

December 14, 2006

Chinook Salmon in Lower Alameda Creek

A 20 pound dying chinook salmon was found stranded on the cement apron below the BART weir in lower Alameda Creek yesterday, December 13th. One of our StreamKeeper volunteers took photos of the fish, and then moved it off the apron into deeper water - the fish appears to have survived. This fish is likely one of the half-dozen chinook observed on 11/15 under the DeCoto Road bridge and again on 11/23 below the BART weir.

Photos of the salmon are posted on the [ACA web site](#).

If you live near the lower creek, please monitor the BART weir and the area below the weir in the next couple weeks for these salmon, and photograph and document anything you see. We are particularly interested in getting a fin clip if any dead salmon are found, so we can determine if these chinook are wild or from a hatchery.

2007 Fish Rescue in Alameda Creek

State and federal regulatory agencies will not give us a permit to legally move chinook salmon upstream past the BART weir into potential spawning habitat, because of the possibility they are hatchery raised fish and due to questions whether chinook salmon historically occurred in Alameda Creek (they did). Needless to say, we disagree with this reasoning and decision, but we are not going to battle over this issue - the construction of a fish ladder at the BART weir would allow these fish to move upstream on their own and spawn.

We are working on getting a permit for fish rescue of adult steelhead trout at the BART weir this winter. The ACA, East Bay Regional Park District and Alameda County Flood Control District are preparing a proposal for rescuing steelhead, moving them upstream, and monitoring moved fish. If you would like to volunteer to help rescue steelhead at the BART weir this winter, you must be named on the permit – if you were not on last year's permit, send me your name, address, phone number and Driver's License number for the permit by December 21st.

Steelhead trout typically have been seen in lower Alameda Creek December through March. See our web page on [What to Do if You Spot Fish in the Creek](#).

Alameda Creek in the News

Check out the [December 14th article](#) in the S.F. Chronicle on hiking in Sunol Regional Wilderness.

December 7th article in the Livermore Independent, on the SFPUC's Habitat Conservation Plan for the Alameda Creek Watershed: [SFPUC Hears What People Want In Environmental Plan](#).

Alameda County Water District article in the Autumn issue of The ACWD Aqueduct, on the recent agreement to conduct stream flow and habitat studies for steelhead restoration: [Milestone Agreement Brings Steelhead One Step Closer to a Home in Alameda Creek](#).

Other West Coast Salmon News

Wal-Mart and McDonald's agree to purchase sustainable seafood
[Los Angeles Times article 11-26-06](#)

Report shows \$20 billion savings if Snake River dams removed to restore salmon and steelhead

[Save Our Wild Salmon Report](#)

Blasting crew blows up obsolete Southern California dam to restore steelhead - November 16, 2006

[American Rivers releases video of explosion](#)

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