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October 29, 2013

Ms. Diane Boyer-Vine
Legislative Counsel
State Capitol, Room 3021
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Gregory Schmidt
Secretary of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 3044
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. E. Dotson Wilson
Chief Clerk of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3196
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Boyer-Vine, Messers. Schmidt and Wilson:

I am pleased to transmit the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans) report entitled "2013 Coastal Anadromous Fish Passage Assessment and Remediation Progress Report" prepared pursuant to California Streets and Highway Code Section 156, Chapter 589, Statutes of 2005 (Senate Bill 857, Kuehl).

Distribution to the Legislature has been made by Caltrans pursuant to California Government Code 9795. This report can be found at http://www.dot.ca.gov/reports-legislature.htm.

Sincerely,

MALCOLM DOUGHERTY
Director

Enclosure

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE
FOR ANNUAL YEAR 2012

COASTAL ANADROMOUS FISH PASSAGE ASSESSMENT AND REMEDIATION PROGRESS REPORT

Prepared:

October 2013

Prepared by the California Department of Transportation
Division of Environmental Analysis

2013 Progress Report for the period from January to December 2012

Summary

New fish passage barrier remediations completed: 1
Total fish passage barrier remediations since January 2006: 26
Ongoing (In progress) fish passage barrier remediations: 30
Identified priorities not yet in progress: 15

Purpose

This is the eighth annual report prepared in accordance with Article 3.5 of Chapter 1 of Division 1 of the Streets and Highways Code (SB 857, Kuehl) that took effect January 1, 2006. This law directs the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to prepare an annual report describing the status of Caltrans' progress on locating, assessing, and remediating project-related barriers to fish passage. SB 857 also directs Caltrans to report its progress on developing a programmatic environmental review process to streamline the permitting process for remediating fish passage barrier projects. This report updates our remediation progress and describes Caltrans' fish passage activities between January 1 and December 31, 2012.

Since 2006, Caltrans has put forth significant effort assessing and remediating fish passage barriers on the State Highway System. To date, Caltrans has conducted more than 6,000 fish passage assessments, remediated fish passage migration barriers at 26 locations and internally prioritized a number of top transportation-related fish barriers, for future programming and funding. Caltrans will continue to work with the California Department of Fish & Wildlife (DFW) and the California Fish Passage Forum to refine the statewide prioritized list for fish passage remediation.

Tables show one barrier per row and each row addresses a unique barrier identified by a California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) Passage Assessment Database (PAD) identification number (PAD_ID). The DFW and the California Fish Passage Forum designed the PAD to store and share fish passage barrier assessment data as part of the Calfish database system. The PAD includes web accessible database searching and mapping features that link specific barriers with web-based mapping via PAD_ID numbers. The PAD is found on the DFW Calfish web pages: http://www.calfish.org/tabid/83/Default.aspx.

Common names are provided for projects in the tables, however, common project names change over time as projects are developed and modified, as needed. For example, a project was developed to address a large number of culverts in District 1 and named, "51 Culverts." As issues were identified and solutions developed, work was pulled off into separate fundable projects. The majority of culverts in this project were not on fish bearing streams. The remaining project is currently named "22 Culverts" and the associated table entries in this report were edited to use the current project name, "22 Culverts." Caltrans uses project numbers for project identification. The provided PAD_ID numbers are a barrier identification that can be used to translate barrier locations across agencies.

Related Policy

Caltrans issued a policy memorandum on July 7, 2006, from Jay Norvell, Chief, Division of Environmental Analysis (DEA), to District Deputy Directors and others. That memorandum set SB 857 related policy, provided a copy of SB 857 and provided fish passage assessment and reporting protocols. The DEA maintains internal web pages that contain various policy memoranda and guidance, including a page for fish passage assessment, an annual SB 857 reporting page and a

permit streamlining page. These pages provide easy access to policy and guidance for all staff and managers.

Former Director Kempton signed an agreement letter dated May 26, 2009, addressed to Assembly Member Eng, then Chair of the Assembly Transportation Committee, accepting an opportunity to administratively address issues proposed in AB 1189 (Skinner 2009).

On May 6, 2010, Richard Land, then Chief Engineer, issued a policy memorandum updating program and reporting requirements, plan updates and new reporting schedules. The memorandum formally incorporates the elements of the Kempton/Eng agreement, directs districts to update fish passage plans, provides direction for the development of district fish passage remediation priorities and directs districts to name fish passage coordinators.

On December 16, 2010, Richard Land issued a policy memorandum encouraging additional efforts to remediate fish passage barriers.

Changes in table contents

Barriers in the active remediations table (Table 2) that were remediated in 2012 were moved to the completed remediations table (Table 1), and/or removed from the priority table (Table 4). Remediations are identified by their county, route, post mile and PAD_ID number, so that they may be easily found in the tables or in the PAD. Caltrans has also started to track fish passage projects in the Standard Tracking Exchange Vehicle for Environmental database (STEVE), which is designed to track project permits and agreements for capital projects throughout the state. STEVE is not yet able to pull adequate lists for the Fish Passage Annual Report; however Caltrans plans to improve the database for use in future reporting years.

Assessment and Remediation of Fish Passage Barriers

One remediation was completed in 2012. "Table 1, Fish Passage Barrier Remediations COMPLETED Since January 1, 2006", contains completed barrier remediations ordered by District number, county, route, and post mile. New completed projects to this table are in **bold and underlined type**. "Figure 1, Fish Passage Barrier Remediations COMPLETED Since January 1, 2006", is a map of locations that are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Fish Passage Barrier Remediations COMPLETED Since January 1, 2006

Map #	District	County	Route	Post Mile	PAD_ID #	Stream Name	Project Name
1	1	Del Norte	101	4.04	737008	Unnamed Tributary	Tributary to Elk Creek
2	1	Del Norte	101	43.7	715563	Lopez Creek	Smith River Widening
3	1	Humboldt	101	40.7	722447	Chadd Creek	Chadd Creek
4	1	Mendocino	1	62.5	737008	Unnamed Tributary	Culvert Rehab on Tributary to Pudding Creek
5	1	Humboldt	169	22.37	706138	Cappell Creek	Four Bridges
6	1	Mendocino	128	49.66	707220	Edwards Creek	22 Culverts
7	1	Mendocino	128	39.95	707211	John Hatt Creek	Beebe Storm Damage
8	1	Mendocino	128	39.95	707212	John Hatt Creek	Beebe Storm Damage

Table 1. Fish Passage Barrier Remediations COMPLETED Since January 1, 2006							
Map #	District	County	Route	Post Mile	PAD_ID #	Stream Name	Project Name
9	1	Mendocino	128	39.95	713145	John Hatt Creek	Beebe Storm Damage
10	1	Mendocino	128	39.37	707209	Beebe Creek	Beebe Storm Damage
11	1	Humboldt	101	115.3	737005	Unnamed Tributary	Stone Lagoon
12	1	Mendocino	101	81.4	706986	Rattlesnake Creek	Rattlesnake Creek
13	1	Mendocino	101	99	707115	Red Mountain Creek	Confusion Hill Mitigation
14	2	Shasta	299	20.7	737289	Salt Creek	Salt Creek Fish Passage Improvement Project
153	2	Siskiyou	96	65.4	707147	O'Neil Creek	O'Neil Creek
16	2	Tehama	5	16.9	737006	Elder Creek	Elder and Dibble Creek Scour Mitigation Improvement
17	2	Tehama	5	28.1	737007	Dibble Creek	Elder and Dibble Creek Scour Mitigation
18	2	Tehama	99	14	582402	Craig Creek	Craig Creek & Sunset Canal Bridges Project
19	2	Tehama	99	15.6	737013	Sunset Canal	Sunset Canal Bridge
20	4	Napa	121	1	733333	Huichica Creek	Duhig Road Realign Curves and Widen Shoulder
21	5	Santa Barbara	101	33.9	706642	El Capitan Creek	El Capitan Creek
22	5	Santa Barbara	101	41	707405	Arroyo Hondo Creek	Arroyo Hondo
23	5	Santa Barbara	101	47.2	706669	Gaviota Creek	Gaviota Creek
24	5	Santa Cruz	1	10	706703	Valencia Creek	Valencia Creek; Tributary to Aptos Creek
25	5	Santa Cruz	1	17.4	735367	Branciforte Creek	Branciforte Creek and Carbonera Creek
26[2]	**7**	**Ventura**	**150**	**28.7**	**723744**	**Santa Paula Creek**	**Santa Paula Creek**

[1] "Project Name" is provided for convenience here. PAD_ID numbers provide a universal reference number that allows specific barrier identification across agencies and partners. PAD_ID is a number used to identify assessments entered into the DFG CALFISH Passage Assessment Database (PAD). [2]Projects completed in 2012 are shown in bold underlined Text. [3] Note Map 15 was completed in 2006, however, was erroneously omitted from the past couple reports.

Active Remediations Summary (30 barriers):

A map of locations, for items, in "Table 2, Fish Passage Barrier remediations currently IN PROGRESS," is shown in "Figure 2, Fish passage barriers under remediation." Note that this table shows one barrier per row rather than one project per row. Newly active remediations, or CCA dates that have been updated, are shown in **bold and underlined type** across the row. Changed dates are shown in **bold and underlined type** for the date entry only.

Table 2. Fish Passage Barrier remediations currently IN PROGRESS.

Map #	District	County	Route	Post Mile	Date[1]	PAD_ ID	Stream Name	Project Name[2]
1	**1**	**Del Norte**	**197**	**2.12**	**In Construct**	**tbd**	**Peacock**	**Peacock Creek Emergency**
2	1	Humboldt	299	4.2	CCA 8/1/2013	716742	Hall Creek	Hum-101 Mad River Bridges
3	1	Mendocino	1	92.83	CCA 1/1/2014	706958	Dunn Creek	Dunn Creek Fish Passage
4	1	Mendocino	101	44.0	CCA 8/1/2019	713108	Unnamed Tributary to Haehl Creek	Willits Bypass
5	1	Mendocino	101	44.0	CCA 8/1/2019	713107	Unnamed Tributary to Haehl Creek	Willits Bypass
6	1	Mendocino	101	44.5	CCA 8/1/2019	712894	Unnamed Tributary to Haehl Creek	Willits Bypass
7	1	Mendocino	101	48.1	CCA 8/1/2019	705136	Upp Creek	Willits Bypass
8	1	Mendocino	101	52.3	CCA 10/1/2014	707085	Ryan Creek	Encroachment & DFG Fish Restoration Grant Program
9	1	Mendocino	101	52.4	CCA 8/1/2014	707086	North Fork Ryan Creek	North Fork Ryan Creek
10	1	Mendocino	101	66.5	**CCA 10/1/14**	707096	Ten Mile Creek	36 Culverts
11	1	Mendocino	101	84.0	CCA 8/1/2014	706987	Rattlesnake Creek	Rattlesnake Creek
12	1	Mendocino	101	89.0	CCA 8/1/2015	706954	Cedar Creek	Cedar Creek
13	**1**	**Mendocino**	**128**	**20.15**	**CCA 7/3/2013**	**707196**	**Unnamed**	**22 Culverts[3]**
14	1	Mendocino	128	21.8	**CCA 7/3/14**	707199	Clow Creek	22 Culverts

Table 2. Fish Passage Barrier remediations currently IN PROGRESS.								
Map #	District	County	Route	Post Mile	Date[1]	PAD_ID	Stream Name	Project Name[2]
15	1	Mendocino	128	27.54	CCA 7/3/2014	707205	Graveyard Creek	22 Culverts
16	1	Mendocino	128	36.63	CCA 7/3/201	707208	Lost Creek	22 Culverts
17	1	Mendocino	128	39.88	**CCA 7/3/2015**	707210	Beebe Creek	22 Culverts
18	2	Shasta	299	32.25	CCA 11/3/2015	737295	Lemm Creek	Bella Diddy Roadway Rehab.
19	2	Siskiyou	96	56	**CCA 1/16/2015**	707168	Fort Goff Creek	Fort Goff Creek Fish Passage
20	**2**	**Siskiyou**	**96**	**65.4**	**CCA 1/15/2014**	**707147**	**O'Neil Creek**	**O'Neil Creek Bottom Project**
21	2	Trinity	299	68	**CCA 9/15/2014**	720511	Little Grass Valley Creek	Trinity Dam Boulevard Fish Ladder
22	2	Trinity	299	68.2	**CCA 9/15/2014**	735688	Little Grass Valley Creek	Trinity Dam Boulevard Fish Ladder
23	4	Sonoma	1	15.1	**CCA 2/1/2016**	733223	Scotty Creek	Gleason Beach
24	5	Santa Barbara	1	15.6	CCA 4/1/2014	700085	Salsipuedes Creek	Salsipuedes Creek
25	5	Santa Barbara	101	5.6	DNS	734310	Arroyo Parida Creek	South Coast HOV
26	5	Santa Barbara	101	9.4	DNS	705161	Romero Creek	South Coast HOV
27	5	Santa Barbara	101	9.6	DNS	734342	San Ysidro Creek	South Coast HOV
28	**5**	**Santa Barbara**	**101**	**38.8**	**DNS**	**707403**	**Tajiguas Creek**	**Tajiguas Fish Passage**
29	5	Santa Barbara	192	15.5	CCA 6/1/2013	706239	Arroyo Parida Creek	Arroyo Parida Creek
30	7	Los Angeles	1	50.3	DNS	705781	Solstice Creek	Solstice Creek

[1]Entries provide estimated construction completion dates. Dates are estimated when available pending funding, permitting, and regulatory negotiations. CCA means "Construction Contract Completion." DNS means "Date Not Scheduled." [2]"Project Name" is provided for convenience here. PAD_ID numbers provide a universal reference number that allows barrier identification across agencies and partners. PAD_ID is a number used to identify assessments entered into the DFG Calfish Passage Assessment Database (PAD). [3]The 51 culvert project was split into sub-projects. The locations requiring fish passage remediation are now within the 22 culverts projects. The fish passage locations are listed individually, in the above table and map as locations # 13-17.

Project-Level Fish Passage Assessments (1 assessment)

A fish passage assessment is a reconnaissance evaluation to determine if a potential barrier exists and, if there is potential, a detailed assessment is completed to identify specific barrier causes and severity. A map of locations for fish passage assessments completed in 2012 is shown in "Figure 3, Fish passage assessments completed in 2012." One fish passage assessment was completed in 2012, for a barrier location on an unnamed tributary that was identified in Marin County. Recent assessments are locations that had either not been identified during initial assessments or were identified for full assessments, within a project or action area.

Table 3. Fish passage assessments completed in 2012.

Map #	Report Date	County	Route	Post Mile	PAD ID[1]	Stream	Tributary to:	Project Name
1	**5/8/2012**	**Marin**	**1**	**24.7**	**732502**	**Unnamed Tributary**	**Olema Creek**	**Hwy 1 Culvert**

[1]PAD_ID numbers provided a universal reference number that allows specific barrier identification across agencies and partners. PAD_ID is a number used to identify assessments entered into the DFG Calfish Passage Assessment Database (PAD).

Planning-level assessments:

No planning grant funds were obtained for 2012.

Annual Barrier Priorities

Priority List (29 barriers):

"2012 Priority Transportation-related Fish Passage Barriers for Remediation", listed in Table 4 are shown in "Figure 4, Priority Transportation-related Fish Passage Barriers for Remediation". Barriers that were recently remediated were removed and new priorities are shown in **bold and underlined** type. Some fish passage barrier locations are in both Table 2 and Table 4. Map links with a * next to them in Table 4 indicate that a remediation project is in progress at that barrier location. Note that prioritization efforts are continuously updated as progress is made on remediation and not all projects in progress are funded through construction.

Table 4 contains road-stream crossing barriers that currently have high priority for remediation. All listed crossings have equal priority at this time; however, Caltrans and DFW continue working towards a combined fish passage remediation priority list that would indicate both transportation related remediation priorities as well as biologically focused remediation priorities. Caltrans and DFW are working with the California Fish Passage Forum to develop a statewide, technical, biological, fish passage barrier priority ranking system.

Table 4. 2012 Priority Transportation-related Fish Passage Barriers for Remediation.

Map link	District	PAD _ID[1]	County	Route	Post Mile	Site Name	Stream Name	Tributary to:
A	1	707143	Del Norte	197	5.0	Sultan Creek	Sultan Creek	Smith River

Table 4. 2012 Priority Transportation-related Fish Passage Barriers for Remediation.								
Map link	District	PAD _ID[1]	County	Route	Post Mile	Site Name	Stream Name	Tributary to:
B	1	707142	Del Norte	197	6.2	Little Mill Creek	Little Mill Creek	Smith River
C	1	707157	Humboldt	254	4.2	Fish Creek	Fish Creek	S. Fork Eel River
D	**1**	**713051**	**Humboldt**	**299**	**2.97**	**Essex Gulch**	**Essex Gulch**	**Tributary to Mad River**
E	**1**	**707072**	**Mendocino**	**1**	**58.78**	**Digger Creek**	**Digger Creek**	**Pacific Ocean**
*F	1	705136	Mendocino	101	48.1	Upp Creek	Upp Creek	Mill Creek
*G	1	707085	Mendocino	101	52.3	S. Fork Ryan Creek	Ryan Creek	Outlet Creek
***H**	**1**	**707086**	**Mendocino**	**101**	**52.36**	**N. Fork Ryan Creek**	**Ryan Creek**	**Outlet Creek**
***I**	**1**	**706987**	**Mendocino**	**101**	**83.88**	**Rattlesnake Creek**	**Rattlesnake Creek**	**Eel River**
***J**	**1**	**706954**	**Mendocino**	**101**	**89.04**	**Cedar Creek**	**Cedar Creek**	**Eel River**
*K	2	737295	Shasta	299	32.2	Lemm Creek Bridge	Yank Creek	Cow Creek/ Sacramento River
*L	2	707168	Siskiyou	96	56.0	Fort Goff Creek Fish Passage	Fort Goff Creek	Klamath River
*M	2	707147	Siskiyou	96	65.0	O'Neil Creek	O'Neil Creek[2]	Klamath River
*N	2	720511	Trinity	299	68.0	Little Grass Valley Creek	Little Grass Valley Creek	Grass Valley Creek/ Trinity River
*O	2	735688	Trinity	299	68.2	Little Grass Valley Creek	Little Grass Valley Creek	Grass Valley Creek/ Trinity River
P	3	58718	El Dorado	89	13.3	Camp Richardson Water Quality	Tallac Creek	Lake Tahoe
Q	3	58968	Butte	99	45.5	Pine Creek	Pine Creek	Sacramento River
R	3	58967	Butte	99	40.5	Rock Creek	Rock Creek	Sacramento River
S	**4**	**732502**	**Marin**	**1**	**24.7**	**Hwy 1 Culvert**	**Unnamed**	**Olema Creek**
T	4	tbd	Napa	121	9.3	Sarco Creek Bridge Replacement	Sarco Creek	Miliken Creek
*U	4	733223	Sonoma	1	15.3	Gleason Beach	Scotty Creek	Pacific Ocean

*V	5	700085	Santa Barbara	1	15.6	Salsipuedes Creek	Salsipuedes Creek	Santa Ynez River
W	5	707182	Santa Barbara	101	2.2	Carpinteria Creek	Carpinteria Creek	Pacific Ocean
*X	5	706239	Santa Barbara	192	15.5	Arroyo Parida	Arroyo Parida	Pacific Ocean
*Y	7	705781	Los Angeles	1	50.3	Solstice Creek	Solstice Creek	Pacific Ocean
Z	**7**	**707368**	**Ventura**	**101**	**0.0**	**Rincon Creek**	**Rincon Creek**	**Pacific Ocean**
AA	11	735076	San Diego	76	45.5	Wigham Creek	Wigham Creek	San Luis Rey River
BB	11	712680	San Diego	76	29.5	SR-76 Pauma Creek	Pauma Creek	San Luis Rey River
CC	**12**	**706807**	**Orange**	**5**	**11.3**	**Trabuco Creek**	**Trabuco Creek**	**San Juan Creek**

[1] PAD_ID numbers provide a universal reference number that allows specific barrier identification across agencies and partners.
[2] O'Neil Creek project remains on the priority list due to the need for the "O'Neil Creek Bottom Project" to address design deficiencies of the original remediation.

Programmatic Environmental Review Process

Caltrans continues to work with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and DFW to streamline consultations for fish passage remediation. We are consulting on a programmatic effort that will streamline a number of fish passage improvement activities that can be characterized as either routine maintenance or small projects. Routine maintenance includes culvert repair, culvert cleaning and vegetation management, and some small projects to include culvert installation, weir and baffle installation, and small bridge construction. The geographic scope of the programmatic agreement is for coastal drainages from the Oregon border to Santa Cruz County. It requires consultation on approximately 58 plant and 33 fish and wildlife species that may be incidentally affected by projects.

The USFWS and DFW have had difficulty staffing this effort and have not been able to complete any programmatic agreements.

To date Caltrans has received a letter of concurrence from NMFS for those activities, listed above, that do not result in take of listed fish. NMFS is currently in the process of preparing a programmatic biological opinion for activities that result in take.

Figure 1. Fish Passage Barrier Remediations COMPLETED Since January 1, 2006

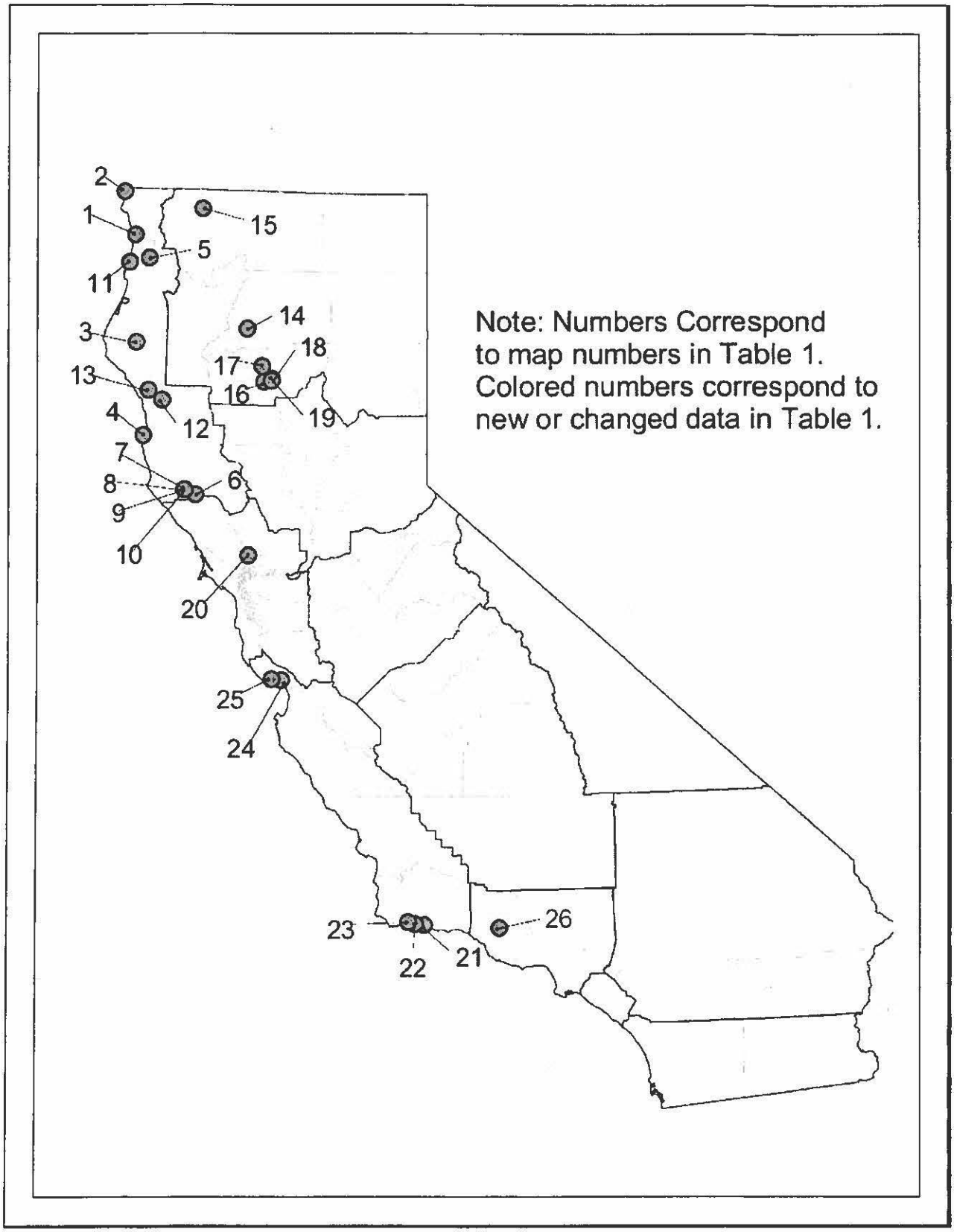

Figure 2. Fish Passage Barrier remediations currently IN PROGRESS

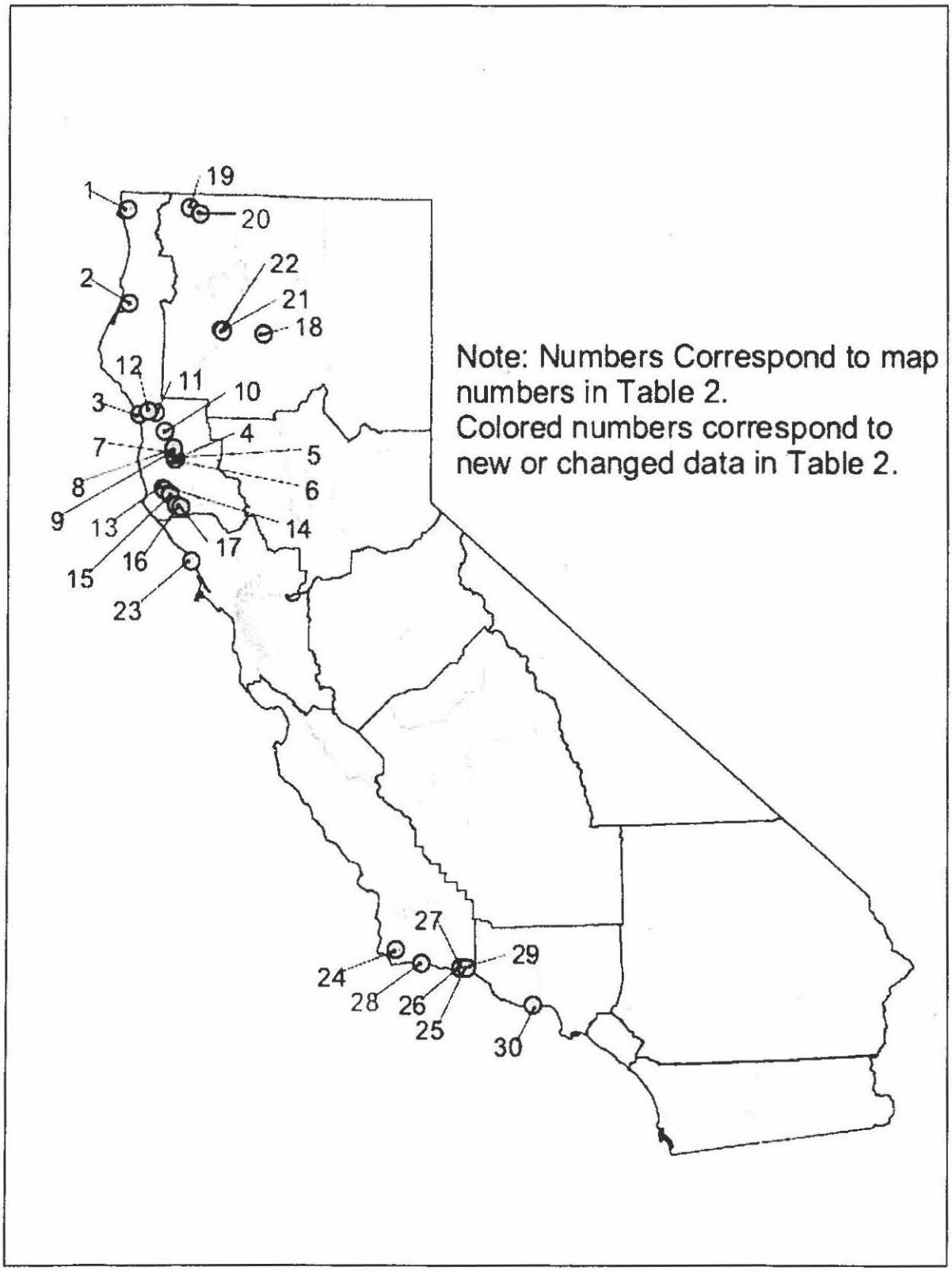

Figure 3. Fish passage assessments completed in 2012.

Figure 4. 2012 Priority Transportation-related Fish Passage Barriers for Remediation.