

Up Your Creek!

The electronic newsletter of the Alameda Creek Alliance

Volunteers Clean Trout Habitat Along Stonybrook Creek

Thanks to the 15 volunteers who came out on May 31 to clean trash out of Stonybrook Creek. The culvert at our adopted site will be modified in August to allow fish passage through the culvert, and we succeeded in cleaning it up before construction crews come in. We also ensured that the trash in the channel can't move downstream into the pools that are key summer refuges for fish.

The culvert at our adopted site has become popular among graffiti taggers, who leave behind a mess of empty paint cans, beverage containers, and food wrappers. When all was said and done, we removed 11 large bags of trash, a rusting motorcycle frame, 5 street signs, 8 tires, and a small pile of wood and cardboard debris.



May Butterfly Walk in Sunol

We had a wonderful day observing and learning about butterflies with Liam O'Brien in Sunol Regional Wilderness on May 24th. The conditions for butterfly viewing were great and the butterflies didn't disappoint! The sixteen species we observed are listed below (with links to Liam's website with available pictures), and have been added to our [iNaturalist project](#) for future reference.

Thanks again to Liam for a great day, and to everyone who came out to enjoy it with us!

List of species from Sunol Butterfly Walk, May 24, 2014:

[California Sister](#) (*Adelphia bredowii*)
[Orange Sulphur](#) (*Colias eurytheme*)
[Variable Checkerspot](#) (*Euphydryas chalcedona*)
[Cabbage White](#) (*Pieris rapae*)
[Large Marble](#) (*Euchloe ausonides*)
[Mylitta Crescent](#) (*Phycoides mylitta*)
[Acmon Blue](#) (*Plebejus acmon*)
[Common Buckeye](#) (*Junonia coenia*)
[California Ringlet](#) (*Coeronympha tullia californica*)
[Western Tiger Swallowtail](#) (*Papilio rutulus*)
[Umber Skipper](#) (*Poanes melane*)
Coronis Fritillary (*Speyeria coronis*)
Dusky Wing (*Erynnis* sp.)
Sylvan Hairstreak (*Satyrion sylvinus*)
[Grey Hairstreak](#) (*Strymon melinus*)
[Echo Blue](#) (*Celastrina echo*)



Dublin Approves Urban Growth Boundary

The City of Dublin has adopted an urban limit line, which will protect vital open space in Alameda County—such as Doolan Canyon—from sprawl development.

At the June 3 Dublin City Council meeting, the urban limit line initiative—which designates where the city can and cannot grow—was unanimously approved by a count of 5-0. There was a huge outpouring of support for the initiative from Dublin residents and local environmental leaders. This win is the culmination of their hard work with support from the Sierra Club, Save Mount Diablo, Greenbelt Alliance, Tri-Valley Conservancy, Friends of the Vineyards, Ohlone Audubon Society, Alameda Creek Alliance, California Native Plant Society East Bay Chapter, and Center for Biological Diversity.

The Dublin City Council also unanimously opposed a deceptive initiative backed by sprawl developers that would have opened the floodgates for development in Doolan Canyon. If this initiative appears on the November ballot, conservation groups will be ready to oppose it.

[**Dublin Adopts Citizens' Initiative to Create Urban Limit Line on East Side of Town**](#)

San Jose Mercury News – June 4, 2014

[**Two Huge Wins for Open Space in the Bay Area**](#)

Greenbelt Alliance – June 4, 2014

[**Dublin City Council Unanimously Adopts Dublin Open Space Initiative!**](#)

California Native Plant Society – June 6, 2014

[**Follow the Council's Lead**](#)

Livermore Independent editorial – June 13, 2014

Trout In the Classroom

Please read our May 2014 article about our successful Trout in the Classroom program:

[**"Developing Creek Stewards"**](#)

Take Action to Stop the Delta Tunnels

Action alert from EPIC:

[Take action now to stop the Bay Delta Conservation Plan.](#) The \$67 billion infrastructure project proposes to construct two massive tunnels that would funnel water from Northern to Southern California. The Plan is characterized as a comprehensive conservation strategy aimed at protecting dozens of species of fish and wildlife, but in reality the 40,000 page document fails to disclose major irreversible impacts to fish, rivers and the economic stability of the state of California. River systems throughout California have been experiencing extreme drought conditions, and historic water rights have not been honored due to the lack of water in our rivers and reservoirs. Building two giant tunnels to transport water from the San Joaquin Delta is not going to carry out either of the Plan's two main goals: to reliably transport more water to San Joaquin farms and Southern California cities, or to restore the fisheries and ecology of the delta.

The Draft Environmental Impact Report/Statement (DEIR/S) uses models based on over-allocated water rights to analyze the Plan's environmental impacts, which would result in severe environmental consequences. Building more irrigation infrastructure, as the Plan proposes, is not going to fix drought problems in California. Instead, these projects will exacerbate drought conditions, resulting in greater impacts to endangered fish by reducing flows to impaired watersheds, draining estuaries that are essential to healthy river ecosystems, and allowing the continued operation of pumps that will kill fish that are protected under the Endangered Species Act. The "conservation plan" should instead reduce exports that take water out of rivers, prioritize delta recovery, and improve water conservation measures.

Help us stop this damaging project before irreversible harm is done to our rivers, fish and the state's economic stability. **[Please click here to submit your public comment.](#)**

Regional Salmon News

[**Norcal Lawmakers Call for Opening Up Secret Drought Bill Negotiations**](#)

YubaNet – June 25, 2014

[**Drought Helps Coho Salmon Set Migration Record**](#)

San Francisco Chronicle – June 24, 2014

[**Slowing the Flow**](#)

Chico Enterprise-Record – June 19, 2014

[**20,000 Salmon Into the Sea**](#)

Think Blue Marin – June 18, 2014

[**Suit Seeks Documents on Stream Ordinance from County of Marin**](#)

Indy Media – June 18, 2014

[**SPAWN Gives 'Science' a Bad Name**](#)

Marin Independent-Journal opinion piece – June 17, 2014

Note: this hit-piece is by the San Geronimo Valley "Stewards", a phony environmental group started by developers and real estate interests to oppose salmon restoration in Marin County. The Stewards spend much of their efforts bashing conservationists who are trying to protect and recover salmon.

[**SPAWN Proposes Buying Homes in San Geronimo Valley to Protect Coho**](#)

Marin Independent-Journal – June 17, 2014

[**Latest Federal Plan for Columbia Salmon Challenged**](#)

Associated Press – June 17, 2014

[**Water Quality Violations Reported At Caltrans Project Near Willits**](#)

Channel 7 - June 11, 2014

[**Congress Considers Largest Dam Removal in U.S. History**](#)

High Country News – June 4, 2014

[**Obama Administration Agrees to Stronger Protections for Salmon from Pesticides**](#)

EarthJustice press release – June 4, 2014

[**Santa Clara Water District Cuts Reservoir Releases to Local Creeks and Ponds**](#)

Bay Nature Magazine – June 2, 2014

[**Saving West Marin's Coho Salmon by Restoring Habitat and Buying Homes**](#)

Marin Independent-Journal – June 2, 2014

[**Steelhead Return to Malibu Lagoon**](#)

KCET – May 28, 2014

[**Butte Creek Chinook Salmon Will Get A Blast of Cold Water This Summer**](#)

Chico Enterprise-Record – May 27, 2014

[**More Salmon Get Truck Rides Due To Drought**](#)

Sacramento Bee – May 27, 2014

[**Dam Removed on Branciforte Creek**](#)

Santa Cruz Resource Conservation District video – May 22, 2014

The Alameda Creek Alliance is a non-profit community watershed protection group. Please support our efforts by becoming a member.