

# Judge Halts Niles Canyon Road Widening Project

*Court Issues Injunction; Legal Challenge to Caltrans' Inadequate Environmental Review Will Proceed to Trial*

In a victory for environmental protection and transparency in public agency decisions, Alameda Superior Court Judge Frank Roesch today issued a preliminary injunction barring Caltrans from initiating construction on the first phase of the controversial \$80 million highway widening project in Niles Canyon along Alameda Creek. In ruling that the Alameda Creek Alliance may proceed to trial challenging the inadequate environmental review for the Route 84 "Safety Improvement" project, the judge severely lambasted Caltrans' clandestine project approval and obstruction of the public process. The ruling effectively prevents Caltrans from construction activities until February 2012, and could ultimately result in a ruling that an Environmental Impact Report must be prepared for the project.

Read the press release [here](#)

## Help Us Celebrate

**Come to the July 17 Film and Dinner Fundraiser for our Lawsuit to Protect Niles Canyon, in Niles**

Join the Alameda Creek Alliance and Save Niles Canyon for dinner, drinks and a movie at the Silent Film Museum in Niles. The feature film is the acclaimed documentary River of Renewal, which tells the story of conflict over the resources of California and Oregon's Klamath Basin and the struggle to restore the Klamath River salmon runs. Producer Steve Most will attend the screening and answer questions after the film.

All proceeds will benefit the Alameda Creek Alliance's efforts to protect Niles Canyon, to fund the lawsuit challenging the Caltrans highway widening project. Tickets are \$25 – send a check to ACA or also available at the door.

Please RSVP to Rich Cimino ([yellowbilledtours@gmail.com](mailto:yellowbilledtours@gmail.com)) by July 13. More details coming soon.

**Come to the July 30 Alameda Creek Alliance BBQ and Picnic in Sunol**

The Alameda Creek Alliance will hold a picnic and BBQ for our members and supporters on Saturday, July 30 in Sunol Regional Wilderness. A good time to celebrate our initial victory in our court case to protect Niles Canyon.

The BBQ will begin at 11 am at the Alameda Grove picnic area in Sunol Regional Park. Click [here](#) for a park map.

Join us at 8:30 am at the picnic area for a morning bird-watching and wildlife hike along Alameda Creek. There will also be an afternoon tour of Alameda Creek to Little Yosemite with a discussion of planned steelhead restoration projects in the area.

Please RSVP to Rich Cimino ([yellowbilledtours@gmail.com](mailto:yellowbilledtours@gmail.com)) by July 25, and state your food preference (meat or vegetarian).