

NAME: Riverside Ranch Restoration Project

LOCATION: Ferndale Quad; Eureka, CA

ACRES: 356 acres

NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR: Ducks Unlimited

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Restoration of 356 acres of estuarine juvenile rearing habitat in the Salt River delta on the Riverside Ranch via two tidal breaches totaling 200-feet, approximately 5,700 linear-feet of levee lowering, approximately 22,800-linear feet of interior slough channel creation, approximately 9,060 feet of set back berm, approximately 3,500 feet of berm refurbishment, filling of approximately 10,100 linear feet of drainage ditches, marsh plain enhancement of 50-acres through re-contouring, approximately 10,000-feet of Salt River channel excavation, and revegetation of wetland and upland native plants.

EXPECTED BENEFITS:

The Riverside Ranch Restoration Project is a vital activity to recover federally listed coho (threatened), Chinook (threatened), and steelhead (threatened) stocks in the Salt River watershed as well as provide habitat for tidewater goby (federally endangered), green sturgeon and Dungeness crab larval stages. All of these species have been recorded in surrounding areas and have drastically reduced population sizes from historic numbers. The current aquatic conditions within the site are not suitable for sustaining these species. The proposed project will provide valuable estuarine and floodplain habitat for smolting salmonids and resting habitat for returning salmon and steelhead, and myriad other species.

STATUS: Planning and Design