

## **Help Us Secure Stream Flows for Alameda Creek Steelhead Trout**

*The Alameda Creek Alliance has launched a fundraising campaign to allow us to hire expert biologists and attorneys to interact with the Calaveras Dam replacement project.*

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission is currently proposing dam operations and flow schedules for Calaveras Dam we believe are inconsistent with restoring a sustainable run of steelhead below the dam. We are working hard to ensure that the dam replacement project includes operating the new dam to provide favorable steelhead habitat below the dam.

We anticipate a major campaign of education, outreach, lobbying San Francisco politicians and regulatory agencies, providing expert comments, and potential litigation to improve the Calaveras Dam replacement project. We are confident that with your help and support, we can secure suitable water flows for steelhead when Calaveras Dam is rebuilt, as required by state laws and the Endangered Species Act.

Please read our [fundraising appeal for our Calaveras Dam campaign](#) and donate as generously as you can at this critical juncture for our vision of a restored Alameda Creek.

A huge thank you to all the members who have donated so far! You can download an Alameda Creek Alliance membership form [here](#).

## **Alameda Watershed Christmas Bird Count**

The Alameda Creek Alliance and Ohlone Audubon Society are co-sponsoring a new Christmas Bird Count circle in the Alameda Creek Watershed in 2009.

The Christmas Bird Count is an annual nationwide volunteer-based bird survey effort coordinated by the Audubon Society to promote bird conservation and assess long-term trends in winter bird populations.

**The first Alameda Creek Watershed Christmas Bird Count will be held during a 24 hour period on Friday, December 18, 2009.**

The 15 mile radius count circle is in the vicinity of the towns of Sunol, Pleasanton and Livermore, and includes five East Bay Regional Parks, significant SFPUC watershed lands, and exciting East Bay birding hotspots such as lower Mines Road, Sunol Wilderness, Calaveras Reservoir, Lawrence Livermore National Lab, and Springtown Preserve. We expect to find yellow-billed magpies, golden and bald eagles, burrowing owls, peregrine and prairie falcons, and maybe even Lewis' woodpeckers and rufous-crowned sparrows within this count circle.

Birders and volunteers with any level of experience can participate in the Alameda Creek watershed Christmas Bird Count. If you are a more experienced birder, we are seeking area count leaders who can scout birding areas before the count date, plan survey routes for the count day, and cover count areas during the count week (December 15-21) to locate, identify and record rare bird species.

For more information visit our [web page on the Christmas Bird Count](#).

## **UPCOMING EVENTS TO SAVE CENTRAL VALLEY SALMON**

**The "Million Boat Float" from Antioch to Sacramento - August 16-17**

On the day before the California Legislature will hold an informational hearing on a package of water bills that provide a road map to the construction of the peripheral canal, boaters from throughout the Delta will converge on Sacramento in the first-ever Million Boat Float.

The two-day flotilla from August 16-17 is being organized to show that boaters, fishing groups, and their allies are united in the defense of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta against plans by the Governor and Legislators to build the peripheral canal and destroy the largest estuary on the West Coast of the Americas. The proposed canal would approximate the Panama Canal in width and length.

The event will start Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> with a float up the Sacramento River from Antioch, and a riverside rally is planned at the Delta King in Old Sacramento. A press conference featuring Delta advocates is also scheduled on Sunday in Sacramento. The activities will continue Monday with an around the Capitol parade of trailer boats and a rally with legislative and organizational speakers at the State Capitol.

For more information see <http://www.millionboatfloat.org/> and <http://www.calsport.org/8-12-09b.htm>

### **Recent Statewide Salmon News**

[New Report: The Lies of Congressmen Nunes, Cardoza and Corporate Ag Exposed](#)

[A Water Grab Masquerading As Conservation Plan](#)

[Economic Data Supports Efforts to Recover California's Salmon Fisheries](#)  
*CA Central Valley chinook worth \$5.7 billion & 94,000 jobs says new study*

[San Joaquin Valley protesters demand water in Concord](#)  
*Right-wingers and corporate ag amp up water wars, fear-mongering*