

Sacramento/Cow Watersheds

Increasing anadromous fish habitat and improving ecosystem function

Shasta and Tehama Counties; State Senate District 4, State Assembly District 2

WESTERN SHASTA RCD



The Western Shasta Resource Conservation District (RCD) Coordinator worked to implement projects that restored ecosystem function and increased anadromous fish spawning habitat. These projects included invasive weed removal and native species replanting in the Upper and Lower Clear Creek Watersheds, gravel augmentation in Lower Clear Creek, and sediment removal in Middle Creek. Monitoring activities throughout the watersheds engaged citizen volunteers and involved both benthic organism surveys and fish barrier surveys.

The Coordinator developed projects and action plans in partnership with local watershed groups that led to the award of \$3,658,610 in grants for additional watershed work. Action plans were developed for Anderson Creek, Lower Clear Creek, and Keswick Basin Watersheds. The plans identified problem issues, established plan objectives, and prioritized water quality improvement projects for the watersheds.

The Watershed Coordinator also worked with the community on reducing the risk of catastrophic fires. The Coordinator helped to develop a Strategic Fuel Management Plan for the Keswick Basin Watershed. The Coordinator also educated stakeholders about fuel reduction practices and provided status updates on fuels management projects within their watershed.

For more information visit the Western Shasta RCD website at <http://www.westernshastarc.org>

“Great strides have been made to implement needed on-the-ground restoration projects, to create a more educated and engaged community, and to secure valuable funding for multiple restoration, education, and resource management projects.”

- Leslie Bryan, Watershed Coordinator



- Added 5,550 tons of spawning gravel into Lower Clear and Middle Creeks to improve fish habitat
- Coordinated the planting and irrigation of 11,000 native plant cuttings on the restored floodplains in Lower Clear Creek
- Removed 280 tons of sediment and debris from behind Swasey Dam
- Developed the Anderson Creek Watershed Action Plan, Keswick Basin Watershed Action Plan and Strategic Fuel Management Plan for the Keswick Basin Watershed
- Completed 3 shaded fuel breaks on over 100 acres along Highway 299
- Used the Fire Safe Trailer and outreach materials to educate over 8,000 residents about fuels management
- Coordinated a volunteer citizen-based survey program to inventory fish barriers

PARTNERS INCLUDED: CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife • CA Dept. of Water Resources • Central Valley RWQCB • USDA NRCS • US Bureau of Land Management • US Bureau of Reclamation • US Fish and Wildlife Service • Whiskeytown National Recreation Area • Shasta County • Shasta County Fire Safe Council • City of Redding • Shasta College • Shasta County schools • Sacramento River Watershed Program • French Gulch Upper Clear Creek Resource Management Group • Horsetown Clear Creek Preserve • Shasta Conservation Fund • Turtle Bay Exploration Park • KIXE Public Television • North State Public Radio