Forest Service Klamath National Forest Salmon/Scott River Ranger District 11263 North Hwy 3 Fort Jones, CA 96032 530-468-5351 TDD: 530-468-1298

File Code: 2670

**Date:** May 22, 2025

In collaboration with the Salmon River Restoration Council Sawyers Bar, CA 96027 (530) 462-4665



Dear Spring Chinook Dive Enthusiasts:

Thank you for your interest in the 2025 Salmon River Spring Chinook/Summer Steelhead Snorkel Census Dive scheduled for Wednesday July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025. This event has been sponsored and coordinated by the Klamath National Forest (KNF) and the Salmon River Restoration Council (SRRC) since 1996. We look forward to a successful dive in 2025. The SRRC website at <a href="mailto:srrc.org/fishdives">srrc.org/fishdives</a> includes a registration form, schedule, and more information.

## Registration

<u>Divers are required to register</u>. The registration form is available on the SRRC website. Registration will be open until July 19<sup>th</sup>, or until the diver ceiling is reached. Your response is very important for planning and logistical purposes. If you are registering as a group, please complete the online form for each individual participating.

There will be a maximum of <u>80 divers</u>. This ceiling is important as it allows sufficient people to cover all reaches while minimizing the impact to the resource being surveyed.

## **Logistics**

Dinner will be provided on Tuesday, July 29<sup>th</sup>; and both breakfast and dinner on Wednesday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. Specifics are still under development, but, as usual, it will undoubtedly be good! Participants are otherwise responsible for bringing their own food and snacks, including lunch on both days. Funding for the dives is very limited this year, so if you are able to make a donation to help with the cost of food we'd appreciate it!

Participants will meet on July 30th at Forks of Salmon Elementary School prior to surveys.

We will make an effort to pre-assign leaders and/or groups for reaches. If you are familiar with the survey area, <u>please identify your preferred reach(es)</u> when you register; and while we cannot guarantee that you will be assigned your preferred reach, we'll do our best. Survey leaders may be contacted prior to the survey for reach assignment.

The SRRC and the KNF will have a *limited* supply of gear available for use by volunteers. Please bring your own dive gear if you have it. Borrowed gear must be returned immediately following the dives. Snorkels, goggles, and other faceware will be disinfected before and after use. If you still have borrowed gear from previous dives, bring it with you to return. If you are bringing your own gear, be sure to appropriately clean it so as to minimize the transport of aquatic hitchhikers and diseases. Cleaning supplies will also be available at the dives.

Camping will be available at Nordheimer Campground. Details concerning the specific group campground are expected to be conveyed to participants prior to the dive dates, but will also be provided at the dives.





## Safety

The KNF and the SRRC are concerned that all aspects of the dive are conducted in a safe manner. There will be a mandatory water safety, fish identification, and informational session hosted by the SRRC for all first time non-state/non-federal employees and volunteers beginning at 10 AM on Tuesday July 29<sup>th</sup> at the Forks of Salmon Community Club. Please bring a lunch and swimwear to this session. Following the training session volunteers will be able to sign-out gear and test it. Participants from Federal and State agencies participate under the approval of their supervisor and we assume all individuals have received safety training according to their employer's requirements. Forest Service personnel are required to have current water safety training and CPR/first-aid training. The Forest Service is not liable for non-Forest Service personnel. We request that all divers be proficient swimmers and be comfortable walking several miles over rough terrain. There will be a mandatory safety protocol review for participants on Wednesday July 30<sup>th</sup> before the dive begins. Even if individuals or groups have pre-assigned reaches, attendance is required. Your help to keep this a safe and successful event is greatly appreciated!

Thank you for your continued support of Salmon River fisheries; the Spring Chinook Dives couldn't happen without your participation. Please contact Sam Stroich at <a href="mailto:salmon@srrc.org">salmon@srrc.org</a> or Maija Meneks at <a href="maija.meneks@usda.gov">maija.meneks@usda.gov</a> if you have questions or concerns. We look forward to seeing you in July!

Sincerely,

NATALIE KELLY

Natalie Kelly

District Ranger

Salmon-Scott River Ranger District

Klamath National Forest

KARUNA GREENBER

Restoration Director

Salmon River Restoration Council