

Mattole Watershed Restoration/Conservation Timeline
Compiled by Mattole Restoration Council
January 2012

Beginning in the early 1970's, a tremendous effort to restore the Mattole River watershed to ecological health and resiliency has been undertaken by an array of public agencies, nonprofit organizations, private landowners and community volunteers. This effort has included hundreds if not thousands of individual projects. This document attempts to chronologically list each of the major projects or at least project groups. It is necessarily a work in progress as the effort is ongoing and will likely continue for many years to come. Also, with such a massive array of project going back so many years, it is quite possible that projects have been inadvertently missed that should be included here. Mattole Restoration Council welcomes input from readers of this document who may know of such projects for inclusion on future versions of this running list.

The majority of the projects listed below were undertaken by three nonprofit organizations, the Mattole Restoration Council, Mattole Salmon Group, and Sanctuary Forest, with funding from an array of state, federal, and local government agencies and a number of private foundations. In other cases work was carried out directly by government agencies, other nonprofits or community groups, or private volunteer citizens. And in many cases, the work was completed by partnerships involving combinations of these different types of entities. The scope of this document does not include a full accounting of which entities conducted and funded each project.

Abbreviations:

BLM = Bureau of Land Management
CCC = California Conservation Corps
CDF = California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (now CalFire).
DFG = California Department of Fish and Game
GRCC = Good Roads, Clear Creeks, MRC's erosion control program
HSU = Humboldt State University
KRNCA = King Range National Conservation Area (BLM)
LWD = Large Woody Debris (in-stream fish habitat)
MRC = Mattole Restoration Council
MSG = Mattole Salmon Group aka Mattole Watershed Salmon Support Group
NCRWQCB = North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
NMFS = National Marine Fisheries Service (now NOAA Fisheries)
SFI = Sanctuary Forest, Inc
SRL = Save the Redwoods League
THP = Timber Harvest Plan
TMDL = Total Maximum Daily Load
USFWS = US Fish and Wildlife Service
WCB = Wildlife Conservation Board

1970

- King Range National Conservation Area (KRNCA) established by U.S. Congress; jurisdiction under BLM.

1973

- Z'Berg-Nejedley Forest Practice Act instituted a uniform code for timber harvest practices in the state of CA after most of the largest trees had been taken.
- 1974**
- Recreation is designated the management priority in KRNCA Zone 1.
- 1975**
- Coastal Headwaters Association founded.
- 1976**
- First restoration efforts in the Mattole begin with research attempting to find out how to restore coho salmon to Mill Creek.
 - Save Gilham Butte Campaign.
 - Survey of Mattole River and tributaries by CCC's for fish passage problems.
- 1977-1981**
- Rex Rathbun constructs lower Mattole river wingdam to protect his home; large numbers of juvenile salmonids begin to use the pool created by the wingdam.
- 1978**
- Meeting at Mattole Grange called by ranchers, with DFG biologist presiding, to discuss why the salmon were disappearing and what could be done about it.
- 1979**
- BLM ban on motorized vehicle access to beach; subsequent construction of vehicle barrier using large logs at BLM parking/camping area at end of Lighthouse Road.
 - Meeting at Redwoods Monastery, organized by Sandy Tilles, to talk about what could be done to save the salmon. Nat Bingham presides. Richard Gienger, Jerry Kreger and others are present. First discussion of hatchboxes as restoration method.
 - First project at Mill Creek mouth to guarantee fish passage.-culvert modification
 - Nat Bingham inspires formation of Bear Creek Watershed Association.
 - DFG plant steelhead in SF Bear Creek
- 1980**
- Freeman House meets with Huey Johnson, Calif. State Secretary of Resources. As a result, Johnson instructs DFG to give Mattole residents a chance to try hatchboxes for salmon restoration.
 - Mattole Salmon Group founded as the Mattole Watershed Salmon Support Group.
 - October and November: First efforts to trap adult salmon, at Groeling property near Petrolia. Trap washed out after a few fish were caught.
 - DFG attempt to trap adult Chinook for hatchbox program
 - Mill Creek hatchbox established and several thousand DFG donated steelhead reared. Eggs hatched, reared and released .
 - Rock rip-rap begins along the Mattole in the headwaters
- Early-Mid 80's**
- CA Conservation Corps- logjam modification and removal to increase salmonid habitat: Nooning also riparian treeplanting,, Eubanks, Bear (5 miles opened up), Jewett Creek (84 and 86) Lower Mill.
- 1981**
- Mattole estuary area became part of Zone 1 KRNCA after enactment Extension Plan (BLM)
 - Second project at Mill Creek. Jump pool constructed below culvert.
 - Steelhead eggs incubated and hatched at Rathbun property, and released into Mattole river.
 - David Simpson goes to Congressman Doug Bosco to argue for State investment in salmon restoration and enhancement. Bosco Fund created.

- First State contracts (Bosco Fund--AB 951) established with citizen groups. This was the first public funding of local salmon restoration efforts.
- Trap and holding box established at A Way Park near Petrolia. Trap washed out again after some fish were caught. DFG helped MSG gill net again upriver near Whitethorn, successfully for the first time.
- Construction of ferro-cement pond and hatchbox facility at Arcanum Ranch in Mattole headwaters.
- Seeding of eroded slopes on Grindstone Creek
- Humboldt County crew place boulders at mouth of Stansberry Creek to create a jump pool.
- MSG begins annual spawner surveys, tallying live salmonids, redds, and carcasses observed in the Mattole River and its tributaries during the fall/winter spawning season.

1981—82

- First native Chinook eggs incubated and reared at Whale Gulch in a hatchbox made by Peter Van Arsdale. Some juveniles escaped into Whale Creek, but most were released into upper Thompson creek.
- Comprehensive spawner surveys and carcass counts begun. Thereafter, annual surveys have been maintained at greater or lesser intensity, depending upon availability of funds.
- Fish passage barriers removed Thompson, Upper Mill, Eubanks, Bridge, Mattole headwaters

1982-

- IRS grants non-profit status to MSG.
- Hatchbox and Pond established at Solitude on South Fork Bear Creek; Chinook salmon hatched and reared here each year since.
- Salmon and Steelhead Restoration Federation formed. MSG participates in first conference in Bodega Bay.
- Salmon Stamp fisheries restoration account established by Keene bill (SB 782).
- Seeding and planting on eroded slopes Mattole Canyon, Grindstone and Bridge Creeks
- Logjams removed on SF Bear Creek

1982—84

- Noyo River Coho incubated and reared at Mill Creek.

1982-85

- Nooning Creek Restoration Plan

1983

- Honeydew Slide triggered during storms of late March 1983 along the mainstem Mattole just upstream from Honeydew; delivered more than 430,000 cubic yards of sediment and debris to the Mattole
- Designation of estuary as part of King Range Wilderness Study Area in KRNCA.
- Mill Creek culvert baffles installed
- Initial effort to preserve the Mill Creek Forest by ad hoc citizens group.
- Public meeting under the Council Madrone near Ettersburg leading to founding of the Mattole Restoration Council.
- Bear Trap allotment acquired by BLM

1983-84

- First large-scale restoration projects (CHA, MRC, MSG, DFG) Eubanks Creek (treeplanting, culvert armoring, trashracks, Headwaters rip-rap work begun along mainstem, and Bear Creek, tens of thousands of Douglas-fir and alder seedlings planted throughout the Mattole
- Logjam modification on Eubanks Creek by the CCC.
- Trapping begins at Stanley Falls near Mattole headwaters.

1984-92

- Study of Mattole River estuarine fisheries (Chinook, coho) by HSU graduate students. Beach seining research to estimate juvenile salmonid population through cooperative research agreement between BLM and Calif. Coop Fishery Research Unit.

1984

- Mill Creek headwaters re-vegetation and rehabilitation
- Logjam modification on Jewett Creek
- High Prairie Creek culvert modification
- Upper North Fork alder planting on private land
- Alder planting and logjam modification on Big Finley Creek

1985

- Formation of Mill Creek Watershed Conservancy (MCWC), a land trust
- Honeydew Slide Study
- Downstream migrant trapping begun in the Mattole River.
- First cross-section surveys of the Mattole River.
- High Prairie Creek logjam modification.
- Eubanks Creek restoration project.
- Bridge Creek: Little Arthur Fishway Project

1986

- Large Woody Debris initial project at Mill Creek to enhance coho spawning habitat: Full spanning diagonal log weirs for gravel recruitment.
- Classroom incubator Project initiated in 5 schools in the Mattole watershed.
- Adoption of Mattole Estuary Habitat Management Plan
- Alder planting by power auger at 3 sites along Lower Mattole near estuary.
- Lower mainstem riprap project.
- Upper North Fork drainage improvements.
- Upper mainstem riprap.
- Eubanks Creek restoration.
- SRL purchases 75 acres from Barnum Timber, later to be Shadowbrook headquarters
- Squaw Creek revegetation project.
- IRS grants nonprofit status to MRC.

1986-88

- Elements of Recovery work.
- Field work for old growth map.
- Mattole Canyon Creek riprap .

1986-91

- The Mattole River Watershed Enhancement Plan included projects to provide river bank protection (rip rap), tree planting and fishery enhancement work.

1986-93

- Five year monitoring project conducted under the Mattole River Watershed Enhancement Plan including cross section monitoring of 14 sites to assess sediment storage and movement along the mainstem river from Honeydew to the mouth.

1987

- Coho hatchbox and rearing facility constructed at Oliver Gap on South Fork of Bear Creek.
- Documented summertime die-off of over 100,000 chinook juveniles Mattole estuary.
- MSG best salmon run in 6 years (winter 87-88).
- Sanctuary Forest Inc. Founded by Rondal Snodgrass.
- SRL purchases 88 acres from Barnum Timber Yew Creek

1987-88

- Bear Trap plantation project.

1988

- First use of Oliver Gap coho facility.
- Map comparing the distribution of Old Growth forests in the Mattole River watershed in 1944 to 1988 sent to all Mattole residents and landowners.
- WCB buys 160 acres Yew Creek, 80 acres in Ancestor.
- Sanctuary Forest purchases 160 acres river corridor from Barnum.

1988-91

- Mattole Estuary Projects.

1989

- Publication of "Elements of Recovery"- a restoration guide for each tributary including prescriptions (a watershed-wide inventory and publication of upslope sources of sedimentation).
- Willow planting at Estuary.
- East Fork Honeydew Creek, David Burnson-recovery slide rock and log stabilization structures and upslope planting.
- Sanctuary Forest buys 61 acre Ancestor Grove.
- WCB buys 295 acre Big Red Forest from Eel River Sawmills
- Upper North Fork-Graves slide.

1989-91

- Sholes Creek restoration.

1989-1990

- Floating log structures for cover (habitat improvement) constructed in estuary.

1989-94

- Mattole Estuary Study.

1990

- Friends of Gilham Butte organized to protest logging plans surrounding Gilham Butte.
- Land acquisition specified as BLM management priority in estuary/lagoon area.
- Adoption of Mattole beach by Mattole Union School elementary students, Petrolia.
- Sanctuary Forest consultant, Richard LaVen completes first sediment yield study, later presented to CDF resulting in denial of THP.
- DFG recommends Zero Net Discharge mitigation for all THPs in the Mattole.

- Sholes Creek logjam modification.
- Scouring structures installed along southside estuary banks.
- Drought year, and lowest number of chinook and coho spawners ever documented in the Mattole to this date.

1990-93

- Regeneration study.

1990-91

- Lower East Fork Honeydew Creek log revetments and instream structures.
- High Prairaie Creek log revetments-Burnson.
- Clear Creek re-vegetation project with Eel River Sawmills.

1991

- Scouring structures installed along northside estuary banks.
- Magnitude 6.0 Honeydew Earthquake triggers rockfalls, liquefaction. Epicenter near Cooskie Mountain (8/17/91).
- Adoption of emergency changes to Mattole River Sport Fishing Regulations by Calif. Fish and Game Commission.
- KRNCA designated Spotted Owl Habitat Conservation Area; zoning for logging and other extractive uses eliminated.
- MSG year round diving and pre-project habitat typing begins.
- Musical Comedy, *Queen Salmon*, based on MSG experience opens. Tours three times from San Francisco to Seattle.
- Mattole Watershed Alliance formed (April) to provide forum for debate on resource issues polarizing the Mattole community. MSG makes recommendations for changes in sports fishing regulations to the Alliance, which forwarded them with its approval to the California Fish and Game Commission. New fishing regulations approved for 1992.
- MRC begins tree planting program on local landowners' property.
- Sanctuary Forest buys 80 acres Kitsuch Forest from Dimmick Timber Co.
- SRL buys 50 acre Whitethorn School Children's Grove from Barnum Timber Co.
- 80 acre Dream Stream Forest purchased by SRL/WCB
- Redwood Wildlife Reserve on Thompson Creek (Luster Family)
- Reforestation on Squaw and Blue Slide Creeks.

1991-92

- The Kink: Honeydew Creek log revetments.

1991-93

- Reforestation on Ravashoni Creek

1991-94

- Bridge Creek Restoration.

1992

- Erosion reduction of Clear Creek THP 1-85-05HUM ERS, mainly with hand labor.
- Mill Creek cold pool improvement. Boulder scouring structure at confluence and 4 boulder weirs in lower 50 yards.

- Magnitude 5.6 Petrolia Earthquake triggers rockfall liquefaction Clear Creek landslide; epicenter again near Cooskie Mountain (3/7/92). Magnitude 7.1, 6.5, and 6.7 Cape Mendocino Earthquake Sequence (4/25-26/92). Many landslides triggered and up to an estimated 1.4 meters (4.5 feet) of coastal uplift regional mass die-off of intertidal organisms.
- East Fork Honeydew Creek #4, 3.5 miles upstream from confluence
- Reforestation on Mill , Bear, Eubanks, Bridge Creeks.

1993

- First use of maxillary clip on Mattole fish.
- Recovery Slide planting-20,000 DF trees-Honeydew Creek, 5000 willow stem cuttings along lower East Fork Honeydew Creek.
- 5,900 Douglas-fir planted on cut-over Mattole lands.
- Adopt-A-Watershed program begins.

1993-4

- Further estuary work, including live siltation baffles, and willow planting along north bank.

1993-95

- Mattole Canyon Creek log revetments.
- Water temp studies begin, then expand in 95 and 96 to include over 70 sites throughout the watershed .
- Lower North Fork THP 1-92-281 monitoring with Sierra Pacific Industries.
- McGinnis Creek THP monitoring w/Eel River Sawmills.

1994

- Adoption of KRNCA Final Visitor Services Plan which contains elements pertinent to BLM management of the estuary area.
- Gravel mining at mouth of Lower North Fork Mattole (est. 30,000 cubic yards removed) by Humboldt County Department of Public Works. Lighthouse Road improvements: 1.8 miles paved and new culverts installed.
- Designation of Mattole River on "303d List" of Impaired Water Bodies by US EPA & Calif. State Water Resources Control Board.
- Designation of Mattole as "Tier 1 Key Watershed" (#C-521) in Record of Decision for President's Forest Plan (FEMAT report).
- Lost Coast League won against CDF on a THP 357 in Lower North Fork based on not receiving information requested.
- Streambank stabilization on East Mill Creek.
- Two scouring structures modified above Mill Creek confluence.
- Large Woody Debris projects in the Mattole headwaters area initiated: Yew Creek modified with debris-jam barriers, log cribbing installation and bank armor log placement.
- Rescue Rearing Program started with the first diversion of downstream migrant Chinook into the Mill Creek pond.
- 35,000 Douglas-fir planted. Past tree planting projects monitored-76% survival rate
- Honeydew Creek Habitat Enhancement project.

1994-96

- East Fork Honeydew Creek Road Removal project.

1995

- MRC publishes *Dynamics of Recovery*, a plan to enhance salmonid habitat in the lower Mattole river (after a five year study of the Mattole estuary)
- Bear Creek watershed analysis.
- MSG signed first Cooperative Agreement with Bureau of Land Management.
- Development of first DFG approved Five Year Plan for MSG activities.
- Chambers Flat Wingdams.
- January flood; highest flows since 1975 and fourth highest on record summer and fall— Removal of last 3.5 miles of King Range Road in the Upper East Fork of the Honeydew creek watershed leaving a footpath.
- MSG initiates is ongoing temperature monitoring program.
- Guided interpretive hikes through Sanctuary Forest begins.
- Sanctuary Forest presents “Living with our River” Conference with Chris Maser.
- Chamber’s Flat wingdam.

1995-97

- Herpetofauna research-Intermittent Stream studies.

1996

- Honeydew Creek watershed analysis by BLM.
- Mattole Sensitive Watershed submission.
- First draft of PL’s SYP available for comment.
- Summer stream temperature monitoring and bug sampling initiated.
- With assistance from Sanctuary Forest, Inc., Save the Redwoods League purchased a 120 acre ancient redwood forest, known as the Goshawk Grove for \$1,600,000. Title was transferred to the California State Park system. State Parks currently owns and manages 500 acres in the ecological reserve.
- Installed 31 instream log and log/boulder cover structures for pool enhancement and 17 bank protection structures for erosion control in mainstem Mattole, upstream from the county bridge.
- First annual dives by MSG to identify and count summer steelhead and juvenile salmon.
- 33,000 trees planted on Lindsay Merrimen’s property (across from Indian Creek)
- Mattole Canyon Creek project involving major adjustment to the lower course of the creek by the addition of instream structures and riparian planting.
- MRC joins other groups in the Coastal Salmon Initiative to deal with the issue of the declining stocks of coho salmon.
- 120 acre Goshawk Grove purchased from Barnum Timber Company.
- Lower Mattole riparian reforestation project.

1996—2000

- Woody debris placement projects in upper Mainstem, Thompson Creek and South Fork Bear Creek.

1997

- Middle Mattole Conservancy organizes to purchase Gilham Butte lands for protection and conservation.

- Mattole documents compiled and sent to USFWS, NMFS, NCRWQCB by MRC/MSG to oppose Pacific Lumber Company's Habitat Conservation Plan/Sustained Yield Plan.
- Watershed Collective Meeting, Eureka (watersheds against PL).
- Bear Creek Road Removal begins.
- Mattole Restoration Council GIS program launched.
- 17,500 Douglas-fir seedlings planted in Middle Creek.
- Queen Mine Road decommission leaving a 5 foot wide horse path.
- MSG Rescue Rearing program initiated with the first diversion of downstream migrant Chinook into the Mill Creek pond.
- Interagency prioritization and watershed assessment project.
- Mill Creek acquisition celebration at the ranch house.
- New Rathbun wingdam.
- South Fork Bear Creek Watershed Analysis by BLM.
- Sanctuary Forest, Save the Redwoods League and Barnum Timber Company finalized negotiations for the purchase of the 215 acre second-growth redwood forest containing the entire tributary of Dreamstream which will now be protected in perpetuity.
- Sanctuary Forest completes a transaction where 700 acres of second-growth redwood forest, previously logged in the 1960s, was purchased by an individual conservationist.

1998

- Mattole Sensitive watershed nomination opposed 7-6 by the CA Board of Forestry.
- EPIC and FOGB win suit against CDF on Gilham THPs: 96-536, , 96-255 (Eel river side)
- Watershed Assessment Workshop-Petrolia.
- Heavy Equipment operators field trip with Pacific Watershed Associates.
- Award-winning video, Thinking Like a Watershed, released, featuring MSG and Mattole Restoration Council.
- Installed 17 log cover structures in the upper mainstem Mattole and lower Thompson Creek.
- Downstream migrant trapping at Mill Creek and Bear Creek.
- Summer water temps monitored with BLM and Redwood Sciences Lab.
- 870 acres of old-growth redwood forest, old-growth Douglas-fir forest, riparian forest and salmon spawning river habitat is added to the cooperative reserve.
- Thompson Creek Sediment Reduction project. Road improvements, bank stabilization and instream enhancement at 32 priority sites I upper Thompson Creek, continued through 1999. This was Phase 1 of the Upper Thompson Creek road reahabilitation project.
- Boulder check dam at South Fork Bear Creek is installed to retain sediments.
- Bear Trap Road Removal.

1998-2000

- Mattole watershed county roads inventoried for juvenile and adult fish passage by the County of Humboldt, Ross Taylor and Associates.

1999

- Watershed Week gathering involving students from six Mattole watershed public schools.
- Installed 11 instream log cover structures and augmented 2 existing complex structures in the upper mainstem Mattole and Thompson Creek, completed in the summer of 2001 (phase 2).
- Beginning of annual V star sediment monitoring.

- First hands-on restoration work for general public. In cooperation with Sanctuary Forest, “humboldt” stream crossings were removed by hand. Attended by assemblywoman Virginia Strom-Martin.
- Salmon Group headquarters moved 100yds upriver from threatened site to land leased from BLM.
- MOU signed for Upper Mattole River and Forest Cooperative promoting ecological stewardship and cooperative conservation management of certain public and private properties in the Mattole River Headwaters.
- 33,000 trees planted in McWhorter property from catalogue companies.
- Pacific Watershed Associates inventories Mill Creek private lands.
- 90 acres purchased for conservation in Upper Mattole.

1999-2001

- Middle Mattole Redwoods to the Sea Stewardship Plan.

2000

- Mill Creek Restoration Plan (from Pacific Watershed Associates inventory).
- First round of Gilham Butte land (Redwoods to Sea) purchased through SRL for BLM management.
- Initiation of DFG sediment source surveys in the Mattole headwaters.
- Blue Slide Creek diesel spill.
- Redwoods to Sea Stewardship Program launched with workshops from MRC, MSG, SFI, ISF, Legacy, and Trees.
- Mill Creek watershed Analysis.
- Installed 10 instream log cover structures in the upper mainstem Mattole, between Stanley Creek and the town of Whitethorn, through 2001.
- Mill, Honeydew, Bear Creeks inventoried and analyzed.
- Buckeye Conservancy formed.

2001

- 5 miles road decommissioned in headwaters of lower Mill Creek on BLM property.
- Rainbow Ridge letter writing campaign begins.
- Summer steelhead dive counted only 17 steelhead adults and 40 half pounders in 31+ miles of river.
- Channel Monitoring begun in Middle and Westlund Creek, expanded to include key tributaries in the upper Mattole in 2002.
- Mill Creek cross section and 3 instream bank protection and salmon enhancement structures as part of larger Mill Creek project.
- Culvert on Clear Creek replaced with flat bottomed culvert.
- Upper South Fork Bear Creek road decommission project removing .9 miles of road just downstream of Shelter Cove Road crossing.
- Whitethorn Grove acquired 40 acres of old growth with Mattole River frontage.
- MRC collects over 400 personal letters in support of public acquisition of Rainbow Ridge property, owned by the Pacific Lumber Company. PL abandoned negotiations of good faith.

- Sanctuary Forest buys 40 acre Whitethorn Grove from Barnum Timber with WCB funds.

2002

- Lower Mattole Fire Safe Council meetings and Plan completed that identified and prioritized fuels reduction project, water storage.
- 17,000 native Douglas-fir seedlings planted Mill, Bear, Honeydew and Middle Mattole.
- Whitethorn MRC office opens.
- Two public meetings on TMDL process hosted by MRC.
- Grasslands mapping project (MRC Newsletter #19).
- Initiation of sediment reduction work in the Mattole headwaters-Dream Stream.
- Lower Mill Creek Good Roads Clear Creeks (GRCC) pilot project completed.
- Phase 2 of Upper Thompson Creek Road Rehab project completed: road related sediment reduction work, bank stabilization, and instream enhancement at 26 sites in upper Thompson Creek
- Old Growth Forest Map update completed by MRC.
- Bridge Creek inventory.
- Culverts at Lower Mill Creek and East Mill replaced with bridges, East Anderson replaced with 16 foot natural bottomed arch.
- Green Fir bank stabilization project.
- Stormproofing King Range Road-last 5 miles (Phase III).
- Local seed collection of riparian trees: Big Leaf Maple, Oregon Ash, Pepperwood, Buckeye and others to be propagated in local nurseries.
- First year on record that the Mattole River became completely dry below Thorn Junction.
- Baker Creek Corridor acquired, 120 acres of watershed protection lands for Chinook and other salmonid habitat.
- Box Canyon Creek Restoration Project.
- Community meetings in Whitethorn to discuss summer water shortage.

2003

- North Coast Watershed Assessment Plan document completed for the Mattole.
- First phase of Mattole River and Range partnership granted funding by the CA Coastal Conservancy.
- Mattole Ecological Education Program program hosts Watershed Week at Triple Junction High School.
- 18,600 trees planted in Middle Creek riparian zone.
- Anderson Creek, 190 acres acquired of mixed forest watershed protection lands for Coho habitat.
- Lost River, 240 acres of wildlife corridor lands connecting the old growth Lost River Forest and Goshawk Grove
- Mattole Corridor, 20 acres of reserve in-holdings with Mattole frontage and significant fisheries habitat.
- Completion of sediment reduction work resulting in decommissioning of 12 miles of abandoned road and upgrade of 5 miles of roads in use in Headwaters.
- King Range fire (September), 14,000 acres in Honeydew Creek watershed burned.
- Fuel load reduction along 4 miles of Wilder Ridge Road completed.

- 11 acres fuel reduced in downtown Petrolia area.
- 7.5 miles fuel reduction on Panther Gap Road plus 54 acres thinned.
- South Fork Bear to Thompson Creek Sediment assessment Project completed including individual landowner maps siting delivery sites on SF Bear, Bridge, Anderson, Upper Mill, and Thompson Creeks. (MRC-Monschke)
- Homestead water system tune-ups provided by MRC
- King Range Road stormproofing project.
- Channel monitoring in headwaters.
- Streambank stabilization in headwaters.
- Rex Wingdam repairs.
- Estuary enhancement project, LWD structure #1 installed (Woodzilla 1).
- Rotary fish trap loaned from BLM in spring for downstream migrant trapping.
- Lower North Fork bank stabilization project.

2004

- Upper Mattole Fire Plan completed
- Completion of Panther Gap and Petrolia Fuels Reduction projects.
- Riparian assessment for tree planting/erosion control of key tributaries.
- Scotch Broom Removal project in Mattole estuary.
- Middle Mattole instream projects.
- Stansberry Creek culvert removal and channel design.
- Lost River Road decommissioning begins.
- Draft Mill Creek and Middle Mattole Cooperative Management Plans.
- King Range Road Storm proofing V.
- King Peak Road Improvement Project.
- Honeydew Creek Fire Rehabilitation.
- Bridge Creek, Eubanks Creek and Whitethorn Private Road Inventory.
- Nick's Interns program first summer. Local high school youth are provided paid summer jobs working on restoration and conservation projects.
- Upper Mattole Fire Atlas completed.
- King Range Management Plan completed.
- Woodzilla II-Large structure constructed in estuary.

2005

- Prosper Ridge Fuels Reduction Project.
- Panther Gap & Middle Mattole GRCC erosion control implementation.
- Bear Creek project area GRCC inventory.
- Upriver GRCC Implementation begins.
- Scotch Broom Removal Project.
- *Mattole Watershed Plan* completed.
- Riparian tree planting on select tributaries.
- PALCO Watershed Analysis begins w/MRC participation.
- Mill Creek Weir modification- Modified two channel-spanning weirs constructed in the late 1980s as they had created fish passage issues.

- Son of Wing Dam (#2) constructed in lower Mattole main stem.
- Wing Dam 3 constructed in lower Mattole main stem.

2006

- PALCO Watershed Analysis Synthesis Meetings
- Blueslide to Grindstone GRCC sediment inventory.
- Upriver and Eubanks GRCC implementations.
- Squaw Creek LWD installations (4).
- Estuary LWD Structures #3 and 4.
- Invasive Plant removal watershed –wide.
- Riparian surveys and tree planting.
- Wilder Ridge Shaded Fuel Break phase 2.
- Fire Safe Forests and Homes is launched to help landowners reduce hazardous forest fuels around residences and access roads.
- Japanese knotweed is discovered in the lower Mattole river area and is prioritized for eradication by MRC based on its devastating effects on certain Pacific Northwest riparian ecosystems.
- Native Plant Nursery is established near the Little Dipper Farm in Petrolia.

2007

- Pacific Lumber Company announces bankruptcy.
- Community Forestry Team (MRC et. al.) joins with Nature Conservancy and Save the Redwoods League to prepare for an auction of Pacific Lumber property.
- Mill Creek Stream Unification Project.
- Sanctuary Forest completes its headwaters area erosion control implementation.
- The first two headwaters water storage and forbearance tanks are installed totaling 100,000 gallons of capacity.
- Inventoried 20,000 acre Petrolia GRCC project area for erosion sources.
- Implemented GRCC erosion control project in the Upriver, Eubanks, and Bear Creek project areas. These projects saved more than 130,000 cubic yards of sediment from entering the watercourses of the Mattole watershed.
 - Improved 262 stream crossings.
 - Installed 127 improved culverts, ranging in diameter from 2 feet to 6 feet.
 - Removed 4 fish migration barriers, upgrading 2 sites with bridges and 2 sites with pipe arches.
- Planted 42,000 conifers (mostly Douglas-fir, with about one thousand redwoods) along 25 miles of stream, to increase shade and cover, reduce water temperatures, and provide future inputs of large wood to aquatic systems.
- Planted hundreds of riparian hardwood trees in key habitat areas.
- Developed shaded fuel breaks along Telegraph Ridge Road and assisted scores of landowners with fire hazard reduction projects, all reducing the threat of catastrophic wildfire throughout the Mattole watershed.

- Began developing a Programmatic Timber Environmental Impact Report that will give Mattole timberland owners the opportunity to use pre-approved light-touch logging practices with lower planning and regulatory costs.
- Pulled thousands of Scotch Broom and other invasive plants from Mattole watershed lands.
- Native Plant Nursery in Petrolia undergoes major expansion with donation of first hoop-house structure.

2008

- Mill Creek Grasslands Project
- Humboldt Redwood Company purchases the assets of the bankrupt Pacific Lumber Company.
- Mattole Estuary Preserve (80 acres) is fully protected.
- 3 headwaters water storage and forbearance tanks installed totaling 150,000 gallons of capacity.
- GRCC erosion control implementations in the Eubanks, Bear, and Blue2Grind project areas.
- Buck, Wolf, and Thompson Creek fish passage barrier removals.
- MRC consulting foresters BBW Associates made use of a sediment model to estimate sediment contribution to be expected from PTEIR-style harvests.
- MRC worked with a geology consultant to develop a checklist for foresters to use in assessing potential unstable areas and determining whether PTEIR prescriptions could be used there without a geologist's site-specific analysis.
- Work began on a Mattole-specific Coho recovery strategy document.
- Launched a turbidity sampling effort at 11 sites in the Petrolia and Honeydew areas. Study design is aided by scientist Randy Klein.
- 10 large water storage tanks installed for Fire Protection (MRC & local volunteer fire departments).
- The first occurrence of Malta Star Thistle is identified in the Mattole watershed. The small population is quickly eradicated by MRC
- East Mill Creek Dam removal.
- Tributary watersheds were surveyed to assess creeks for vegetation conversion and release sites including reaches of Blue Slide, Little Grindstone, Grindstone, Bear, Honeydew, Fire, East Mill, Cook Gulch, Granny, South Fork Bear and Honeydew creeks.
- MRC begins monitoring eastern basin watercourses for *P. ramorum* spores, the pathogen that causes Sudden Oak Death.

2009

- Sanctuary Forest completes maintenance and riparian cleanup for headwaters erosion control project that it had initially completed in 2007.
- 4 headwaters water storage and forbearance tanks installed totaling 200,000 gallons of capacity.
- Telegraph Ridge Shaded Fuel Break phase II is completed, including road-side invasive broom eradication.
- 30 acre shaded fuel break is developed between Mill Creek Forest and Lighthouse road in the lower Mattole valley.
- Planted approximately 2,000 redwood trees near the headwaters, on sites identified by Sanctuary Forest.
- Another 1,450 trees were planted on GRCC sites — decommissioned roads, culvert upgrades, stream banks, and slides in the Mattole Canyon, Blue Slide, and McKee Creek drainages, and along the mainstem. (MRC)
- Additional 19,300 Douglas-fir trees and other natives planted in prioritized riparian areas.

- Riparian thinning projects covering approximately 1.3 acres along South Fork Bear Creek and East Fork Honeydew Creek, where overly dense stands of young fir were thinned along streams to accelerate the growth of the remaining stand.
- A volunteer event to remove half an acre of French broom and plant 100 black cottonwoods, bay laurel, California buckeye, and Douglas-fir on the mainstem Mattole near the Lindley bridge (upstream of Shenanigan Ridge). The event was organized by Americorps members Lindsey Baris and Dave Bloch. Over 20 volunteers came out for the event, including a visiting high school class from the Bay Area.
- Additional greenhouse is established at the Petrolia Native Plant Nursery. Tens of thousands of native grasses, shrubs and trees are now grown here annually for use in Mattole watershed restoration projects
- Continued turbidity sampling at 11 sites in the Petrolia and Honeydew areas. Complete analysis of prior year's data to determine the form of the program for the next year.
- Stansbury Creek Apex Jam structure.
- Stansbury Creek LWD structure installed.
- The *Mattole Integrated Coastal Watershed Management Plan: Foresight 2020* is completed.
- Nick's Interns program wins BLM's national Making a Difference award.
- GRCC inventories erosion control projects in the Upper North Fork. Excellent landowner cooperation leads to identification of projects that could stabilize over 600,000 cubic yards of sediment.
- Lower Mattole Fire Plan update process begins.
- GRCC helps the community revamp the Dootyville Bridge over Mattole Canyon Creek. The old bridge was made of toxic creosote abutments and was crumbling from age. It had become an erosion and safety hazard.
- GRCC engages in many erosion control projects in the Bear Creek and Blue2Grind Project areas.
- Large stand of Purple Needlegrass—previously unknown in our area—is discovered in the King Range.
- Willow Fence constructed in Little Grindstone Creek.
- Native grasses planted on Paradise and Prosper ridges.
- In collaboration with Mattole Salmon Group, GRCC implements major bank stabilization project in the lower Mattole River. First detection of *P. ramorum* (the pathogen causing Sudden Oak Death) in the Mattole watershed. It was discovered using the leaf-trap method in Blue Slide Creek in the eastern Mattole basin.

2010

- GRCC erosion control work in the Petrolia and Ettersburg areas:
 - Crossing upgrades at 100 sites including:
 - 68 culvert replacements
 - 7 armored fords installed
 - 25 sites with rock armoring place around culvert outlet
 - 5.5 miles of road reshaped with crowning, rolling dips, outsloping, and surface gravel
 - 19 streambank erosion/landslide sites treated
 - 1870' of streambank stabilized
 - 45,000 cubic yards of sediment stabilized
- Planted 12,000 Douglas fir, 600 willows, 400 alder, 800 coyote brush and 1,450 bunchgrass plugs to help restore riparian habitat in East Mill, Bear, Blue Slide and Mattole Canyon creeks, Cook Gulch, and the mainstem Mattole.
- Installed more than 400 feet of willow fence.
- Planted 350 black cottonwood cuttings next to structures built in the lower river by the Mattole Salmon Group.

- Raised 40,000 seedlings, grass plugs, and shrubs from native seed at our nursery for native grassland and riparian enhancement projects.
- Continued working to eradicate invasives species in the Mattole, and saw another patch of Japanese knotweed disappear after treatment.
- Introduced the tansy flea beetle on Prosper Ridge, a biological control for the invasive tansy ragwort.
- Working in partnership with University of California Cooperative Extension, detected the microbe that causes Sudden Oak Death on trees in the Blue Slide Creek watershed.
- Identified more than 40 new collection sites for native grasses – remnant strongholds of the species that once carpeted the prairies of the Mattole.
- Continued to advocate for old-growth protection on Humboldt Redwood Company lands in the Lower North Fork, and for protective measures for riparian areas and unstable terrain on HRC's ownership.
- Began work on the Chemise Mountain Road shaded fuel break, reducing fire hazard along about 3/4 of a mile of the road dividing the Mattole from the Whale Gulch drainage.
- Conducted 33 assessments at landowners' invitation of how to make their forests and homesteads more fire-safe, and partnered with the County of Humboldt to garner additional cost-share funding for them to complete this work (this also helped extend this program from the Mattole, where the MRC pioneered this approach, to four other areas throughout the county).
- Submitted to CalFire a Program Timberland Environmental Impact Report (PTEIR) that will make it more feasible for timber-harvesting landowners in the Mattole to choose light-touch forest management.
- Mattole Ecological Education Program (MEEP) completes its 13th year.
 - was involved with 74 classes and 35 field trips, and worked with between 150-175 students, and 12-15 teachers
 - got students involved in: numerous water quality monitoring opportunities; photo points; removal of bioinvasives like tansy ragwort and scotch broom at multiple sites; planting over 200 native trees; planting hundreds of native seeds; planting over one hundred native grass plugs to revegetate a burn zone above the watershed; willow mat construction; sustainable trail building; fuels reduction; helping set up a low-water useage model community garden in the Whitethorn area, and more.
- Nick's Interns completes its seventh year.
 - employed a total of 20 interns this last season which included 15 in the summer sessions, one leader in training, one assistant in the after school program, and 3 in a volunteer work experience trail maintenance crew of former interns.
- 4 headwaters water storage and forbearance tanks installed totaling 200,000 gallons of additional capacity.
- Continued turbidity sampling at 11 sites in the Petrolia and Honeydew areas. Completed analysis of two years of data to determine the form of the program for the next year.
- Estuary LWD structures #5 and 6 installed.
- 4 apex jam structures installed in upper estuary.
- 17 LWD structures installed in the upper Mattole River, Thompson Creek, and Upper Mill Creek.
- MRC acquires AutoCAD software, and begins creating engineered design plans for restoration projects.

2011

- Finished erosion control projects in the Petrolia Area. These include significant work on the Sweet Ranch as well as projects in the Lower Bear Creek drainage and the north bank of the estuary.
- Mattole Coho Recovery Strategy completed by MRC, MSG & SFI.
- GRCC completed the Honeydew Creek Sediment Assessment.
- Complete erosion control implementation projects in the Upper North Fork including work on the Schmidt/Etter ranch and Toews property/access road. This work includes massive landslide stabilization efforts, resulting in the most sediment ever stabilized in a single field season in the Mattole. Notably, for the first time, MRC completed all of the permitting and CEQA clearance in-house for these projects.
- MRC prepared design plans for three upriver fish passage sites (Buck, Baker, and South Fork Bear Creeks).
- Collected 100 lbs. of native seed for propagation in MRC's native plant nursery.
- Continued riparian assessments on Indian, Saunders, Squaw, and hopefully the Lower North Fork.
- Constructed 700 ft. of willow fence in Granny Creek.
- Planted 1000 large cottonwood cuttings on bank stabilization and bar apex jam sites in the estuary.
- Planted 32,000 native plants in the Upper North Fork, Granny Creek, and other sites along the mainstem, mostly at GRCC erosion control project sites.
- Grew over 20,000 riparian plants at the Native Plant Nursery.
- Collected 20 lbs. of native grass seed.
- Planted 30,000 plants on Prosper and Paradise Ridges.
- Grew 30,000 grassland plants at the Native Plant Nursery.
- Continued eradication efforts of Japanese knotweed in lower river.
- Pursued control and eradication efforts for many other invasives, such as Scotch & French Broom, Tansy Ragwort, Cape Ivy, Maltese star-thistle.
- Continued and expanded monitoring for the Sudden Oak Death Pathogen.
- Finished the Chemise Mountain Road shaded fuel break.
- Completed FLASH assessments on 50 properties, and assist landowners in implementing fuels reduction on 170 acres.
- Assisted the Lower Mattole Fire Safe Council in updating the Lower Mattole Fire Plan and in achieving Firewise Community designation for Petrolia and Honeydew.
- Completed the Programmatic Timber Environmental Impact Report (PTEIR) all the way through full agency adoption.
- Worked with landowners and foresters to develop the first 4 PTHPs, and conducted workshops to train foresters and agency staff in permitting under the PTEIR.
- Participated in the development of Humboldt Redwood Company's harvest prescriptions and mitigations through the Watershed Analysis process.

- Planted mesic and xeric tree species native to the Mattole but not currently present in the estuary on south-facing slopes of the estuary and its environs, to test whether it may be possible to establish “beach-heads” of species better adapted to future climate.
- Acquired first LiDAR data covering some Mattole lands.
- Continued turbidity sampling at 11 sites in the Petrolia and Honeydew areas. Completed analysis of three years of data.
- Repeated previous in-channel measurements of channel characteristics and instream sediment at selected sites, including Panther Creek, Mattole Canyon Creek, Van Arken Creek, and others to be determined based on likelihood of observing change.
- Launched coordinated county-wide curriculum project, of which MEEP is one of the primary partners. The other partners are BLM, LCIA, Honeydew , Whale Gulch, Redway, and Casterlan schools.
- 2 headwaters water storage and forbearance tanks installed totaling 100,000 gallons of capacity. This brings the total capacity installed through 2011 to 750,000 gallons.
- Estuary LWD Structure #7 installed.
- Three additional apex jam structures installed in the upper estuary.