

March 14, 2006

To the Alameda Creek Alliance e-mail list:

Alameda Creek Steelhead Report

Four more adult steelhead trout migrating up Alameda Creek were rescued below the BART weir on Saturday, March 11th, and moved upstream into Niles Canyon. Two large adult male steelhead were previously moved upstream on March 4th. The fish moved Saturday were from 22 to 27½ inches long, weighed from 3.7 to 8.3 pounds, and included one female and three male trout. Photos from Saturday's rescue will be posted on the Alameda Creek Alliance web site this week.

The Hayward Daily review and Tri-City Voice both ran articles on March 7th about last week's steelhead rescue. These articles will be posted on the ACA web site this week.

Stream Management Plan for Livermore-Pleasanton Creeks

Zone 7 Water Agency has released their Draft Stream Management Master Plan (SMMP) and Draft Master Environmental Impact Report (EIR), to guide management of the 120 miles of creeks, streams, arroyos and flood control channels of the Zone 7 service area in the Livermore-Amador Valley. The SMMP will encompass Zone 7 projects and policies geared towards addressing flood control and channel maintenance issues, water supply, water quality, erosion/sedimentation, habitat enhancement and environmental protection, and recreation issues.

The SMMP includes 10 restoration and enhancement projects which will specifically remove or modify about a dozen fish passage barriers in Arroyo Mocho, Arroyo del Valle and Arroyo de la Laguna to accommodate future steelhead runs.

There are also quite a number of projects that will restore natural stream meander, plant riparian vegetation or replace non-native vegetation with native plants, stabilize stream banks, create low flow channels, create wetlands and other habitat for sensitive species, and install educational kiosks. There are several proposed projects to construct local and regional trails along the Arroyos, including an important trail connection along Alameda Creek from the confluence of Arroyo de la Laguna over 2 miles downstream into Niles Canyon to Stonybrook Creek. Finally, there are a few flood control projects that involve hardening stream banks in already-altered stream reaches in urban areas, due to constraints.

The SMMP is posted on the Zone 7 web site at <http://www.zone7water.com/draft-smmp.html>

There will be an update on the SMMP and the EIR to the Zone 7 Board of Directors tomorrow, **Wednesday, March 15 at 7 pm**, at the Zone 7 offices, 100 North Canyon Parkway in Livermore.

On March 15, Zone 7 will open a 45-day public comment period on the SMMP and EIR.

Zone 7 will hold an SMMP stakeholder workshop on **April 26, 2005** (exact time is TBD) to update stakeholders on the SMMP, EIR and upcoming activities for the SMMP program.

For more information contact Roxanne Stachon, phone (415) 321-3400 or e-mail RStachon@rmcwater.com.