



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 24, 2019

Salmon Spawning Habitat Restoration Project in Redding Underway

REDDING, CA - In partnership with local, state and federal agencies, the Sacramento River Settlement Contractors (SRSC) are pleased to announce the start of the Market Street Bridge Gravel Injection project in Redding, CA to enhance and restore salmon spawning habitat.

“The Market Street project is another example of the SRSC commitment to preserving and improving the habitats of fish in our region,” said Roger Cornwell, president of the Sacramento River Settlement Contractors. “Tremendous progress has been made on projects that positively impact salmon, but there is more work to be done. Our member districts will continue to step up and be leaders for these innovative projects and we look forward to working with our partners as we take more action to improve passage and habitat for the salmon.”

The project, to be carried out over the next several weeks, will place salmonid spawning gravel in the Sacramento River, immediately below the Anderson Cottonwood Irrigation District (ACID) Diversion Dam and Market Street Bridge in Redding.

Approximately 9,400 cubic yards of gravel, or 12,000 to 15,000 tons, will be placed into the river to help improve spawning habitat for Chinook salmon and steelhead trout. The project is a continuing effort to help meet requirements of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act to restore and replenish spawning gravel and rearing habitat for salmonid species.

The spawning habitat has been reduced over time in this important river reach, and available spawning habitat will be dramatically increased by adding the new gravel. Work began on April 22 and will conclude on May 6. This gravel project is just one of several innovative interagency projects planned in the Sacramento River this winter and spring to aid the winter-run Chinook salmon.

Reclamation Fisheries Biologist John Hannon, who oversees these projects, said, "The SRSC working together with other entities enables the efficient completion of these and other

upcoming projects that none of us could complete alone. These projects are an important part of helping our local fish populations recover to their historical levels."

The project is a partnership of the Bureau of Reclamation, the California State University - Chico Foundation, California Department of Water Resources, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Sacramento River Forum, and SRSC. The following districts specifically contributed personnel and equipment for the project: Reclamation District 108, Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, Sutter Mutual Water Company, River Garden Farms, Provident Irrigation District, Princeton-Cordora-Glenn Irrigation District and Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District.

In partnership with other agencies and organizations, the SRSC continue to develop, support, and fund local and regional projects that have improved migratory corridors and habitat for fish within the region. The SRSC are part of a unique partnership that have developed and constructed numerous restoration projects along the Sacramento River, including the Painter's Riffle Restoration Project (GCID), North Cypress Bridge Side Channel Restoration Project (GCID), Lake California Side Channel Restoration Project (RD-108, PID & PCGID), and Wallace Weir Fish Collection Facility Project (RD-108).

This project is also part of the regional Sacramento Valley Salmon Recovery Program, a comprehensive effort, addressing all Chinook salmon life-cycle stages that occur in fresh water by implementing projects and flows that serve multiple benefits through the collaborative efforts of local water management entities, conservation organizations and state and federal fisheries and water management agencies.

Media Contact: Cynthia Davis, (530) 934-8881, cdavis@gcid.net

ABOUT SACRAMENTO RIVER SETTLEMENT CONTRACTORS

Sacramento River Settlement Contractors (SRSC) are dedicated to providing reliable, affordable water supplies to their landowners and water users, while ensuring the environmental and economic viability of the region. Among the largest irrigation districts in the Sacramento Valley and with senior water rights, they have a long history of serving farmers and the agricultural community and maintaining critical wildlife habitat. The member districts fulfill their mission of efficiently and effectively managing and delivering water through an ever-improving delivery system and responsible policies, while maintaining a deep commitment to sustainable practices. Looking ahead, the SRSC will remain focused on continuing to deliver a reliable and sustainable water supply by positioning themselves to respond proactively, strategically and responsibly to California's ever-changing water landscape.

###