



# News Release

For Immediate Release

Contacts: Steve Martarano, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 916-930-5643  
Joyce El Kouarti, U.S. Forest Service, 530-252-6604

## **Lower Deer Creek Recreation Trail Set to Close Due to Fish Passage Project**

A portion of the 3.3-mile Lower Deer Creek Recreation Trail near Forest Ranch, CA, will be closed intermittently between July 5 and Sept 30 due to the construction of a fish passage structure. The trail, in Tehama County, is located between the intersection of USFS Road 27N08 (also known as K Line, or A Line ) and a quarter-mile upstream of the Fishway Construction Site at Lower Deer Creek Falls. The closure is approximately 1.5 miles downstream of the Red Bridge trailhead.

The trail is normally used for hiking, walking, nature trips and birding and is usually accessible year-round.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife are co-funding an upgrade to a fish passage structure on Deer Creek located on private property in eastern Tehama County at a site known as Lower Deer Creek Falls. The purpose of the action is to improve upstream and downstream passage conditions for Chinook salmon, steelhead and other aquatic fish and wildlife species. The current concrete fish passage structure adjacent to the falls inhibits the movement of salmon and steelhead into the upper watershed. The proposed action was developed in cooperation with the willing landowner and the U.S. Forest Service and involves the removal and replacement of the existing fish passage structure. Construction is expected to begin in early July.

Details regarding the trail closure will be posted at the Informational Kiosk at Red Bridge over Deer Creek and in other locations near and along the trail.

###