Niles Canyon Update

Over 200 people showed up for the April 14 hearing with Caltrans arranged by state Senator Ellen Corbett and Assembly member Bob Weickowski to address concerns regarding the Niles Canyon Highway Safety Improvement and Widening Project.

Residents and conservation groups eloquently and passionately disputed Caltrans safety data, decried the severe environmental impacts, and lambasted the agency for refusing to conduct a transparent and thorough environmental review and for not being forthcoming in disseminating information to the public about the project. The public sent a clear message to Caltrans and elected officials to stop the project and prevent more tree cutting and destruction of the creek environment in Niles Canyon.

At the hearing Caltrans agreed to reopen the formal public comment period for phase two of the project for 45 days (stay tuned for comment period date), but refused to put phase one on hold.

On April 26th the Fremont City Council voted to direct the Mayor to send a letter to the Governor objecting to the extreme removal of trees and plants in Niles Canyon and objecting to Caltrans’ blatant disregard to get project input from the public and the City of Fremont about the Niles Canyon Safety project. Fremont is requesting that the Governor intervene to review future phases of the project in an effort to reduce the environmental impacts.

We will keep you updated on legal efforts and upcoming protests to stop this project and prevent further damage to Alameda Creek.

Read the April 21 San Jose Mercury News article
Protesters Say "Hell No" to More Tree Cutting in Fremont
http://www.mercurynews.com/fremont/ci_17902605?nclick_check=1

The Niles Canyon protest makes the New York Times – read the April 16 Times article on the Niles Canyon Railway

Read the Alameda Creek Alliance April 8 editorial in the Fremont Argus
Must Save Niles Canyon From Caltrans Project
http://www.alamedacreek.org/Media_Articles/Argus/Argus%20editorial%204-8-11.pdf

Read the April 6 East Bay Express article
Destroying Alameda Creek
http://www.eastbayexpress.com/ebx/destroying-alameda-creek/Content?oid=2561652

Upcoming Alameda Creek Alliance Events

Creek Alliance Picnic and BBQ in Sunol

The Alameda Creek Alliance will host a membership picnic and hike in Sunol Regional Wilderness this summer. Stay tuned for date and details.

Membership Dinner at Chouinard Winery – September 25

Join us on Sunday, September 25th for the Alameda Creek Alliance annual membership dinner and silent auction at Chouinard Winery, along Palomares Road in Stonybrook Canyon. Details coming soon.
Please contact Rich Cimino (yellowbilledtours@gmail.com) if you have an auction item to donate.

Regional Salmon News

**Congressional, Local Leaders Spotlight Threats to Delta**
Contra Costa Times – April 27, 2011

**More Flooding, Less Salmon Habitat Predicted for West**
McClatchy News – April 25, 2011

**Judge Favors Salmon Protection in Northern California Rivers**
Klamath Riverkeeper press release – April 25, 2011
http://yubanet.com/california/Judge-Favors-Salmon-Protection-In-Northern-California-Rivers.php

**Fishermen and Farmers United for a Healthy Bay-Delta**
SF Gate City Brights Blog – April 25, 2011

**Congressional Leaders to Convene Farms & Salmon Summit**
IndyMedia – April 24, 2011

**Commission Approves Full Central Valley River Salmon Seasons**
IndyMedia – April 21, 2011

**Wolves First, Then Salmon to Lose Protections**
San Francisco Chronicle – April 21, 2011

**Measure Would Exempt Water Projects From Key Law**
Fresno Bee – April 19, 2011

**Anti-Salmon Mood in Congress Worries Fishermen**
UnEARTHED blog – April 13, 2011

**San Joaquin Agribusiness to Receive 75 to 100 Percent Water Allocations**
IndyMedia – April 11, 2011

**San Joaquin Environmental Groups: 'Man-Made Drought' Claims All Wet**
IndyMedia – April 11, 2011

**Water 'Dumped Into the Ocean' – Shocking!**
Sacramento Bee editorial – April 6, 2011
[http://www.sacbee.com/2011/04/06/3530852/water-dumped-into-the-ocean-shocking.html#ixzz1IfW8n5MP](http://www.sacbee.com/2011/04/06/3530852/water-dumped-into-the-ocean-shocking.html#ixzz1IfW8n5MP)

**Delta's Survival More Important Than Fish**
Contra Costa Times – March 30, 2011
http://www.contracostatimes.com/california/ci_17734522
Salmon Season is Welcome News, But Efforts Needed to Rebuild All Runs
AlterNet – March 29, 2011

Costa Bill Aims to Increase Delta Pumping
Bakersfield Californian – March 28, 2011

Costa Proposes Limits On Delta Pumping Cuts
Fresno Bee - March 28, 2011

Feds Predict Large Ocean Abundance of Sacramento Fall Chinook Salmon
YubaNet – March 24, 2011

San Francisco Court Rules Protecting Delta Smelt Not Unconstitutional
Sacramento Bee – March 25, 2011

Appeals Court Upholds Delta Smelt Protections
Los Angeles Times – March 25, 2011

B.C. Salmon Play Hidden Role in Coastal Forest Ecology, Researchers Find
Vancouver Sun – March 24, 2011
http://www.vancouversun.com/technology/salmon+play+hidden+role+coastal+forest+ecology+researchers+find/4498634/story.html

Spring Salmon Get Smoother Ride over N.W. Dams
Public News Service – March 24, 2011
http://www.publicnewsservice.org/index.php/?content/article/19102-1

Spill Announcement for Columbia and Snake Rivers Helps Salmon, Jobs
Save Our Wild Salmon press release – March 22, 2011