



The community's voice for the protection, restoration, responsible development, and celebration of the Napa River and its watershed through education and advocacy.

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December 6, 2022

Steve Lederer, Director

Napa County Public Works Department

1195 Third St, Room 101

Napa, CA 94559

Re: Fish Barrier Removal; Grant Application

Via Email

Dear Mr. Lederer,

We at Friends of the Napa River (FONR) wish to express our support for Napa County's grant application to remediate an anthropogenic barrier to fish passage on Campbell Creek by replacing the Dry Creek Road culvert with a bottomless arch design. Fish migration barriers have been a major driver of fish decline in the Napa River watershed, and this particular barrier is a high-priority candidate for remediation.

Over the past several decades, FONR has supported the remediation of fish barriers in the Napa River watershed. The watershed is fortunate to still have native anadromous fishes, specifically Pacific and River Lamprey, steelhead trout, and Chinook salmon. Historically, the Napa Valley had a spawning salmonid population in the range of 6,000 fish reported 80 years ago. Recent fish trap surveys report double-digit numbers. While many factors contribute to declines in salmonid populations, stream obstructions are the most reasonably subject to immediate improvement.

We are grateful for the work of your department and other organizations and individuals who are endeavoring to remove these barriers to fish passage and spawning.

Sincerely,

Francie Winnen

Francie Winnen, President

*A "living" Napa River
conveys equilibrium
and harmony with all
that it touches and
resonates through
the human and
natural environment*