

**File Code:** 1010; 5300**Date:** May 22, 2025**Route To:****Subject:** Forest Order No. 14-25-10 – Ah-Di-Na Area Closure**From:** Kari Otto, Acting Forest Supervisor, Shasta-Trinity National Forest

I have decided to close the gravel beach adjacent to Ah-Di-Na campground to protect the endangered Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon eggs and fry. The Winnemem Wintu Tribe, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the National Marine Fisheries Service have partnered to conduct a research/recovery project of this salmon species on the McCloud River. Fertilized winter-run Chinook Salmon eggs sourced from the Livingston Stone National Fish Hatchery will be stored in remote site incubators or Nur Nature-Base incubation equipment on the banks of the McCloud River adjacent to the Ah-Di-Na Campground. The water that circulates inside the incubators is directly sourced from the McCloud River through water pipes which will replicate historic spawning habitat. When the fry hatch they will either be released into the McCloud River or allowed to voluntarily enter the McCloud River. After entry into the McCloud River, the fish will be collected in rotary screw traps, fyke traps, or other juvenile collectors downstream before they enter Shasta Lake. They will then be moved into the Sacramento River below Keswick Dam so they can migrate to the Pacific Ocean. The McCloud River Pilot Project is an initial short-term step for the reintroduction of anadromous salmonids in the tribal cultural landscape of the Winnemem Wintu Tribe along the McCloud River Watershed. This pilot project is a test to determine feasibility of returning salmon to historic spawning grounds in the McCloud River, using assisted migration practices. This closure is necessary to protect the research equipment, prevent the potential for disruption of the study, and protect the growing winter-run Chinook salmon.

This Forest Order includes an exemption for persons with a Forest Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation or Order (Form FS-7700-48). Authorization under this exemption will only be provided if I or my delegate determine that the risk to personal health and safety is reasonable considering the circumstances of the request. I hereby delegate the authority to sign Form FS-7700-48 granting an exemption to this Forest Order to the Mt. Shasta District Ranger.

The Forest Service has discussed this Order with the following entities: Winnemem Wintu Tribe, Shasta County Sheriff's Department, and Shasta County Board of Supervisors.



I have concluded that this decision may be categorically excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement or Environmental Assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act.

This action falls within the category identified in 36 C.F.R. § 220.6(d)(1) - prohibitions to provide short-term resource protection or to protect public health and safety - and does not require documentation in a decision memo, decision notice, or record of decision. There are no extraordinary circumstances associated with this temporary closure. Implementation of the decision may begin immediately.