

Swasey Dam Sediment Removal Project

The Swasey Dam sediment basin is located on Middle Creek, west of Redding in Shasta County. The dam captures fine sediment and decomposed granite. The rate of buildup depends on rainfall and water flow.

The Western Shasta Resource Conservation District received assistance from the California Department of Wildlife, Office of Spill Prevention and Response to remove the accumulated fines from behind Swasey Dam. This activity helped prevent the clogging of gravel spawning beds for Chinook salmon and Central Valley steelhead. Approximately 334 cubic yards of earthen material was removed. The access road was improved to the extent needed to perform this work. The project was intended to restore the bed of Middle Creek and reduce negative impacts of fine sediment on spawning beds for fish in Middle Creek and the Upper Sacramento River. The Regional Water Quality Control Board contributed funds to complete this project.



Sediment build-up behind Swasey Dam.



Excavator loading dump truck.

Post-excitation.

