

December 2, 2005

Salmon Spawning Season

It's the time of year when chinook salmon could try to make their way up lower Alameda Creek. If you live near the creek, watch for fish in the flood control channel after big storms. Today and tomorrow are prime times. Chinook have been spotted in past years below the BART weir and below the lower rubber dam.

Calaveras Dam Project

The Alameda Creek Alliance gave public comment on this damn project to the SFPUC this week, asking the Commission to revise the purpose of the project to include restoration elements. The Commission declined to do so as part of their overall description of the water supply improvement program, but instructed staff to work with us to revise the project to include fish restoration elements. The SFPUC did alter the description of the "Alameda Creek Fishery Enhancement" project, the proposed rubber dam and water recapture facility in the Sunol Valley. The SFPUC will now explore alternatives to the rubber dam as part of the environmental review for the Calaveras Dam Replacement project.

All of this information as well as excellent comments by the California Department of Fish and Game on the project are on our web page at www.alamedacreek.org. Click on "Action Alerts" in the upper right corner, then "Calaveras Dam Replacement."

New Kottinger Creek web site

The Alameda Creek Alliance is pleased to host the new web page for the Friends of Kottinger Creek.

The Friends of Kottinger Creek is a nonprofit group working on restoration and preservation of the City of Pleasanton's creeks and their riparian habitat, particularly Kottinger Creek through Kottinger Community Park in Pleasanton. Kottinger Creek is a tributary of Arroyo Valle, which flows into Arroyo de la Laguna, then into Alameda Creek.

Check out the new web page at www.alamedacreek.org. Click on "Links" on the left side of the page, then "Kottinger Creek."

Alameda County Watershed Forum Meeting December 6

The second Alameda County Watershed Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 6th from 12:30 to 3:00 pm at the Oakland Museum. The forum is a meeting of community creek groups, agencies, and other interested parties throughout Alameda County in order to share information, develop ways to work together on creek projects, identify common interests and goals, do watershed outreach, etc.

The first half hour will be a chance to mingle and socialize, bring your lunch (juice and cookies provided) and anything you want to share. The meeting starts at 1 pm and the agenda will include a summary of first meeting on Sept. 22nd; a presentation on the Oakland Museum creek mapping project and creek and watershed finder website; discussion on forum priorities, needs, and interest; funding opportunities and information sharing; and introduction to City of Oakland Creek programs.

The Oakland Museum is located at 1000 Oak Street (and 10th) in downtown Oakland. It is one block from the Lake Merritt BART station. Directions and map are available at <http://www.museumca.org/visit/map.html>. The museum is closed on Tuesdays, but parking will be available in the museum parking lot (\$2.50 an hour) or at the Kaiser Center on 10th Street. There is also metered street parking. You will need to enter at the 10th Street side. Look for the enter here sign on the left as you go down the stairs; you will need to be buzzed in. If you have any questions or comments, you can contact Dale Hopkins by email at dhopkins@waterboards.ca.gov or by phone at 510-622-2362.