

SMITH RIVER NATIONAL RECREATION AREA LANDS

Hurdygurdy Creek

CONSERVING STRONGHOLDS FOR SALMON & TROUT

The Smith River, on California's north coast, is the state's only major undammed river system. This spectacular river flows through redwood and Douglas fir forests, supporting the state's healthiest wild runs of coho and Chinook salmon, steelhead and coastal cutthroat trout. Over seventy-five percent of the Smith River watershed lies within the Smith River National Recreation Area.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

An outstanding opportunity exists to acquire a total of over 5,400 acres of the Hurdygurdy Creek, Little Jones Creek, and Siskiyou Fork watersheds currently owned by the Agnew Corporation of Washington and other private owners.

Upon completion of this acquisition, these watersheds will become a protected part of the Smith River National Recreation Area.

URGENCY

The Smith River is one of the crown jewels of the National Wild and Scenic River System. The proposed acquisition is entirely within the boundary of the 450-square-mile Smith River NRA and is surrounded by public lands, including the Siskiyou Wilderness, which is less than three miles to the east.

Without protection, these parcels could be subdivided for recreational, second-home development.

HABITAT AND RECREATIONAL VALUE

Hurdygurdy Creek drains a 29-square mile area circumscribed by Bear Basin and Hurdygurdy Buttes, the west slope of Fox Ridge, and Gordon Mountain. Little Jones Creek, a tributary to the Middle Fork Smith River supports resident rainbow and cutthroat trout. This resident trout population has been the focus of intensive fisheries research for the past decade.

In addition to their inherent refugia values, these watersheds provide very stable flows of cold, clean water to the main forks of the Smith River — especially important to salmonids residing in the main stem during the late summer and early fall.

Protection of these watersheds will further secure the future of California's finest wild river system.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Agency:	U.S. Forest Service
Unit:	Smith River National Recreation Area, Six Rivers National Forest
Project Size:	5,400+ acres
Amount Requested:	\$4,500,000
Outstanding Values:	Salmon, recreation, Wild and Scenic River



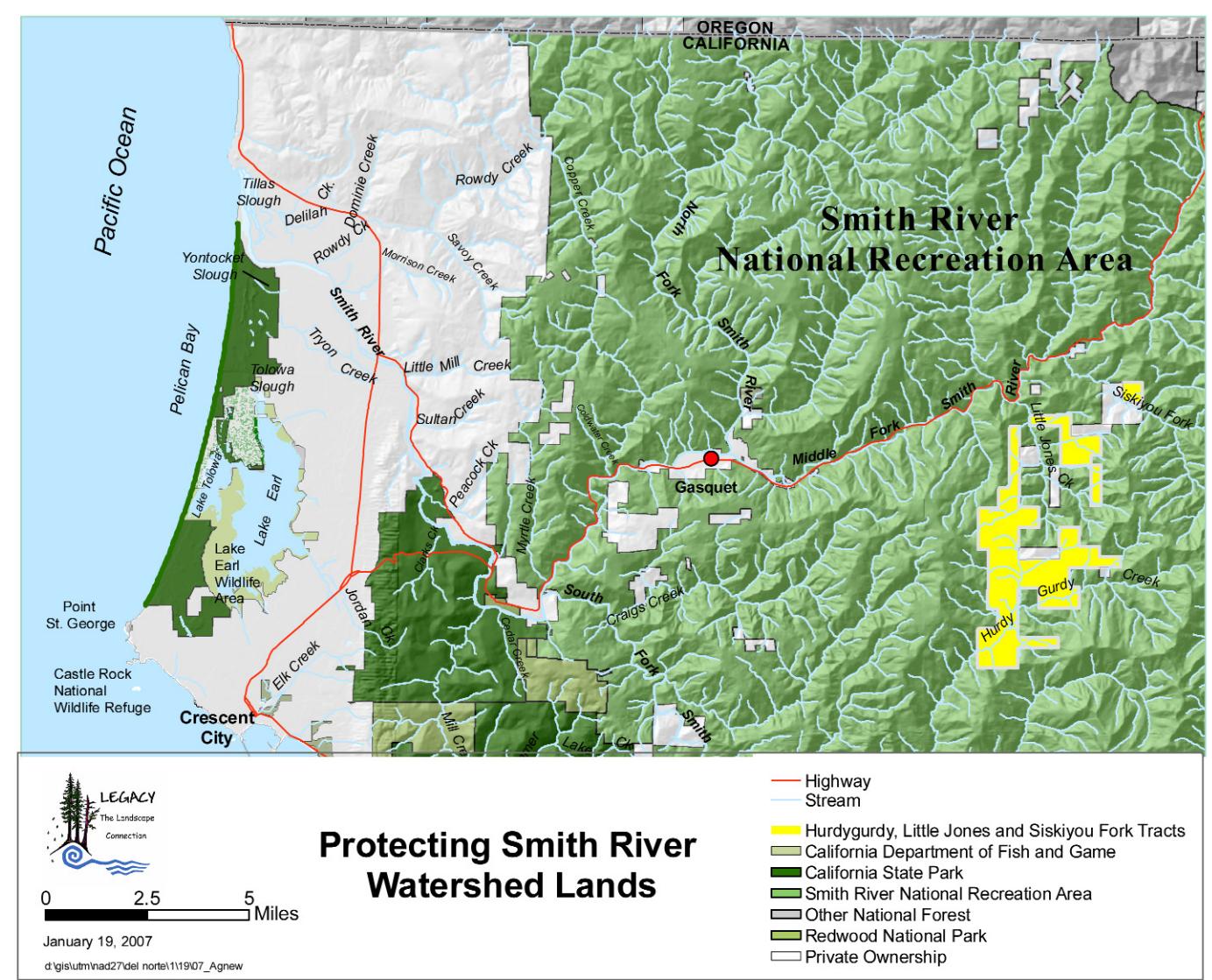
The heart of the Smith River National Recreation Area: a landscape view deep inside the Hurdygurdy Creek watershed.



SMITH RIVER NATIONAL RECREATION AREA LANDS

Hurdygurdy Creek

CONSERVING STRONGHOLDS FOR SALMON & TROUT



SMITH RIVER ALLIANCE

P.O. Box 2129 • Crescent City, California 95531 | www.smithriveralliance.org | Grant Werschkull • 916-715-9898