

Up Your Creek!

The electronic newsletter of the Alameda Creek Alliance

Steelhead Trout On the Move



Fish biologists with the East Bay Regional Park District tracked seven steelhead trout that were radio tagged and moved upstream from lower Alameda Creek last month. Three of the steelhead went almost a mile up the Stonybrook Creek tributary in Niles Canyon – the lone female steelhead was seen courting in this stream with both male steelhead that were moved, and spawning is suspected. A single male steelhead went up Alameda Creek all the way up Niles Canyon and through the Sunol Valley, to above the Sunol Water Treatment Plant, 22 miles from the Bay! This is the furthest that an adult steelhead trout has been up Alameda Creek in nearly 50 years. At this point, all of the tagged fish are presumed to have gone back out to the Bay.

Read the newspaper articles on the trout tagging:

[**Catch and Release: Threatened Steelhead Rescued from Alameda Creek**](#)

NBC Bay Area – March 29, 2017

[**Steelhead Trout Moved Past Concrete Barrier**](#)

Livermore Independent – March 30, 2017

Aquatic Insect Sampling Along Sinbad Creek – May 7



We'll be collecting aquatic insects (benthic macroinvertebrates*) along Sinbad Creek in Sunol, on Sunday May 7th, from 10 am to 1 pm with our Sinbad Creek Stewards. This should be a really fun and informative event. The organisms we collect will give us one of the best pictures of the long-term aquatic health of Sinbad Creek that we can get. We'll need help with the logistics of collecting and sorting, and we'll all be learning about what lives in Sinbad Creek as we go.

*Benthic macroinvertebrates are organisms that live in the sediment of rivers, lakes, or a seabed (benthos) without a backbone (invertebrate) that are visible to the naked eye (macro-).

We have limited capacity for participants and are asking people to **register in advance**, which you can do [here on Eventbrite](#). Registering will allow us to communicate further details to participants as we finalize the schedule.

Niles Habitat Restoration Day – **May 20**



Join us along Alameda Creek in lower Niles Canyon for our final habitat restoration workday of the season, on Saturday, May 20th, from 10 am to noon. This will likely be our last morning of habitat restoration along Alameda Creek in Niles this season. We'll continue clearing invasive plants from the

native trees and from around our new plantings. We've made amazing progress this season, and this is one final opportunity to knock back weeds before the dry season. This continues past work by ACA volunteers, and your efforts will enhance habitat for fish and wildlife along Alameda Creek for years to come!

Meet at 10 am at the Niles Staging Area Parking lot along Old Canyon Road near Canyon Oaks Court in the Niles area of Fremont (roughly 720 Old Canyon Rd), and we'll work until roughly 12:00 pm. If you arrive late, walk upstream along the Alameda Creek trail, through the picnic area and past the small stone building. We'll be working in a small swale between the creek and Old Canyon Rd, just before the path narrows into a foot trail.

Please wear long pants and sturdy, closed-toe shoes that can get dirty (no sandals or flip-flops). We provide gloves and tools. The work isn't on much of a slope, but the ground can be uneven. The ground will likely be wet, so please wear clothes that can get dirty. Heavy rain cancels.

Alameda Creek Watershed Center On Hold?

After years of construction of water supply projects in the Sunol Valley, the SFPUC has announced that the planned construction of the Alameda Creek Watershed Center at the Sunol Water Temple is on hold, due to costs. The watershed center may be delayed or scaled back. We're trying to learn more. We will lobby the SFPUC to complete the [watershed center](#) as planned, since it will provide important educational space and programs, public meeting space, and volunteer and restoration opportunities.

Read the East Bay Times [article](#) about the delay in building the watershed center.

Calaveras Dam Rebuild

Read the E&E News article from April 24 on the rebuilding of Calaveras Dam, [Engineers Rebuild Behemoth In Face of Earthquake Risks](#)

Second Niles Canyon Stroll & Roll – September 30

Save the date: Alameda County Supervisors Valle and Haggerty have announced that there will be a second Niles Canyon Stroll & Roll this fall, with Niles Canyon closed to cars for a day and open for walking and bike tours of the canyon and sites of the proposed Alameda Creek Trail through the canyon. **The Date for the 2nd Niles Canyon Stroll & Roll will be Saturday, September 30, 2017.**

Trout Hatching in the Classroom



The Alameda Creek Alliance is sponsoring four [Trout in the Classroom](#) programs this year, at high schools in Sunol, Fremont, Union City and Castro Valley. The program gives students the opportunity to witness rainbow trout hatching in a special aquarium located in their classroom. Students monitor the fish's progress as they develop, start swimming in search for food and exploring their new environment. The attached photo is of trout eggs in an aquarium, which hatched last month.

Thank you to Alameda Creek Alliance Board member Derrell Bridgman for his long-time commitment to bring trout education to kids throughout the watershed.

Free Weed Management Training Workshop

Do you volunteer working to improve habitat in local parks or open spaces? A great training opportunity is coming up for our stewardship volunteers, or for those interested in learning more about stewardship of our open spaces. You can register for a free workshop: [Weed Management Training For Volunteers](#).

The California Invasive Plant Council is working with local conservation organizations to host [Weed Management for Volunteers](#), a free 1-day training for members of local groups that work on or who are concerned with control of invasive plants. Whether you're an experienced stewardship volunteer or are just looking to get more involved, this training is for you. Learn about the biology of invasive plants; hear from local experts about their challenges, management approaches, and success stories; learn about new tools developed by Calfora to map and monitor plant populations of interest; and share your knowledge and experiences with friends and colleagues.

Choose from one of four training sessions around the Bay Area:

East Bay: June 3rd, Trudeau Center, Oakland
9AM-1PM: Training workshop (indoor)
1PM-3PM: Serpentine Prairie Restoration (optional field activity)

North Bay: June 17th, Mill Valley Community Center
9AM-1PM Training workshop (indoor)
1PM-3PM: Bothin Marsh Restoration (optional field activity)

South Bay: June 24th, Berryessa Library, San Jose
10AM-2PM: Training workshop (indoor)

2PM-4PM: Alum Rock Park Restoration (optional field activity)

Peninsula: July 17th, Portola Valley Community Hall

9AM-1PM: Training workshop (indoor)

1PM-3PM: Arastadero Preserve Restoration (optional field activity)

Visit Cal-IPC.org and look under 'New at Cal-IPC' for more information, and to register. Space is limited so register today!

Regional Salmon Restoration News

[Lawsuit Filed to Restore Santa Maria River, Save Steelhead](#)

Santa Maria Times – April 27, 2017

[Upcoming Documentary Focuses on Eel River Salmon, Dams, Pot and More](#)

Eureka Times-Standard – April 14, 2017

[Endangered Steelhead Trout Attempt Comeback After Creeks Swell with Recent Rains](#)

Santa Barbara Noozhawk – April 8, 2017

[Rainbow Trout Return to Orinda After Half-Century Away](#)

Bay Nature Magazine – April 3, 2017

['Nightmare' Yurok Salmon Fishery Collapse](#)

Indian Country News – March 31, 2017

[Trump's Budget Would Devastate Salmon Recovery](#)

Seattle Times – March 30, 2017

[In 'Crisis,' Yuroks Suspend Commercial Salmon Season](#)

North Coast Journal – March 25, 2017

[California Supreme Court Rules Lower Court Failed To Consider If Coho Salmon Are Native Species](#)

Northern CA Record - March 25, 2017

[The Trout Are Running For The First Time In Years!](#)

Gilroy Dispatch – February 24, 2017

The Alameda Creek Alliance is a non-profit community watershed protection group. Please support our efforts by [becoming a member](#)