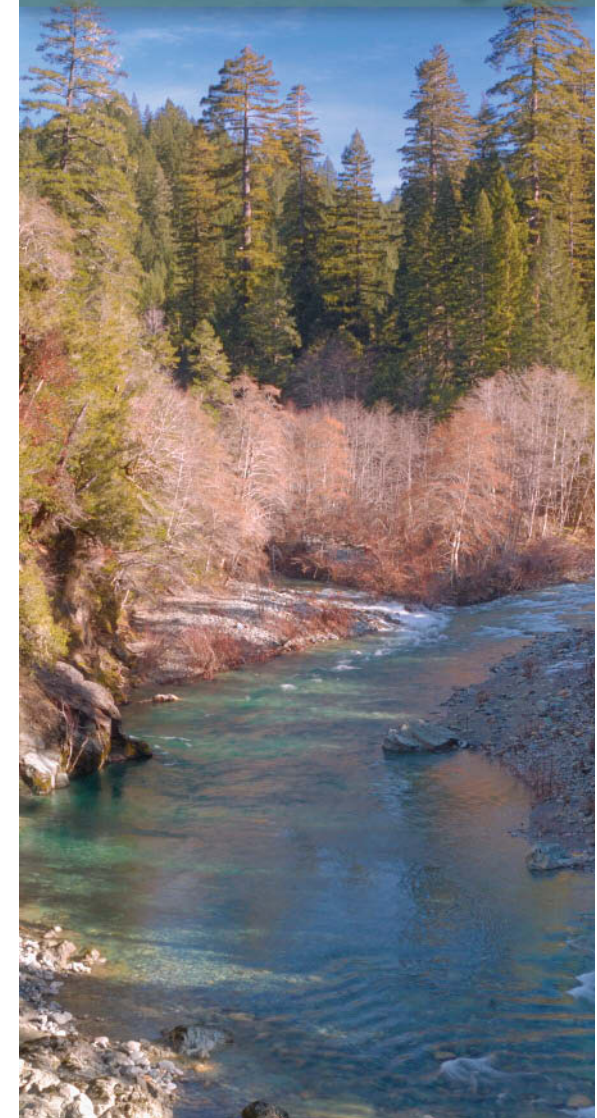
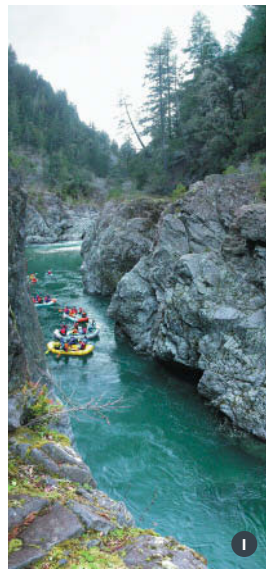


Smith River Alliance

River Guardians Program



Providing for the long-term protection, restoration and stewardship of natural resources in the Smith River watershed



SMITH RIVER ALLIANCE

P.O. Box 2129
Crescent City, California 95531
Telephone: (707) 458-3586
Cell: (916) 715-9898
Fax: (707) 633-1919
Email: info@smithriveralliance.org
www.smithriveralliance.org

FRONT PANEL:
Hurdygurdy Creek confluence,
South Fork Smith River.
FRANK COPPEL PHOTO

1) Rafting the South Fork's lower gorge. 2) Divers conducting the 2005 fish survey near Rock Creek Ranch. 3) The Smith River watershed is host to a number of unique native plants such as the California pitcherplant. 4) Participants in the Environmental Education Program at Rock Creek Ranch. 5) A Chinook salmon tends her spawning redd in Patrick Creek. 6) Yontocket Slough, a lower river restoration area. 7) Fish survey instructor at Rock Creek Ranch. 8) Towering redwoods in Jedediah Smith State Park.

THOMAS DUNKLIN PHOTOS, EXCEPT 3 AND 8 BY JEFF BRIGHT, 4 BY RON COLE



Fishing the South Fork Smith River for winter steelhead.
KEN MORRISH PHOTO

The Smith River: California's Crown Jewel

The Smith River is one of the most spectacular wild rivers in California. From its headwaters in the Siskiyou Mountains to where it meets the ocean, just south of the Oregon border, over 315 miles of the Smith River and its tributaries are protected in the National Wild and Scenic River system.

Cascading over boulders and through pristine river canyons, the Smith is surrounded by forested land — home to a rich population of native mammals, birds, reptiles and fish. These include mountain lion, wolverine, northern spotted owl, endangered Del Norte salamander, Chinook salmon, coho salmon, steelhead and coastal cutthroat trout.

Significant protection has been achieved for the spectacular

scenery and a diverse native flora and fauna of the Smith River.

In addition to Smith River designation as a Wild and Scenic River, over two-thirds of its upper watershed is protected as National Recreation Area managed by the Six Rivers National Forest. There is designated wilderness within the upper watershed, too — with about 10,000 acres of the North Fork in the Kalmiopsis Wilderness and over 51,000 acres of the Middle and South forks in the Siskiyou Wilderness.



Spawning coho salmon in Mill Creek.
ZACH LARSON PHOTO

The lower river and estuary include Redwood State and National Park lands and extensive private lands. It is here especially that there are many opportunities for cooperative restoration projects.

A Track Record of Success

Since 1980, Smith River Alliance has worked to protect the natural resources of the Smith River watershed. SRA was instrumental in the designation of the Smith as a Wild and Scenic River in 1981 and with the establishment of the Smith River National Recreation Area in 1990.

Today, SRA continues to restore and protect the land, water and human resources in the Smith River watershed through its programs.

The **Watershed Protection Program** acquires targeted land and conservation easements, advocates science-based management of watershed lands, and promotes and administers restoration projects that provide significant benefits to the aquatic ecosystems. Recent successes include key additions to Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park, Lake Earl Wildlife Area and Smith River National Recreation Area.

SRA is a partner in one of the largest restoration initiatives in Northern California — the Mill Creek Habitat Restoration project. Mill Creek is a uniquely beautiful, important salmon spawning tributary of the Smith. Restoration efforts on Mill Creek and along the lower river are critical to restoring historic salmon and steelhead runs. Our project partners include federal, state and local agencies, as well as other non-profit groups.




The **Environmental Education Program** provides environmental education opportunities for youth and adults. Education programs focus on Smith River watershed science, natural systems processes, conservation needs, and hands-on experiences.

Rock Creek Ranch is our facility on the South Fork of the Smith — where our goal is sustainable practices and management. The Ranch is used by groups for environmental education, a summer youth program, retreats, meetings, and is the base of operation for the SRA-sponsored summer fish survey. The Ranch provides an operational base to further our mission in perpetuity. It is a resource used by volunteers, community groups, and researchers. Rock Creek Ranch continues to grow as a gathering place for education and scientific inquiry.

Smith River Guardians

In 2006, in celebration of our 25th year of operation, Smith River Alliance launched the River Guardians Program to recognize those businesses, corporations and organizations that are significant partners in the advancement of our conservation efforts. Smith River Guardians contribute services, materials or funds of at least \$500 in value per year.

The Smith River Alliance recognizes Guardian partnerships in a variety of ways:

-  A beautiful photograph of the Smith River, suitable for display, with a message of appreciation from the Smith River Alliance.
-  Recognition on the Alliance website (www.smithriveralliance.org) using the Guardian's logo and providing a link to its website.
-  Enrollment in the Smith River Guardians on a recognition plaque prominently displayed at Rock Creek Ranch.

We invite you to become a Smith River Guardian today and join us in our efforts to protect this magnificent resource!

All donations are tax-deductible.

"The Smith River Alliance is a trusted partner and collaborator in this community. Restoring nature is good business — and there is no better investment in our community than restoration that sustains healthy forests, fisheries, and tourism. These elements support jobs and provide an important part of the foundation for our local economy."

Chris Howard, Past-president
Crescent City/Del Norte Chamber of Commerce

