mailed more than one survey and we would greatly appreciate your willingness to complete and mail-in each survey that you receive.

I live in Redwood Creek but I'm not a landowner.

Can I still fill out a survey? The survey can be completed by the landowner, a tenant, or any other adult (18 years or older) with knowledge of how water is used and stored on a parcel of land. Please note that we only need one survey per household.

How do I know that my privacy will be protected if I complete this survey? The surveys were carefully constructed in order to ensure complete anonymity and confidentiality. We don't ask for your name, your address, or any other identifying personal information that might potentially connect your response to your parcel of land.

Why did you include a return envelope with a postage stamp? For the data from the surveys to be useful, we need as many people to complete them and mail them in as possible. By providing a postage-paid envelope with the survey, we are hoping to encourage your participation by making the process as easy as possible.

Is there anything else that I can do to support this project? This feasibility study will rely heavily upon word-of-mouth, because many residents in the Redwood Creek area live in places that are difficult to reach. If you know of neighbors who may not have heard of the project, who haven't received the survey, or who haven't heard of the house meetings or conservation workshop, please have them write to water@calsalmon.org or call the Salmonid Restoration Office at (707) 923-7501.

*Thank you for your valued participation
in this exciting effort.*

Water Conservation Workshop & Tour

Saturday, February 2, 10am - 4pm

Beginnings Octagon

Speakers include:

Tasha McKee, *Executive Director,*
Sanctuary Forest

Hezekiah Allen, *Executive Director,*
Mattole Restoration Council

Sungnome Madrone, *Executive Director,*
Mattole Salmon Group

Sara Camp Shremmer, *HSU Sociology Graduate Student*
conducting the Redwood Creek Feasibility Study

Kyle Keegan, *Permaculture Advocate*

The Water Conservation workshop and tour will highlight water conservation techniques, opportunities, and changes in the forest and hydrology, and tour some local water conservation projects.



Redwood Creek Water Conservation Project



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Redwood Creek is a 26-mile watershed that flows into the South Fork of the Eel River. The 5 tributaries of Redwood Creek have historically supported strong runs of Chinook, coho salmon, and steelhead. Salmonid Restoration Federation, Sanctuary Forest and a HSU sociology graduate student are researching the feasibility of instituting a water conservation project modeled after the Mattole headwaters successful water storage and forbearance program. Water usage surveys were mailed to all landowners in Redwood Creek. If you are a landowner or resident, please take a moment to fill out and return these anonymous surveys. As part of this project we will have house parties and a Water Conservation workshop. If you are Redwood Creek resident and did not receive a survey, you can download one at www.calsalmon.org.

Basic Definitions

What is water storage and forbearance? As it relates to this project, water storage typically refers to above ground tanks that can be used to store water from a river or tributary during the high flow season. Forbearance refers to the practice of using stored water from an above ground tank during the low flow season, as opposed to diverting water directly from a river or tributary.

What is technology transfer? Technology transfer generally refers to the transfer of information, knowledge or technology from one entity or geographic location to another. For this project, technology transfer is being used to describe the process of transferring Sanctuary Forest's water storage and forbearance program from the Mattole headwaters to a tributary of the South Fork of the Eel River in Humboldt County.

The Feasibility Study

What is the overall vision of this feasibility study? To foster a productive, solutions-oriented dialogue in Redwood Creek and surrounding areas about environmental stewardship and water conservation, and—if data shows that the flows are indeed low—to contribute to the eventual restoration of healthy water flows on Redwood Creek for the benefit of both people and fish through the establishment of a voluntary water storage and forbearance program and/or other water conservation methods.

Why was this feasibility study initiated in the first place?

Late in 2012, this feasibility study was initiated to determine if Sanctuary Forest's successful Water Storage and Forbearance Program on the Mattole should be transferred to Redwood Creek, a tributary of the South Fork of the Eel River that some local residents have identified as having a low flow problem.

Who is organizing this feasibility study? This feasibility study was initiated by Tasha McKee, Executive Director of Sanctuary Forest, and is being organized with the help of Dana Stolzman, Executive Director of Salmonid Restoration Federation, and Sara Camp Schremmer, a Humboldt State University sociology graduate student.

Which organizations support this feasibility study? While this project is only in its beginning stages, it is already seeing growing support in Redwood Creek and other communities

throughout Humboldt County. To date, Sanctuary Forest, Salmonid Restoration Federation, the Briceland Volunteer Fire Department, Eel River Recovery Project and Friends of the Eel River have all endorsed this project.



What are the goals of the feasibility study? The goals of this feasibility are to a) Gather generalizable and anonymous data from willing landowners and residents to determine if human water diversions are impacting flows on Redwood Creek; b) Examine the length of the dry season, land use patterns and forest cover conditions as they relate to flows on Redwood Creek; c) Provide several public forums where landowners in the Redwood Creek and surrounding areas can share their knowledge, observations and concerns about water flows on Redwood Creek; and d) Gather landowner and resident

feedback on potential solutions—including but not limited to voluntary water storage and forbearance—that can foster community-wide water conservation practices.

What are the components of this feasibility study? This feasibility has an ecological component and a sociological component. The ecological component will determine whether Redwood Creek has a low flow problem and whether human water diversions are a contributing factor. If so, the study will explore water storage and forbearance and other methods of water conservation as potential solutions. The sociological component will explore whether landowners and residents in the Redwood Creek watershed are interested and willing to actively participate in water conservation for the purposes of restoring healthy flows on Redwood Creek.

Who is eligible to participate in this feasibility study?

While this particular study is mainly focused on landowners and residents living in the Redwood Creek watershed, we welcome the active participation of any individual or group who has suggestions, questions, concerns, or an interest in potentially bringing a similar study to their tributary or river.

What is the timeline? The sociological component of the feasibility study is expected to run through the Spring of 2013, with a low flow study initiated by Salmonid Restoration Federation beginning in the Summer of 2013.

Are there any risks associated with participating in this feasibility study? No We understand that landowners and residents want to protect their privacy and property rights, and this study was specifically designed with participant protection as the highest priority.

Mail-In Surveys

Why are surveys necessary? In order to determine whether water storage and forbearance would be ecologically and socially feasible, general baseline data needs to be gathered about residential water use patterns and community perceptions of Redwood Creek. The most effective way to gather data on a large scale while protecting landowner privacy is through anonymous and confidential mail-in surveys.

I'm a landowner in Redwood Creek and I haven't received a survey yet. What should I do? Please write to water@calsalmon.org or call the Salmonid Restoration