



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
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EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



Letter of Support for Yurok Tribe's Indian Creek Habitat Connectivity and Restoration Project

To whom it concerns;

This letter is written to support the Yurok Tribe's proposal for Proposition 1 grant funding through the Coastal Conservancy. The purpose of the grant is to address environmental challenges as they relate to streamflow, and I believe their current project would add local information for the understanding of groundwater management and stream flow in the Weaverville area, specifically in a SONCC Coho Salmon bearing tributary to the Trinity River, Indian Creek.

This planning proposal will lead to future construction of ground water retention, sediment retention, and large wood habitat structures in form of Beaver Dam Analogues (BDA's). Physical and biological on-site monitoring will be performed before and after the project has been completed. The development of groundwater retention and BDA's in Indian Creek would enhance water conservation in the creek in an effort to raise the ground water table and potentially reshape the stream hydrograph. Many tributaries such as Indian Creek have been degraded by their legacy of mining activity. If successful, this pilot project could pave the path for future water retention projects in degraded streams.

In this heavily mined and logged area of California, stream restoration to improve watersheds for aquatic species has become a focus of watershed restoration. Water conservation is a critical aspect of restoration actions, and this project could enhance the knowledge of restoration actions in the area and lead to successful recovery of tributary streams.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew Hill".

Andrew Hill
Environmental Scientist