Stop Industrial Solar in Eastern Alameda County

We think widespread solar power is a great idea, as long as the infrastructure for renewable energy is sensibly and appropriately sited. However, Alameda County seems to be on a misguided path to allow massive scale industrial solar projects on wildlife habitat and productive farmland in rural Alameda County, without first looking at the potential for urban solar on rooftops or placing panels on existing paved and developed locations.

The Alameda County Planning Department will hold a community meeting tomorrow night in Dublin to discuss proposed amendments to the County General Plan to allow and encourage massive solar developments in the East County.

Unfortunately, the Planning Department seems to be ignoring concerns from conservation and agriculture groups about poorly-sited facilities that cause habitat destruction and loss of farmland, and appears to be headed toward recommending to the Board of Supervisors sacrificing open space for industrial energy facilities rather than encouraging development of rooftop solar.

Please attend the hearing tomorrow night and support our call for a five year moratorium on industrial solar in Alameda County until the proper level of environmental review is done for proposed large-scale solar facilities. The hearing is Tuesday, February 28, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Alameda County Public Works Building, 4825 Gleason Drive, in Dublin.

Read the Alameda Creek Alliance's web page on industrial solar for more information: http://www.alamedacreek.org/Alerts/Solar/Solar.htm

Alameda Creek in the News

Alliance Continues Opposition to Niles Canyon Road Widening
Fremont Bulletin – February 2, 2012
http://www.mercurynews.com/fremont/ci_19879149

Regional Salmon News

California Water Project Won't Be Decided At Poll
San Francisco Chronicle – February 27, 2012
http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2012/02/27/MN6U1NBMVG.DTL

Surprise: New PPIC Report Promotes Peripheral Canal
AlterNet – February 23, 2012
http://blogs.alternet.org/danbacher/2012/02/23/surprise-new-ppic-report-promotes-peripheral-canal/

Water Rights "Hot Potato" and H.R. 1837

Campbell's Timber Practices Threaten Survival of Coho Salmon
EPIC blog – February 21, 2012
http://www.wildcalifornia.org/blog/7406/

Another Record-Breaker: Chinook Salmon Stage a Comeback On the Eel
Willits News – February 17, 2012
http://www.willitsnews.com/ci_19988669#.T0ALtympwY.facebook

Mr. President: Keep Wild Salmon on Our Plates!
California Republicans' Brazen Water Grab
San Francisco Chronicle editorial – February 16, 2012
http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2012/02/16/EDTP1N811L.DTL

Spawner Update: Coho Make a Comeback and Steelhead Follow Suit
MMWD blog – February 14, 2012
http://thinkbluemarin.wordpress.com/2012/02/14/spawner-update-coho-make-a-comeback-and-steelhead-follow-suit/

Repeal $11.14 Billion Water Bond
California Progress Report – February 14, 2012
http://www.californiaprogressreport.com/site/repeal-1114-billion-water-bond

Mokelumne Hatchery Salmon Outnumber Wild Fish
San Francisco Chronicle – February 14, 2012
http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2012/02/14/MNAF1N48DL.DTL

Offspring of Calaveras River Salmon May Be Left High and Dry
Stockton Record – February 13, 2012

Debate: What to Do With Searsville Dam
ABC 7 News – February 9, 2012
Beyond Searsville Dam comments and response to story
http://www.beyondsearsvilledam.org/Beyond_Searsville_Dam/News/Entries/2012/2/10_ABC_7_Special_Report_on_Searsville_Dam.html?utm_source=Beyond+Searsville+Dam&utm_campaign=5913730079-Newsletter_07_17_2011&utm_medium=email

Dammed If We Don’t
Patagonia essay by Yvonne Chouinard

America's Largest Dam Removal Under Way in the Pacific Northwest
Audubon Magazine – Jan-Feb 2012

Wild Salmon Are Not Holding Up, Study Finds
http://green.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/02/09/hatcheries-vs-wild-salmon/

It is Time to Restore Salmon to the San Joaquin River
NRDC blog - February 8, 2012
http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/mschmitt/it_is_time_to_restore_salmon_t.html

New Scientific Report Concludes Anglo American's Pebble Mine Is Too Risky for Bristol Bay, Alaska
Sacramento Bee – February 8, 2012

Oregon Wild Sues to Secure Rogue Water for Coho Salmon


California's Water Myths and Facts
San Francisco Chronicle – February 5, 2012
http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2012/02/05/INFM1N16KJ.DTL&type=green

Celebrated Marin County Salmon Make Their Return
San Francisco Chronicle – February 3, 2012
http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/c/a/2012/02/03/MNLT1N1KQ4.DTL

DFG Releases Adult Coho Salmon into Sonoma County Creek
Department of Fish and Game News – January 30, 2012
http://cdfgnews.wordpress.com/2012/01/30/dfg-releases-adult-coho-salmon-into-sonoma-county-creek/

NOAA to Hold Coho Salmon Recovery Meeting; Encourages Public Input On Draft Plan