Lower American River Gravel Augmentation















You may be surprised to see construction equipment on the gravel bar and in the river at Sailor Bar this year. However, despite the bulldozers, the noise and disruption, this project is once again restoring the river for salmon and steelhead.

Upper Sailor Bar has been a prime area for salmon and steelhead to spawn, but spawning beds degrade with time and high flows. The spawning gravels were restored about 10 years ago with great success. However, this site needs refurbishing to restore the spawning gravels and to create new juvenile fish rearing habitat.

The project will be excavating a new side channel through the bar and lowering the floodplain, sorting excavated gravel, and adding gravel to the river. Once finished, it will provide an ideal area for salmon and steelhead to spawn, as well as protected nursery areas for young fish to grow bigger.

This river restoration is being completed through a partnership of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, and the Sacramento Water Forum. It will be our ninth project restoring fish spawning gravel beds and improving juvenile fish rearing habitat on the lower American River. Previous years' projects have been built along Sacramento Bar, Sailor Bar, River Bend Park, and Nimbus Shoals.

Construction will begin in early September and will be completed by early October.

Work will be scheduled Monday through Friday from 8am to 6pm.

If you have any questions, please contact Lilly Allen at lallen@waterforum.org, (916) 808-1997.













