Up Your Creek!

The electronic newsletter of the Alameda Creek Alliance

Alameda Creek Alliance 20 Year Anniversary Dinner - October 8



Tickets are still available for our upcoming dinner. Help the Alameda Creek Alliance celebrate two decades of working to protect and restore Alameda Creek. Join us on Sunday, October 8, from 5:30-8:30 pm, for dinner, wine, speakers and live music at the scenic **Chouinard Winery** in Palomares Canyon.

Dinner by **Catering by Gilda**. Renowned **Chouinard wines** will be for sale by the glass or bottle. Live music by Niles troubadour **Michael McNevin**.

There will be a presentation by Brenda Buxton of the California Coastal Conservancy on the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project and upcoming plans to connect lower Alameda Creek to restored tidal marshes to help grow steelhead trout in our watershed. Alameda Creek Alliance Director Jeff Miller will provide a reflection on what we have accomplished in two decades of working to restore Alameda Creek.

Tickets for the dinner are \$50 per person. You can safely and securely buy tickets through PayPal here (be sure to pick your desired number of tickets). Or mail a check to the ACA at PO Box 2626, Niles, CA 94536.

The latest word is that Palomares Road will be reopened by September 23, so there should be no issue getting to the winery from Niles Canyon.

Second Niles Canyon Stroll & Roll – September 30



The second Niles Canyon Stroll & Roll will be on Saturday, September 30. The one-day event was initiated in 2015 by Alameda County Supervisors Richard Valle and Scott Haggerty in an effort to promote an initiative to create a class 1 trail through the Niles Canyon.

The Stroll & Roll is an opportunity to walk and bike through Niles Canyon without any vehicular traffic. From 7 am to 8 am the road will be closed to all vehicles and open only to cyclists. From 8 am to 2 pm the road will be open to all pedestrians and bicyclists to "stroll and roll" through. There will be 2 rest stops within the canyon that will have portable restrooms, water, and chairs.

Road closure points:

Fremont Side: Road will be closed from Mission Blvd. and Niles Canyon Road Sunol Side: Road will be closed from Main Street and Niles Canyon Road

Maps, parking and more information at https://www.84strollroll.com/

SF Will Revisit Alameda Creek Recapture Project Impacts on Steelhead

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors last week upheld an appeal of the environmental review for the SFPUC's Alameda Creek Recapture Project. The Supervisors unanimously voted to reopen the Environmental Impact Report to address operational impacts of the project on streamflow and steelhead trout. The Supervisors directed the SFPUC and the SF Planning Commission to work with state and federal fish agencies and watershed stakeholders on additional analysis of the relationship between ground water and surface water in the Sunol Valley, to determine whether the recapture project has impacts on stream flows in Alameda Creek downstream of the project which could impede steelhead migration. The evaluation will also be peer reviewed by independent scientists.

Caltrans Work In Niles Canyon

Caltrans has begun exploratory geotechnical drilling this month near the Alameda Creek Bridge in the middle of Niles Canyon. Caltrans is doing some tree trimming to access several locations in and around Alameda Creek for the drills. Caltrans has identified 21 individual trees (13 coast live oak, 5 western sycamores, 2 red willows, and 1 CA buckeye) that have the potential to be pruned to allow for access to the drilling locations. The drill rig will require some areas of temporarily ground disturbance where vegetation will be covered in heavy fabric and covered with temporary road-base gravel. The base fabric ensures efficient and thorough removal of the gravel when work is completed. All work off pavement will cease prior to November 30, and all work near the creek will cease prior to October 15. Those dates are specified by the environmental compliance permits for the drilling.

Caltrans also has an emergency project to install rock capture/deflection fence material on the upslope hill along Niles Canyon, about a mile or so to the west of the bridge. That is a separate project that is already underway.

Alameda Creek in the News

Impacts of ACEforward Project Raise Concerns

Livermore Independent – August 24, 2017

Regional Salmon Restoration News

Biologists Watch Steelhead Return After Historic Dam Removal

KQED - September 7, 2017

The Dance of Restoration

Pacific Sun - August 31, 2017

Coalition Forms to Protect California's Threatened Salmon Runs

San Francisco Chronicle - August 29, 2017

West Marin Creek Project Aims to Help Endangered Fish

Marin Independent-Journal - August 28, 2017

Karuk Tribe Seeks to List Klamath River Salmon as Endangered

Eureka Times-Standard - August 17, 2017

New Genetic Evidence Could Have Major Implications in the Fight to Save Spring-Run Chinook

Sacramento Bee - August 16, 2017

One of the Largest Dam Removals in California History Inches Forward

News Deeply - August 7, 2017

Let The Lawsuits Begin: Delta Tunnels Get Official State Green Light

Sacramento Bee - July 21, 2017

Here Come the Delta Tunnels: Trump Team Hands the Ball Off to Brown Team

Red, Green and Blue - July 21, 2017

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