



Volunteer Job Title: River First Responder
Department: River Monitoring
Contact: Karl Ronning / karl@syrccl.org / (530) 265-5961 x 213
Revision Date: 11/24/2014

Position Overview

SYRCL's new River Monitoring Plan defines a new role for volunteer Citizen Scientists, as River First Responders. River First Responders will assist SYRCL's River Monitoring Coordinator with storm event sampling, high flow fish sampling, and become on-call monthly monitors.

Storm Event Monitor

- **What:** Turbidity and Mercury sampling during storm events, discharge measurements and stream gage download and maintenance during the wet, winter months
- **Where:** Spring Creek, Shady Creek, Scotchman Creek
- **When:** During rain events, weekdays; 4-8 hour shifts.
- **Training Required:** Mercury sampling training will be provided and ability to hike in steep and slippery river canyons.

High Flow Fish Monitor

- **What:** Record presence or absence and counts of fish in high flow channels.
- **Where:** French Bar, Rice's Crossing.
- **When:** November-May during high flow events; 2-4 hour shifts.
- **Training Required:** Simple fish monitoring training will be provided.

On-call River Monitors

- **What:** Any and all sampling required for individual sites, trained river monitors collect data on physical parameters such as water temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, turbidity, and conductivity
- **Where:** Yuba watershed wide.
- **When:** Be on call for monthly monitoring every second Saturday from March-November when regular River Monitors are unavailable; 2-4 hour shifts.
- **Training Required:** Attend River Monitoring training in April 2015. Vehicle required.

How it Works!

If you indicate an interest in becoming a River First Responder to SYRCL, please email karl@syrcl.org with the following information:

Name:

Email:

Phone Number:

Availability (weekends or weekdays):

Which positions are you most interested in volunteering for? (Storm Event Monitor, High Flow Fish Monitor, On-call River Monitor):

Once you are on our email list, we will schedule trainings and Karl will contact you with proposed times for sampling. Storm Event Monitors and High Flow Fish Monitors should expect that sampling will be scheduled on a week to week or even day to day basis. On-call River Monitors will be assigned weekends throughout the year when they know they can fill in for unavailable River Monitors. Responders need to be flexible and ready to leave when a storm peaks or when our team calls you with a need!

Preferred Skills/Abilities

- Organized and detail oriented, especially when assembling materials and equipment for field work.
- Experience in biological fieldwork and willingness to work outdoors. Some positions may require strenuous physical activity under diverse weather conditions, such as hiking with equipment, working up to 8 hours
- Comfortable in water and river environments.
- Experience with or interest in learning flow monitoring and understanding discharge relationships.
- Personal vehicle available for assignments (4WD preferred).