



Contact: John Andersen  
Director, Forest Policy  
707-962-2820  
jandersen@mendoco.com

## **Coho Salmon Have Returned to Greenwood Creek**

*Mendocino Redwood Company confirms presence after decades of absence*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- Ukiah, Calif. (July 14, 2015) -- Coho salmon fry have been confirmed in the upper reaches of Greenwood Creek and in one of its tributaries, Valenti Gulch by Mendocino Redwood Company and California Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists. Coho were also observed by California Department of Fish and Wildlife survey crews in the lower reaches of the stream during the 2014-2015 spawning season, including one adult female, three adult carcasses, and one redd (a spawning nest).

In 1890, Greenwood Creek was dammed at its mouth. Coho salmon were severely impacted. Further, the quality of fish habitat in Greenwood Creek was substantially degraded by traditional, industrial logging through most of the 1900's. It is thought the Coho have been absent from some or all of Greenwood Creek for over 50 years, even after the dam was removed. Fish presence surveys conducted by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife beginning in the 1960s and continuing to present indicated Coho salmon were absent from the stream.

Mendocino Redwood Company, which started business in 1998, has worked collaboratively with a variety of State agencies and local partners, like Trout Unlimited and Cal Trout, to reduce sediments in streams through improved forest management practices across its more than 225,000 acres. These collective efforts have resulted in approximately 17,000 cubic yards of sediment (nearly 2,000 dump truck loads) being diverted from entering the Greenwood Creek. The preventative efforts included removing undersized culverts, installing permanent bridges, and making road improvements such as out sloping and rock ford construction.

Future restoration activity plans include in-stream wood placement projects that will provide suitable habitat for coho salmon in Greenwood Creek. An on-going collaborative effort of surveys between Mendocino Redwood Company and the California Department of Fish and

Wildlife will monitor the species status within the watershed. Mendocino Redwood Company owns and manages around 9,500 acres, or about 60 percent of Greenwood Creek watershed.

Photograph: Coho salmon in Valenti Gulch tributary in Greenwood Creek, Mendocino County, Calif., June 11, 2015



Photographer: Chris Morris, MRC Biologist

### **About Mendocino Redwood Company**

Mendocino Redwood Company, LLC (MRC®) and affiliated Humboldt Redwood Company, LLC (HRC™) collectively consist of approximately 440,000 acres of redwood and Douglas-fir forestlands along the north coast of California. The company names were chosen to reflect the nature of the business and the important role of the local community. From the beginning, the company's stated purpose has been to demonstrate it is possible to manage productive forestlands with a high standard of environmental stewardship and operate a successful business. Since 2000, Mendocino Redwood Company has maintained environmental certification from the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®). FSC certification demonstrates the company's commitment to operate under the toughest environmental and commercial forestry standards endorsed by leading environmental organizations around the world. For more information, please visit [www.mrc.com](http://www.mrc.com).

###