2022/2023 URFC Fisheries Monitoring Report

Usal Creek Watershed

<u>Spawning Surveys:</u> During the winter of 2022/2023, spawning surveys were conducted on 5.6 miles of streams in the Usal Creek Watershed on Usal Redwood Forest, Chimney Rock Creek, Usal Creek, and South Fork Usal Creek. No Coho salmon redds or live adult Coho salmon were observed. Usal Creek streams used to support a healthy population of Coho salmon which have not been seen in the Usal watershed since 2013. Steelhead, however, appear to be abundant and young of year steelhead continue to find refuge in the shadowed pools created from large wood structures in the Usal watershed streams.

<u>Pre-treatment Monitoring</u>: Habitat and stream conditions were assessed with photo points for approximately 3 miles on Bear Creek prior to large wood installation.

<u>Post-treatment Monitoring:</u> Large wood structures installed in 2019 on 2 miles of Soldier Creek were surveyed for fish and condition to determine restoration effectiveness.

South Fork Eel River Watershed

<u>Spawning Surveys</u>: 4.5 miles of South Fork Eel River tributaries were surveyed during the 2022/2023 spawning survey season. Survey reaches included Moody, Anderson, North Fork Standley and Sebbas Creeks. Results will be available by the end of 2023.

Standley Creek Watershed

Three gage stations are monitored for stream flow during the dry season in Standley Creek. Pressure transducers at these gage stations are monitoring stream stage year-round. Rain gages are checked quarterly to download data for future data analysis.

Wet/Dry mapping occurs along 4000 ft of low flow Class I drainages in the Standley Creek Watershed every summer.

The water budget for Standley Creek watershed will be determined over winter 2023/2024 using pressure transducer, stream flow, wet/dry mapping and precipitation data.

