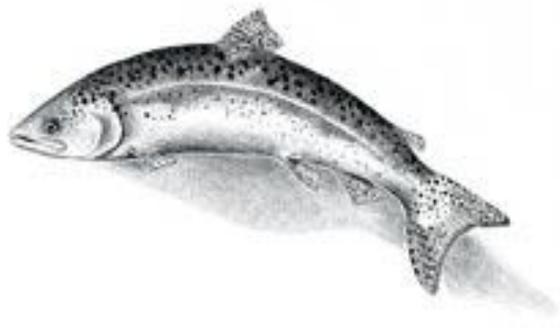




# California Department of Fish and Game Yreka

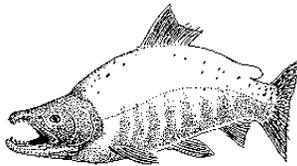
## Site Handbook





### **Watershed Stewards Project Mission**

The mission of the AmeriCorps Watershed Stewards Project is to conserve, restore, and enhance anadromous watersheds for future generations by linking education with high quality scientific practices.



*Sockeye Salmon*



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# Introduction

## Site Description

*Location* Yreka , California

*Agency Affiliation* **California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG):** Members will assist in monitoring Anadromous fish populations primarily through participating in field surveys and downstream-migrant trapping. The two main projects here are the Klamath River Project (KRP) and the Anadromous Fish Research and Monitoring Program (AFRAMP), both of which aim at generating population estimates of salmon and trout in the Klamath River watershed.

Yreka is notoriously known across WSP as one of the more conservative sites, but it's really not all that bad. Just **keep an open mind** and be aware of all the interests of the people who live here; there are ranchers, farmers, fisherman, hunters, *and* biologists. There *are* conservation-minded people in town, too! You just need to look around.

*General Ecology* Yreka is located in beautiful Siskiyou County in the northernmost corner of the Shasta Valley. It is close to Mt. Shasta, the Marble Mountains, the Trinity Alps, the Siskiyou Mountains, and half a dozen rivers. The Klamath National Forest, located mostly in Siskiyou, has elevations ranging from 600 to 9,000 feet with over 8,000 acres of surface water. This offers many recreational opportunities such as hiking, camping, backpacking, fishing, bird watching, kayaking, etc. The Shasta-Trinity National Forest is just South of Yreka, which also offers plenty of recreational choices. In other words, Yreka is a great base camp...it's an hour's drive in every direction to do any kind of outdoor activity in beautiful, unique, and rugged wilderness areas. It's also only a couple hours away from the coast and the redwoods.

Siskiyou County has the typical hot, dry, summers and cool, wet winters characteristic of Mediterranean climates. However, since the latitude of Siskiyou County(41°N to 42°N) is at the northern extreme of the Mediterranean climate zone and is in a mountainous region, we tend to have colder winters than the average Mediterranean region. Hence, Siskiyou County mainly falls within the Mediterranean highland climate region with much of our winter precipitation falling as snow. Weather varies immensely from the town of Yreka to the immediate surrounding area, so be prepared to encounter severe weather if you leave town during the winter. There may be a raging blizzard, rain, or ice storm just outside of Yreka in higher elevations, even if it's clear and sunny in town.

## General Calendar of Duties at DFG Yreka

Month	Location	Site Duties	Work Load	Typical Work Hours
<b>Fall</b>				
October	Field	Spawner /Carcass surveys *	busy	8-10 hrs/day –5 days/week
November	Field	Spawner /Carcass surveys *	busy	8-10 hrs/day –5 days/week
<b>Winter</b>				
December	Field	Spawner /Carcass surveys *	Moderate to busy	10 hrs/day –5 days/week
January	Field	Rotary screw traps	Moderate	8 hrs/day 3– 5 days/week



February	Field	Rotary screw traps	to busy Moderate to busy	8 hrs/day 3– 5 days/week
<b>Spring</b>				
March	Field	Rotary screw traps	moderate to busy	8 hrs/day 3– 5 days/week
April	Field	Rotary screw traps	moderate to busy	8 hrs/day 3– 5 days/week
May	Field	Rotary screw traps	moderate to busy	8 hrs/day 3– 5 days/week
<b>Summer</b>				
June	Field	Rotary screw traps / outreach projects	Moderate	8 hour days – 3-5 days /week
July	Field/ Office	Rotary screw traps / opportunities for snorkel surveys	moderate to busy	Flexible
August	Field/ Office	opportunities for snorkel surveys/ Prepare for spawner surveys	Light	Flexible

\* Will also spend an average of one day a week working in the Spawning Shed at Iron Gate Hatchery.



## **Description of Site Duties**

Yreka is one of WSP's most intensive field sites. If you want to get out there and learn everything hands-on in the field then this is the site for you! Once you arrive you will be working with Dianna and Morgan on the Klamath River Project. Fish counting facilities (video weir) will have been installed on the Shasta, the Scott and Bogus Creek and carcass/spawner surveys are in full swing. Expect long days walking sections of each river.

You'll start fieldwork on rotary screw traps in January, under your mentor Bill Chesney. You will help to assemble the screw traps on the Scott and Shasta Rivers in mid January. Once the traps are in the rivers, the length of your days will depend on the catch. During Screw Trapping is also a good time to get started on your Education and ISP (more information to follow)

Screw Trapping ends in the Beginning of July. For the remainder of July and beginning of August there are usually some dives and other projects to work on.

There's always data entry, of course. Then, there are a bunch of reports to be written. At slow times, you may have time to do some data analysis.



## ISPs and Outreach Events

### ISP Information

There are good opportunities for ISP's in Yreka and people willing to help with the planning and the implementation of the event. Ada Fowler with the Nature Conservancy has participated the past few years doing a native tree planting on the Nelson Ranch. The other established project is the Yreka Creek Clean-up in partnership with the Yreka Creek Greenway. This project tends to draw a lot of support from the community. The mentors are very supportive of these "legacy" projects and come out to help the day of the event.

### Outreach Information

For the National Service Days it is good to get in touch with the organization in advance to make sure that they are in need of volunteers and have projects going on at that time.

**Yreka Creek Greenway:** The committee is currently working to restore the riparian area and clear trails along the creek. Projects may include trail clearing, invasive removal, native plantings, and creek cleanup. Contact: Jerry Mosier [jmosier@snowcrest.net](mailto:jmosier@snowcrest.net) (530)-842-4708

**Connecting People with Nature:** This is a program through the US Fish and Wildlife Office (USFWS) in Yreka that gets kids out of the classroom and immersed into nature. They occasionally have watershed related projects to get involved in.

**Yreka Community Gardens:** The gardens are run by volunteers. There is also opportunity for you to get your own garden bed for the season.



## Education

### Education Notes

Winter and Spring are the best times to complete the Real Science Requirement. There is a teacher contact list supplied by WSP for teachers in the area. There are also several teachers in the area who have had WSP members in the past and would like to have them again.

### Site / Region Specific Education Resources

In addition to the teacher contact list that WSP gives you, it is very helpful to get in touch with Jason Singleton, the Outdoor Education Specialist at Siskiyou County Offices of Education. He does an aquarium incubator training workshop with local teachers; this is a great place to get in touch with a teacher for real science. Jason also has several events throughout the spring that he asks WSP members to help out with.

**Field Trips:** Planning a field trip to the rotary screw traps is a fun way to incorporate additional education/outreach hours into your work schedule. Coordinate with your Real Science teacher, or talk to Bill Chesney and Jason Singleton about other teachers who may be interested.

**Education Contacts:**

Jason Singleton, Siskiyou county Office of Education Outdoor Specialist  
[jsingleton@siskiyoucoe.net](mailto:jsingleton@siskiyoucoe.net)  
(530)-842-8402

Mark Greenfield, Superintendent/Principal at Discovery High School  
[mgreenfield@yuhd.net](mailto:mgreenfield@yuhd.net)  
(530)-842-1659

Cyndi Singleton 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, Butteville Elementary, Edgewood, Ca  
(530)-938-2255  
[csingleton@sisnet.ssku.ca.us](mailto:csingleton@sisnet.ssku.ca.us)



## **Local Ecology**

### **Descriptions of Local Ecology**

Yreka is located in the beautiful Siskiyou county in the northernmost corner of the Shasta Valley. It is close to Mt. Shasta, the Marble Mountains, the Trinity Alps, the Siskiyou Mountains and half a dozen rivers. The Klamath National Forest, located mostly in Siskiyou County, has elevations ranging from 600 to 9000 ft with over 8000 acres of surface water. This offers many recreational opportunities such as hiking, camping, fishing, bird watching, kayaking, etc. The Shasta-Trinity National Forest is just south of Yreka, which also offers plenty of recreational choices.



## **Housing and Local Resources**

Housing in Yreka is hit-or-miss. Try to find a place in town that will make those early mornings all the easier. Craigslist and the local newspaper are good places to look if you are not in the area. Many of the local rental agencies do not post their availabilities on-line so your best bet is to go to Yreka and look around.

Apartments are plentiful in the area but make sure that you look at the place before you sign a lease. If you are unable to go to Yreka prior to your term then try to find a place that offers month to month rent options that way if you are unhappy in the location you have the option to move.

Feel free to contact past AmeriCorps members or other people working at the office as they have all been in the same situation with housing.

### **Housing Contact List**

[www.siskiyoudaily.com/classifieds](http://www.siskiyoudaily.com/classifieds)

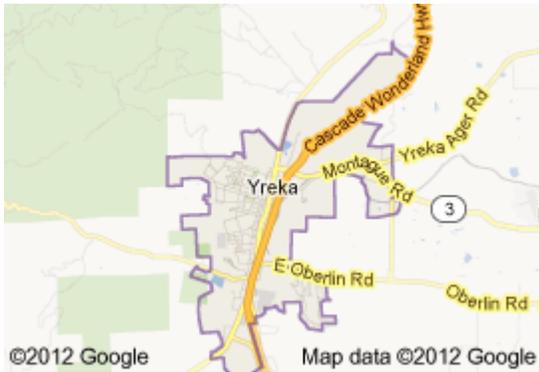
[www.mtshastanews.com/classifides](http://www.mtshastanews.com/classifides)

Michelle Hill Rentals  
202 N. Oregon St  
(530)-842-0720  
michellehillrentals.com



## Community Information

### Map of Area





## **Attachments**

**Contact Lists**

**Ed Logs & Information**

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**Outreach Summaries & Information**

**Site Protocols & Information**

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