



**Humboldt
Redwood™**

Bank Swallow Annual Report

2020

February 1, 2021



Cover photo: Bank swallow habitat along the lower Smith River (photo credit: Laura Bradley).

Project Description

Title: Bank Swallow Surveys for Class I Water Crossings

Purpose: Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) monitoring

Date Initiated: March 1999

Projected End Date: Ongoing

Manager: Sal Chinnici, Director, Forest Sciences

Executive Summary:

The HRC HCP Section 6.7 (PALCO 1999), Bank Swallow Conservation Plan, requires that surveys be conducted where new road construction crossing low gradient Class I waters is planned and potential bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*) habitat exists within 200 feet. HCP objectives are twofold:

1. Avoid impacts to bank swallow nesting colonies on streambanks and hillsides.
2. Prevent nest colony establishment in stock-piled sand associated with instream mining operations.

No crossings were established in 2020 that required bank swallow surveys to be conducted. Before and during the bank swallow breeding period (May – June) there was one relatively small (i.e. ~20 feet tall, and ~20 foot wide) mound of stockpiled sand and gravel from gravel extraction operations stored off-channel in south Scotia adjacent to the South Truck Shop. Given the location, size, and active nature of the pile it was not considered suitable for bank swallow nesting. Therefore, no bank swallow surveys were done in 2020 on HRC property.

No change in monitoring strategies or intensity is recommended at this time.

Project Manager / Primary Author



Sal Chinnici