

October 6, 2006

If you already received this membership request in the mail, please ignore this e-mail, or better yet, pass it on to friends, family and colleagues that may be interested in supporting the Alameda Creek Alliance. THANK YOU to all our new and renewing members.

If you did not receive this appeal in the mail, you are not on our mailing list or we have an incorrect address for you. Please send me your updated address.

It's that time of year, when the Alameda Creek Alliance asks you to support your local creek group by becoming a member or renewing your membership.

You can go to <http://www.alamedacreek.org/Join%20-%20Volunteer/Join%20-%20Volunteer.htm> to download a membership form.

Your support allows us to remain an effective voice for creek restoration and protection of native species and their habitats in the Alameda Creek watershed.

It's been a whirlwind year for Alameda Creek restoration, with several major restoration projects moving forward, the launch of the Calaveras Dam replacement project, and expansion of the Alameda Creek Alliance staff.

Visit www.alamedacreek.org for more info about Alameda Creek restoration.

Our latest efforts and successes:

- ***Removal of Sunol and Niles Dams*** - *The SFPUC removed Niles Dam from Alameda Creek in August and Sunol Dam was removed from Niles Canyon by mid-September. These are the largest dams we know of ever removed in the Bay Area for anadromous fish restoration.*
- ***Arroyo de la Laguna Restoration*** – *Zone 7 Water Agency and 5 other public agencies began work this month on a major erosion control and restoration project in lower Arroyo de la Laguna between Pleasanton and Sunol. The bioengineering project will improve habitat for steelhead trout by reducing stream-bank erosion, controlling sediment, creating pool habitat, and restoring riparian vegetation.*
- ***Steelhead Stream Flow Studies*** – *At least 16 agencies have agreed to fund and conduct a program of cooperative peer-reviewed stream flow studies to determine the range, timing, duration, frequency, and location of the water flows needed to restore a steelhead fishery in the Alameda Creek watershed.*
- ***SFPUC Stewardship Policy*** – *In June the SFPUC adopted a stewardship policy for management of SFPUC-owned lands and natural resources affected by operation of their water system. This should influence the mitigations and operation of the new Calaveras Reservoir and provide guidance for protecting and restoring native fish in reaches of Alameda Creek managed by the SFPUC.*
- ***Arroyos Stream Management Plan*** – *Zone 7 Water Agency released a stream management plan for the creeks, arroyos and flood control channels of the Livermore-Amador Valley. It includes restoration projects which will remove or modify over 10 small fish passage barriers in the Arroyos to accommodate future steelhead runs. Other projects will restore more natural stream habitat and construct regional trails along the Arroyos, including a link along Alameda Creek from Arroyo de la Laguna downstream into Niles Canyon to Stonybrook Creek.*

- **Kottinger Creek Restoration** – The ACA teamed up with a new local creek group in Pleasanton, Friends of Kottinger Creek, to promote restoration of this tributary to Arroyo Valle. In March the Pleasanton City Council unanimously approved the \$1 million Kottinger Creek Restoration Project.
- **Sunol Compost Facility** – The ACA helped Sunol activists derail the proposed siting of a compost facility on an inappropriate location on SFPUC watershed land in the Sunol Valley.

Other milestones:

- **New Staff** - The ACA hired two new part-time staff members this summer, a Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator, and a Conservation Director.
- **Media Coverage** – Over 35 articles about Alameda Creek restoration have been published in Bay Area newspapers in the past year.
- **Landowner Outreach** – The ACA has begun outreach to landowners along the tributaries Stonybrook Creek in Niles Canyon and Sinbad Creek in Sunol. The ACA will identify and work with landowners willing to implement small-scale volunteer restoration projects along these creeks.
- **Fish Rescue** – Steelhead spawning run attempts were documented on 7 occasions and 6 adult steelhead were rescued this past winter in the lower creek.