

Noisy Creek Habitat Accessibility and Fish Passage Enhancement

Organization: Eel River Watershed Improvement Group

Project Period: December 2020 – December 2021

Amount: \$15,830

Location: Noisy Creek, Humboldt County

Project Description: The goal of this project is to improve stream conditions and passage through a 550-foot section of Noisy Creek by reestablishing a riparian corridor. Upper Noisy Creek provides cold water rearing habitat for Chinook salmon, coho salmon and steelhead-trout. During late spring and early summer, the lower 3,500 feet of Noisy Creek goes subsurface and the salmonids that remain in Noisy Creek seek cold water refuge upstream where riparian habitat is well established. This proposed riparian planting project is located along a section of Noisy Creek in Glendale where riparian canopy cover is lacking. The lack of canopy in Noisy Creek creates unsuitable conditions for salmonids and other aquatic wildlife including shallow, warm water temperatures, decreased food production and inhibited passage due to subsurface flow. The canopy along this stretch of stream will be restored by planting red alder saplings, black cottonwoods, and redwoods. Tree shade will help to cool the stream, leaf litter will attract aquatic insects which are consumed by fish, roots and branches will provide instream shelter. Large branches and trees, when fallen into the stream will improve passage and rearing conditions by deepening the stream channel.



Juvenile Coho Salmon and steelhead in Noisy Creek, 7/1/2019