

**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE
FOR 2008**

**COASTAL ANADROMOUS FISH PASSAGE
ASSESSMENT AND REMEDIATION
PROGRESS REPORT**

Prepared:

AUGUST 2009

**Prepared by the California Department of Transportation
Division of Environmental Analysis**

**Report to the Legislature on Anadromous Fish Passage Assessment and Remediation
Progress Report January to December 2008**

Purpose

This is the fourth annual report prepared in accordance with Article 3.5 of Chapter 1 of Division 1 of the Streets and Highways Code that took effect 1 January 2006. The report directs the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to prepare an annual report describing the status of the department's progress in locating, assessing, and remediating project-related barriers to fish passage. The Code also requires that the department, with appropriate State and federal regulatory agencies, report progress in developing a programmatic environmental review process that will streamline the permitting process for remediating fish passage barrier projects. This annual report describes action between 1 January and 31 December 2008.

Assessment and Remediation of Fish Passage Barriers

Project level remediation

Remediation summary (this data has been reported; no new sites have been added for this period)

| Table 1. Completed Salmonid Fish Passage Barrier Remediations Since January 1, 2006 | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|------------------|--|
| Project # | District | County | Route | Post Mile | Project Name |
| 1 | 1 | Del Norte | 101 | 4.04 | Tributary to Elk Creek |
| 2 | 1 | Humboldt | 101 | 115.3 | Stone Lagoon |
| 3 | 1 | Humboldt | 101 | 40.7 | Chadd Creek |
| 4 | 2 | Siskiyou | 96 | 65.0/ 65.5 | O'Neil Creek; Tributary to Klamath River |
| 5 | 2 | Tehama | 5 | 16.9 | Elder Creek |
| 6 | 2 | Tehama | 5 | 28.1 | Dibble Creek |
| 7 | 2 | Shasta | 299 | 20.75 | Salt Creek, Sacramento Tributary |
| 8 | 3 | Sierra/ Yuba | 49 | 4.0/9.4 | Sierra 49 Culvert Replacement |
| 9 | 5 | Santa Barbara | 101 | 33.9 | El Capitan Creek |
| 10 | 5 | Santa Barbara | 101 | 41 | Arroyo Hondo |
| 11 | 5 | Santa Barbara | 101 | 47.19 | Gaviota Creek |
| 12 | 5 | Santa Cruz | 1 | 10 | Valencia Creek; Tributary to Aptos Creek |
| 13 | 5 | Santa Cruz | 1 & 17 | 17.4/ 17.42 | Branciforte Creek and Carbonera Creek |

Active Projects Summary

| Table 2. Active Fish Passage Projects | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Project # | District | County | Route | Post Mile | Date¹ | Project Name |
| Culvert Projects | | | | | | |
| 1 | 1 | Mendocino | 1 | 62.5 | DNS | Culvert Rehabilitation, Tributary to Pudding Creek |
| 2 | 1 | Mendocino | 1 | 92.83 | CCA 1/1/2014 | Dunn Creek Fish Passage |
| 3 | 1 | Mendocino | 101 | 8.0/ 17.8 | CCA 1/1/2017 | Hopland Bypass |
| 4 | 1 | Mendocino | 101 | 81.4 | CCA 10/1/2010 | Rattlesnake Creek |
| 5 | 1 | Mendocino | 101 | Multiple | CCA 11/1/2012 | 36 Culverts |
| 6 | 1 | Mendocino | 101 | 84 | DNS | Rattlesnake Creek |
| 7 | 1 | Mendocino | 128 | 39.88 | DNS | Beebe Storm Damage |
| 8 | 1 | Mendocino | 128 & 253 | 0.0/ 50.1 | CCA 11/1/2012 | 264 Culverts |
| 9 | 1 | Mendocino | 101 | 14.4/ 14.8 | CCA 12/1/2009 | McBrindle Creek |
| 10 | 1 | Humboldt | 101 | 98.5/ 100.9 | CCA 10/01/2010 | Red Mountain Creek Fish Passage |
| 11 | 4 | Marin | 1 | 22.7 | CCA 12/1/2014 | Giacomini Creek |
| 12 | 4 | Sonoma | 1 | 32.4 | CCA 12/1/2014 | Fort Ross Creek |
| 13 | 4 | Sonoma | 1 | 15.1/ 15.8 | CCA 12/1/2013 | Gleason Beach |
| 14 | 5 | Santa Barbara | 1 | 15.6 | CCA 4/1/2014 | Salsipuedes Creek |
| 15 | 5 | Santa Barbara | 101 | 0 | CCA 9/1/2014 | Rincon Creek |
| 16 | 7 | Los Angeles | 1 | 50.3 | CCA 11/9/2009 | Solstice Creek |

¹ CCA means "Construction Contract Completion." DNS means "Date Not Scheduled." Dates are estimates that depend on funding, permitting, and negotiations.

| Table 2. Active Fish Passage Projects, continued | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|----------------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Project # | District | County | Route | Post Mile | Date² | Project Name |
| Bridge Projects | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | Tehama | 99 | 13.9/ 14.2 | CCA 7/15/2013 | Craig Creek and Sunset Canal Bridges |
| 2 | 4 | Alameda | 84 | 12.1/ 13.3 | CCA 10/1/2013 | Niles Canyon Safety Improvement Project (Stonybrook Creek) |
| 3 | 5 | Santa Barbara | 101 | 2.2 | DNS | Carpinteria Creek |
| 4 | 5 | Santa Barbara | 101 | 55 | CCA 2/1/2011 | Nojouqi Creek, Santa Ynez |
| 5 | 5 | Santa Barbara | 192 | 15.5 | CCA 6/1/2013 | Arroyo Parida Creek |
| 6 | 5 | Santa Cruz | 1 | 31.55 | DNS | Scott Creek |
| 7 | 5 | Santa Cruz | 1 | 36.3 | DNS | Waddell Creek |
| 8 | 7 | Ventura | 150 | 18.8 | DNS | San Antonio Creek Bridge Replacement |
| 9 | 7 | Ventura | 150 | 28.7 | CCA 8/1/2012 | Santa Paula Creek |
| 10 | 7 | Ventura | 150 | 28.48/ 28.53 | CCA 4/1/2009 | Sisar Creek and Santa Paula Creek |
| Culvert and Bridge Projects | | | | | | |
| 1 | 1 | Del Norte | 101 | 43.6/ 45.8 | CCA 12/1/2009 | Smith River Widening (Lopez Creek) |
| 2 | 4 | Napa | 121 | 0.3/2.0 | CCA 10/1/2014 | Duhig Road Realign Curves and Widen Shoulders |
| 3 | 4 | Santa Clara/ San Benito | 101 | 5.0/ 0.0 / 4.9 | CCA 10/1/2013 | Widening of U.S. Highway 101 from Monterey Road (Santa Clara) to State Route 129 (San Benito) |

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| Table 2. Active Fish Passage Projects, continued | | | | | | |
|--|----------|---------|------------|---------------|-------------------|--|
| Project # | District | County | Route | Post Mile | Date ³ | Project Name |
| Partnership Projects | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | Trinity | 299 | 68.0/ 68.2 | CCA 9/15/2010 | Trinity Dam Boulevard. Fish Ladder, Grass Valley Creek |
| 2 | 7 | Ventura | 150 | 22.7/ 22.8 | CCA 3/30/2011 | Lion Creek |
| 3 | 12 | Orange | 5 | 11.3 | CalTrout Lead | Trabuco Creek |
| 4 | 12 | Orange | 5 & 241 | 0 | CCA 5/1/2018 | San Mateo Creek |

Planning level assessment

Capital-Funded Work

Caltrans' consultant completed a technical report, "Implications of Highway Bridge Crossing Effects on Coastal Lagoons" for District 5. The report provides background information, a synthesis of published reports, and an assessment of bridge conditions, and identifies key information needs. The report will assist the resolution of permit issues related to future replacement or repair of bridges over Scott and Waddell Creeks, including concerns for fish passage related to lagoon formation and breaching. The report recognizes multiple species and resource needs that will require clear natural resource management goals to focus bridge permit issues that will be affected by watershed-wide restoration and land-use decisions.

Grant-Funded Work

Planning-level work funded through grants was previously reported. Additional grant funding applications have been submitted, but additional funding was not yet secured. Two types of surveys are conducted for the planning-level studies: Reconnaissance (Recon) and Detailed Surveys. Recon surveys are simple surveys that do not require access to land outside existing transportation right-of-way and have received planning funding. Detailed surveys require access to land beyond Caltrans right-of-way, collect data critical to barrier determinations and remediation needs, and have been restricted to project-related grants or project funding.

In 2008, 798 Recon surveys were completed.

In 2008, 15 Detailed Surveys were completed.

With the completion of this work, nearly all accessible locations identified as upper-priority coastal survey sites have received Recon surveys (priorities for planning-level fish passage assessment according to, Prioritization of Fish Passage Surveys on State Highway System Road-Stream Crossings in California's Coastal Watersheds (March 2007).

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Programmatic Environmental Review Process

Agency Agreements

Caltrans continues to consult with the California Department of Fish and Game, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to streamline environmental review and permitting with programmatic environmental authorizations for a number of activities that can be characterized as routine maintenance or small projects that can most commonly improve or provide fish passage. Routine maintenance includes culvert repair, culvert cleaning, and vegetation management, while the relatively small-impact projects include fish passage remediation projects such as culvert installation, weir and baffle installation, and small bridge construction.

The scope of the current effort is coastal drainages from the Oregon border to Santa Cruz County. This will require consultation on approximately 58 plant species and 33 fish and wildlife species that may be incidentally affected. The effort, once complete, should streamline both capital project and routine maintenance project timelines and reduce overhead costs associated with environmental compliance.