



Hoopa Valley Tribe and California Department of Fish and Wildlife Announce Historic Fishery Restoration Partnership

This bulletin was sent at 09/08/2026 04:08 PM PDT

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JOINT NEWS RELEASE

Sept. 8, 2026

Media Contacts:

[Adrian Villegas](#), Hoopa Valley Tribe, (530) 625-4211, Ext. 395

[Peter Tira](#), CDFW Communications, (916) 215-3858



Hoop Valley Tribe and California Department of Fish and Wildlife Announce Historic Fishery Restoration Partnership

HOOPA, Calif. — The Hoopa Valley Tribe (Tribe) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) are thrilled to announce a historic project that advances tribal Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) and sustainable fishing with CDFW scientific monitoring — improving the health of salmon populations, supporting tribal practices and advancing the science that drives fishery management. The Tribe and CDFW have incorporated a selective harvest program into the Trinity River Restoration Program that along with other benefits, will foster Tribal harvest opportunities that are vital to the Tribe's culture, community and economy.

The centerpiece of the program is a weir in the Lower Trinity River on the Hoopa Valley Reservation that temporarily contains fish for both scientific examination and selective tribal harvest. The weir replaces two other weirs that the Tribe and CDFW had been operating independently at different sites on the river.

Since 1978, the CDFW Willow Creek Weir has provided critical information used to evaluate long-term salmon and steelhead population trends including annual run size estimation, species composition, age structure, hatchery composition and migration timing.

Since 2016, the Tribe's Selective Fish Harvest Weir downstream of the Willow Creek Weir near Hoopa has supported those monitoring efforts while also providing opportunities for selective harvest and the distribution of salmonids for Tribal ceremonial, subsistence and community use.

The Tribe's weir is based upon traditional fish harvest methods that the Hupa people have practiced since time immemorial. The Tribe's modern weir design reflects centuries-old conservation principles that protect important genetic attributes of "natural reproducing fish populations" by use of selective harvest techniques. Through operations coordinated with CDFW, the Tribe will continue to harvest fish in accordance with established fishery management objectives while allowing the remaining fish to maintain sustainable populations and to be available for

fish to continue unimpaired upstream to spawning grounds.

Beginning this season, both monitoring and selective tribal harvest will be consolidated at the Tribe's on-reservation weir. Combined tribal and state personnel, equipment and field operations will improve coordination between agencies, and make more effective use of available funding and staffing resources. Significantly, replacing two separate weir operations with a single facility will improve passage and in-river survival by reducing the number of times fish encounter in-river infrastructure and handling operations, while still providing needed information for effective fisheries monitoring and management.

"This partnership demonstrates how Tribal and state agencies can work together to achieve multiple resource management goals," said CDFW Director Meghan Hertel. "I'm incredibly proud of the hard work by our Tribal partners and CDFW staff that led us to this historic accomplishment."

The collaborative program also strengthens the longstanding government-to-government relationship between the Hoopa Valley Tribe and the state of California. Through shared staffing, standardized monitoring protocols, joint training and coordinated decision-making, both agencies are building a model for cooperative fisheries management that balances conservation, scientific monitoring and Tribal resource stewardship.

"By combining our monitoring programs and selective harvest into a single operation, we are improving efficiency, reducing impacts to migrating fish, strengthening the scientific foundation of fisheries management and continuing to support the cultural, subsistence, and economic needs of the Hupa people," said Hoopa Valley Tribal Chairman Joe Davis.

The consolidated weir has been installed near the Tish Tang Campground on the Hoopa Valley Reservation in anticipation of the upcoming fall fish migration season.

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Photo caption: CDFW Director Meghan Hertel, fourth from left, joins Hoopa Valley Tribal Chairman Joe Davis along with federal and Tribal officials in formally dedicating the new, jointly operated fish weir on the Lower Trinity River Sept. 8. CNRA photo

About the Trinity River Restoration Program

After Congress authorized the Trinity River Division of the Central Valley Project in 1955, its construction and operation devastated anadromous fish populations and blocked 109 miles of spawning habitat above the federal Bureau of Reclamation dams near Weaverville. To address those impacts, Congress authorized and directed the Secretary of the Interior to restore fish populations to levels approximating those immediately prior to construction of the Trinity River Division. Congress also established fishery restoration as a purpose of the Central Valley Project and required reimbursement of restoration costs by Central Valley Project water and power contractors. In 2000 the Secretary of the Interior and the Chairman of the Hoopa Valley Tribe agreed on the terms for Trinity River fishery restoration in a ceremony on sacred ground at Hoopa. The consolidated weir is a component of the restoration program.

About the Hoopa Valley Tribe Fisheries Department

The Hoopa Valley Tribal Fisheries Department is dedicated to protecting, restoring and sustainably managing fisheries resources within the Hoopa Valley Reservation and throughout the Trinity River watershed. Through research, monitoring, habitat restoration and collaborative management, the Fisheries Department works to conserve salmon, steelhead, lamprey and other culturally significant aquatic resources while supporting the Tribe's cultural, subsistence and economic interests.

About the California Department of Fish and Wildlife

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife manages California's fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats using science-based management, responsible stewardship and collaborative partnerships for the benefit of the public. Working alongside Tribal governments, federal agencies and local communities, CDFW is committed to conserving California's natural resources for current and future generations.

Persons with disabilities needing reasonable accommodation to participate in public meetings or other CDFW activities are invited to contact CDFW's Accessibility Coordinator in the CRO Office at (916) 902-5577, or send an email to CivilRights@wildlife.ca.gov. Reasonable Accommodation requests for facility and/or meeting accessibility should be received at least 21 days prior to the event. Requests for American Sign Language Interpreters should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event, and requests for Real-Time Captioning at least four weeks prior to the event. These timeframes are to help ensure that the requested accommodation is met. If a request for an accommodation has been submitted but due to circumstances is no longer needed, please contact the Accessibility Coordinator immediately.

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[California Department of Fish and Wildlife](#)
715 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



CDFW Announces Angling Closure at the Mouth of the Klamath River

This bulletin was sent at 08/28/2026 05:27 PM PDT

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CDFW NEWS

Aug. 28, 2026

Media Contacts:

[Dan Troxel](#), CDFW Klamath River Project, (707) 492-0611

[Peter Tira](#), CDFW Communications, (916) 322-8908



CDFW Announces Angling Closure at Mouth of the Klamath River

The spit fishery at the mouth of the Klamath River will be closed to angling at 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 2. Based on California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) projections of the recreational fall-run Chinook Salmon harvest, anglers will have met the “spit area” adult fall-run Chinook salmon quota of 15 percent of the total Klamath River Basin recreational allocation of fish caught below the Highway 101 bridge.

Meeting the quota triggers the closure of the spit fishery at the mouth of the Klamath River, within 100 yards of the channel through the sand spit formed at the Klamath River mouth. The spit area is downstream of the Highway 101 bridge located near the town of Klamath. Recreational fishing in this area will remain closed for the remainder of the 2026 season.

Anglers may keep track of the quota status of open and closed sections of the Klamath and Trinity rivers by calling the information hotline at (800) 564-6479. Learn more about the [fishing quotas on the Klamath River](#) [\(Video\)](#)[\(external link\)](#).

Additionally, CDFW reminds anglers targeting salmon in the Klamath and Trinity Rivers that they must be in possession of a 2026 North Coast Salmon Report Card. Anglers are required to begin filling out their card at the start of fishing and record harvest and release in real-time.

For more information regarding Klamath River fishing regulations, please consult the 2026 California Freshwater Sport Fishing Regulations at: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Regulations#fresh-regs>

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Lower Klamath River Quota Met

This bulletin was sent at 09/11/2026 10:15 AM PDT

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CDFW NEWS

Sept. 11, 2026

Media Contacts:

[Dan Troxel](#), CDFW Klamath River Project, (707) 822-0330

[Peter Tira](#), CDFW Communications, (916) 215-3858



Lower Klamath River Quota Met

Based upon California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) projections of the recreational fall-run Chinook Salmon catch on the Klamath River, anglers will have met the Lower Klamath River adult fall-run Chinook salmon quota below the Highway 96 Bridge near Weitchpec for the 2026 season as of 11:59 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 13.

This triggers the closure of the adult Chinook salmon fishery on the main stem of the Klamath River from the Highway 96 Bridge to the mouth of the Klamath River at the Pacific Ocean. The fishery at the mouth of the Klamath closed Wednesday, Sept. 2 and will remain closed to all fishing for the rest of the calendar year. The rest of the lower main stem of the Klamath River below the Highway 96 Bridge at Weitchpec will remain open to the harvest of jack (2-year-old) Chinook salmon (less than or equal to 23 inches). All adult Chinook salmon caught must be immediately released.

Anglers may still fish for adult Chinook salmon in other reaches of the Klamath Basin, including the main stem of the Klamath River above Weitchpec and the entire Trinity River until the closure of those fisheries.

Anglers may monitor the quota status of open and closed sections of the Klamath and Trinity rivers by calling CDFW's information hotline at (800) 564-6479. Learn more about the [fishing quotas on the Klamath River \(Video\)](#).

Additionally, CDFW reminds anglers targeting salmon in the Klamath and Trinity rivers to follow the rules of the sport fishing season, which runs from September 1 to October 31, 2026.

Trinity rivers that they must be in possession of a 2026 North Coast Salmon Report Card. Anglers are required to begin filling out their card at the start of fishing and record harvest and release in real-time.

For more information regarding Klamath River fishing regulations, please consult the 2026 California Freshwater Sport Fishing Regulations at:

<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Regulations#fresh-regs>.

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