

## Alameda Creek Steelhead Report

An adult steelhead trout was spotted in lower Alameda Creek at the BART weir on February 28<sup>th</sup> and during a subsequent fish rescue that afternoon, a 6¼ pound male steelhead was caught and moved upstream into lower Niles Canyon. Other steelhead and a Pacific lamprey were seen at the weir during the rescue but were not caught.

The captured steelhead, which was named "Simpson", was fitted with a radio transmitter and released in lower Niles Canyon, 1.4 miles downstream of the [USGS gaging station weir](#). On March 1 Simpson the steelhead went upstream over the gaging station weir, during an estimated flow of 70-100 cubic feet per second. This information tells us that the gaging station weir is not a likely barrier to anadromous fish at moderate flows.

Simpson migrated upstream in Niles Canyon to above the confluence with Stonybrook Creek, and then moved back downstream to the flood control channel a few days later. There has been no significant rain since then and flows are now low enough that we are unlikely to get any more steelhead this year unless we have a series of large storms later this month.

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## Implementation of Zone 7 Stream Management Plan

Zone 7 will hold an informational meeting in **Pleasanton in April** (date to be determined) for stakeholder and public input on implementation of their Stream Management Master Plan, which will affect future stream management in the Arroyos of Pleasanton and Livermore.

In 2006 Zone 7 Water Agency adopted a Stream Management Master Plan (SMMP) that fundamentally changes the way flood protection is provided to residents and businesses in the Livermore-Amador Valley. This strategy will replace channelization with diversion and detention of storm water so that it is released in a less turbulent, more systematic, and more environmentally-friendly way after storms pass. In addition to flood protection, this new and innovative strategy provides opportunities to 1) improve water quality, arroyo habitat and water supply through groundwater recharge; 2) increase the connectivity of trails in the Valley; and 3) promote public understanding of the watershed through public education.

Zone 7 is starting work on the development of an implementation plan for the SMMP, which will include an active stakeholder and public participation process. The purpose of the implementation plan is to clearly define projects, identify priorities, identify funding sources and create partnerships. Zone 7 invites you to help create the roadmap to turn the vision of the SMMP into reality and to make it viable and sustainable. Zone 7 expects to complete the implementation plan by March 2008.

Stay tuned for announcement of the April meeting date and time.

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## Environmental Review Underway for South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Report (DEIS/R) for the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project is now available on the project website at <http://www.southbayrestoration.org/EIR/>. Supporting information has also been posted there. The public comment period on the DEIS/R is open until **April 23, 2007**.

The South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project is the largest tidal wetland restoration project on the west coast, and includes projects at or near the mouth of Alameda Creek.

Public hearings will be held on the following dates:

**Wednesday, March 28**, 6-8 p.m.

NASA Research Center, Eagle Room (Room 943), Mountain View, CA

**Thursday, March 29**, 6-8 p.m.

Centennial Hall, Room 1, 22292 Foothill Boulevard, Hayward, CA

Maps and directions to the public hearing locations are available on the project website.

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### **Environmental Review Schedule for SFPUC Water System Projects**

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission will begin environmental review this year for their \$4.3 billion Water System Improvement Program to repair, replace, and seismically upgrade the system's aging pipelines, tunnels, reservoirs, and dams. The draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report is scheduled to be released sometime in April, with public meetings likely in June. The draft Environmental Impact Report for the Calaveras Dam Replacement Project will likely be released later this summer.

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

### **March 17 and April 14: Volunteer for Eden Landing Wetland Restoration**

Volunteer with the Eden Landing Winter Planting Project north of the mouth of Alameda Creek. Join [Save The Bay](#) and the CA Department of Fish and Game to help restore 300 acres of wetlands on the East Bay Shoreline in Hayward/Union City.

Volunteers will help to plant 5,000 native wetland plants at Eden Landing this winter. Other activities include: cleaning up debris, removing non-native plants, gathering native plant cuttings and collecting seeds in preparation for wetland restoration. This site is normally off-limits to the public and access is granted only to volunteers during these selected dates. **Restoration dates are Saturday, March 17 and Saturday April 14, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Click [here](#) for more information.

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### **April 21: Fremont Earth Day**

Fremont Earth Day will be held Saturday, **April 21, from 10 AM to 4PM** at the Teen Center at Central Park in Fremont. Highlights of the event are 1) local songster Michael McNevin, 2) Crafts for kids by East Bay Depot for Creative Use, 3) Witty Madame Ovary and her puppet show, and 4) *THE* passport Game.

The Alameda Creek Alliance will have a display booth at this event. If you would like to volunteer at the ACA booth, please contact Diana Brumbaugh at (510) 794-4252, e-mail [alamedavolunteer@yahoo.com](mailto:alamedavolunteer@yahoo.com).

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### **April 29: Fourth Annual Bay-Friendly Garden Tour**

Visit a wide assortment of Bay-Friendly Gardens on this FREE, self-guided tour, on **Sunday**,

**April 29 from 10 am to 4 pm.** Over 40 public and private gardens will be featured throughout Alameda County, including an entirely new crop of gardens! Several of the garden clusters are walkable and/or bikeable. Click [here](#) for information. The garden at Washington High School in Fremont will be one of the featured gardens on the Bay Friendly Garden Tour.