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# Bank Swallow Summary Report

## 2023

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**February 1, 2024**



Cover photo: Potential bank swallow habitat along the lower Eel River (photo credit: HRC Forest Sciences).

## **Project Description**

**Title:** Bank Swallow Surveys for Class I Water Crossings

**Purpose:** Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) monitoring

**Date Initiated:** March 1999

**Projected End Date:** Ongoing

**Manager:** Sal Chinnici, Director, Forest Sciences

### **Executive Summary:**

The HRC HCP Section 6.7 (PALCO 1999), Bank Swallow Conservation Plan, requires that surveys be conducted where new road construction crossing low gradient Class I waters is planned and potential bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*) habitat exists within 200 feet. HCP objectives are twofold:

1. Avoid impacts to bank swallow nesting colonies on streambanks and hillsides.
2. Prevent nest colony establishment in stock-piled sand associated with instream mining operations.

During the bank swallow breeding period (May – June) in 2023 there were no low gradient Class I watercourse crossings with potential bank swallow habitat within 200 feet of the crossing, therefore no surveys were conducted.

In addition, both before and during the bank swallow breeding period in 2023 there were mounds of stockpiled sand and gravel from gravel extraction operations stored off-channel in south Scotia adjacent to the South Truck Shop. No gravel operations occurred during the breeding period near the stockpiles.

No change in monitoring strategies or intensity is recommended at this time.

**Project Manager / Primary Author**



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**Sal Chinnici**