

Managing the Calaveras Resource

In March 1998, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) listed the Central Valley steelhead as a threatened species, or Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU), under the Endangered Species Act. In March 2000, NMFS designated the Calaveras River and Mormon Slough as critical Central Valley steelhead habitats. Any actions that might harm the ESU or its habitat are restricted. Because this brought the entire management of the Calaveras River under review, SEWD immediately entered into an informal pre-consultation with federal and state regulators to begin discussing possible changes in the operation of New Hogan Dam and the Calaveras water supply system.

SEWD began work with their fishery scientists and NMFS to develop a plan to manage resident rainbow and steelhead trout in the Calaveras River. This plan is called a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and will provide SEWD and its water users with legal permission to continue using the water resources of the Calaveras River for agricultural, municipal, and industrial purposes. The HCP will be available in 2014 for public review.

*From: Stockton East Water District History web page: <http://sewd.net/history/>
Accessed August 6, 2018*

Calaveras River Habitat Conservation Plan

Thursday, May 15, 2014

FISHBIO personnel have spent several years developing a Habitat Conservation Plan for steelhead and Chinook salmon in the Calaveras River. Such a plan describes how proposed actions, like water diversions for agricultural, industrial, and domestic use, will minimize or offset any incidental take of threatened or endangered species. The Calaveras River Habitat Conservation Plan describes the habitat types and environmental conditions that steelhead and Chinook require at each stage of their life cycle, the status of each species in the Calaveras River basin, and the actions that regional water districts will implement to protect and manage these species.

*From: FISHBIO Projects, Calaveras River Habitat Conservation Plan page:
<https://fishbio.com/projects/calaveras-river-habitat-conservation-plan>
Accessed August 6, 2018*

Calaveras River Habitat Conservation Plan Presentation. 2007

*From: The Calaveras River Watershed Stewardship Group web page:
<http://www.calaveras-river.com/Calaveras%20River%20Habitat%20Conservation%20Plan%20Presentation.pdf>*

Accessed August 6, 2018