North Fork Big River Coho Stream Habitat Enhancement Project

The California Conservation Corps is implementing the North Fork (NF) Big River Coho Stream Habitat Enhancement Project. This project will enhance the complexity, frequency, depth and shelter of pools on a 3,340 foot reach of NF Big River and a 1,785 foot reach of James Creek in Mendocino County. Improvements will be accomplished by placing large woody debris (LWD) within both project reaches and installing one J- hook wing deflector (multiple boulder structure) on the NF Big River reach.

A total of 35 features consisting of 76 logs, 15 root wads and 1 J-hook wing deflector will be added to NF Big River and James Creek. Construction of these 35 features will increase the quality and quantity of spawning and rearing habitat on a 3,340 foot reach of NF Big River and a 1,785 foot reach of James Creek. The placement of large woody debris and boulder features within the project reaches will enhance spawning habitat requirements by:

- Providing cover and increasing pool complexity
- Increasing pool depth and frequency
- Sorting and collecting spawning gravels
- Providing velocity refuge during peak winter flows for migrating adult salmonids.

The placement of proposed features within the project reaches will enhance rearing habitat requirements by:

- Increasing the quality and quantity of rearing habitat within the project reach
- Providing cover and increasing pool complexity
- Increasing pool depth and frequency
- Providing velocity refuge during peak winter flows for juvenile salmonids

