

Dam Removal and Fish Screen Projects in Lower Alameda Creek Underway

The Alameda County Water District has begun construction on two fish passage projects in the Alameda Creek Flood Control Channel:

[Rubber Dam 2 Decommissioning and Foundation Modification Project](#)

The ACWD has permanently removed its lowermost rubber dam from the channel. A section of the dam's foundation is being removed and a fish ladder installed to allow for fish passage under low flow conditions. The project will be finished by this fall.

[Bunting Pond Fish Screen](#)

The ACWD is installing a fish screen at the Bunting Pond water diversion to eliminate the potential for entrainment of out-migrating juvenile steelhead at the intake location. This project will also be finished by this fall.

Recent photos of both projects are posted [here](#).

The ACWD and the Alameda County Flood Control District are proceeding with planning for the fish ladder over the BART weir and middle inflatable dam, scheduled for construction next year (2010). The draft environmental review documents are scheduled for release this fall and geotechnical studies in support of design for the fish ladder are currently under way in the flood control channel in the vicinity of the BART Weir.

Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant Expansion

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission is planning a major expansion of the Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant. The [Draft Environmental Impact Report](#) for the proposed Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant Expansion and Treated Water Reservoir Project has been released. The Alameda Creek Alliance comments on the project are posted [here](#).

Anson Moran Appointed to SFPUC Commission

Former General Manager of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Anson Moran has been nominated to fill the 5th seat on the Commission. Despite the Alameda Creek Alliance and Save Our Sunol opposing the nomination, a Board of Supervisors subcommittee in July approved Moran's nomination.

Moran, who was general manager of the SFPUC from 1993-2000, has been no friend of Alameda Creek: during his tenure the SFPUC approved a flawed Alameda Watershed Management Plan, approved a controversial quarry expansion in Sunol north of Highway 680, and actively opposed restoration of steelhead trout to Alameda Creek.

Though SFPUC policy regarding Alameda Creek steelhead restoration has changed, the SFPUC is currently pursuing major infrastructure projects in the watershed without adequate consideration of fisheries issues. Many of the issues of stream management for steelhead will be before the Commission in the near future and Mr. Moran will hold a critical swing vote on the Commission.

Pleasanton Ridge and Shadow Cliffs Land Use Plans Being Developed

The East Bay Regional Park District is developing new Land Use Plans for Pleasanton Ridge and Shadow Cliffs Regional Parks. See <http://www.ebparks.org/planning/lup>

STATEWIDE SALMON NEWS

There has been a flurry of controversy and news this summer over water management and fisheries issues in the Delta and Central Valley: the collapse of Central Valley salmon runs; new restrictions on water diversions to protect smelt, salmon, sturgeon and orcas from extinction; the Governor's attempts to push through a destructive new peripheral canal; and pathetic attempts to frame the issues in the Delta as people vs. fish. Some of the more notable news stories:

[Schwarzenegger Administration Will Begin Drilling for Peripheral Canal](#)

[The Budget-Busting Peripheral Canal and The Three Big Lies](#)

[Butte Creek Spring Salmon Run: The Central Valley Exception](#)

[Tightening the tap: Feds order state to cut water-project flows to Southern California](#)

[Sixty Day Notice of Intent to Sue Officials for Killing Fish Filed](#)

[Slaughter at the Pumps Resumes](#)

[Federal Government Announces Salmon Restoration Actions: Salmon Fishing Industry Hopeful](#)

[NOAA Rules That Water Projects Jeopardize Endangered Species](#)

[National Marine Fisheries Service further restricts water exports from the Delta](#)

[New restrictions placed on Delta water](#)

[Protections expanded beyond smelt](#)

[Federal plan would return salmon to the upper Sacramento River](#)