

Up Your Creek!

The electronic newsletter of the Alameda Creek Alliance

Alameda Creek Habitat Restoration – January 14

Join us for stewardship activities along Alameda Creek this winter. Winter rains bring a flush of new weeds and invasive plants, but also opportunities to establish native trees and shrubs. Come and help put in native plants, combat erosion, and improve wildlife habitat along Alameda Creek. Our upcoming work days are Sunday, January 14th and Saturday, February 10th, from 10 am to 1 pm. For more details please visit our [Eventbrite page](#). We ask that you register in advance so we know how many people to expect.

Meet at 10 am near 1004 Old Canyon Road in Fremont (just past Clarke Drive). There is parking along the road on the creek side where it widens some. We'll work until 1:00 pm. Please wear long pants and sturdy, closed-toe shoes that can get dirty (no sandals or flip-flops), and bring water in a re-usable bottle. We provide gloves and tools. Expect cool weather and morning dew when we start. Heavy rain cancels.

All participants need signed waiver forms ([one for the ACA](#) and [one for Alameda County](#)), and anyone under 18 needs a parental signature.

Stay tuned for more winter and spring workdays in the months ahead.

Niles Canyon Media

Several recent news articles about our lawsuit challenging Caltrans' Alameda Creek Bridge Replacement Project in Niles Canyon:

[*Is Caltrans Killing Alameda Creek?*](#)

East Bay Monthly – January 2018

[*Environmental Group Sues Caltrans Over Niles Canyon Project*](#)

Pleasanton Weekly - November 19, 2017

[*CalTrans Sued Over Plan to Widen Niles Canyon Road*](#)

Livermore Independent - November 23, 2017

Chinook Salmon Found in Alameda Creek

Two chinook salmon have been documented so far this winter in lower Alameda Creek by Alameda Creek Alliance member Dan Sarka. A salmon Dan photographed in the creek on December 19th appeared to be a hatchery salmon, based on a clipped adipose fin. On January 8th turkey vultures led Dan to a dead chinook salmon below the BART weir. This fish had its adipose fin, meaning it may not have been of hatchery origin. Nearly 100 chinook salmon have been spotted recently in the nearby Guadalupe River watershed in San Jose. See the [South Bay Clean Creeks Coalition Facebook page](#) for photos and video.

A Fun and Informative Tour of the DUST Marsh

Alameda Creek Alliance members had a wonderful time touring the DUST Marsh (Demonstration Urban Stormwater Treatment) near Coyote Hills in Fremont. A special thanks to ACA Board Member Richard

Wetzig, who led the hike and taught us the history of the marsh. The weather was beautiful and the marsh was bustling with wildlife, including great and snowy egrets, white pelicans, American coots, and even a Barn Owl. It was a great experience for everyone!

We learned of the DUST marsh's history as an innovative engineered stormwater treatment system. As rainfall passes over impervious surfaces like roofs and roads it accumulates metals such as copper, lead and zinc at unhealthy levels. The DUST Marsh uses biological processes to remove heavy metals from stormwater as it passes through the marsh. The marsh is still meeting that goal today, and has served as an example of innovative stormwater treatment since its inception.



An Amazing Turnout for November's Alameda Creek Clean-Up

Thanks to the many volunteers who came out in November to clean-up along Alameda Creek. Nearly 60 creek stewards came out and the effects were significant. We removed 8 large bags of trash, 7 bags of recycling, 10 bags of invasive plants, a tire, and a dishwasher, among other items.

This work party marked the first of what we hope will be many partnerships with Dawoodi Bohra community, who treated the many volunteers to lunch afterwards. We made new friends and discussed our shared commitment to nature and the environment. We thank the Dawoodi Bohra community and look forward to future stewardship opportunities together along Alameda Creek.



Regional Salmon Restoration News

[Coho Salmon to Remain on Endangered List](#)

Courthouse News- January 5, 2018

[California Salmon Lose Way After Ride Downstream In Drought](#)

Santa Rosa Press-Democrat - December 26, 2017

[A Rainy 2017 Benefited the San Joaquin River's Salmon, But Full Restoration Is Yet To Come](#)

KVPR - December 20, 2017

[Illegal Fish Traps Removed From Guadalupe River](#)

San Jose Mercury News - December 19, 2017

[A Water Right for the Environment](#)

California Water Blog - December 10, 2017

[Baby Endangered California Salmon Use Different Rivers Than Expected, Research Shows](#)

Sacramento Bee - December 4, 2017

[Lawsuit Filed to Block Logging Project Near Healdsburg](#)

Santa Rosa Press-Democrat - December 1, 2017

[Napa River's 2017 Fish Count High for Salmon, Not for Steelhead](#)

Napa Valley Register - November 29, 2017

[Lagunitas Creek Gets Odd Visitor: Pink Salmon](#)

Marin Independent-Journal - November 26, 2017

[Measures to Boost Salmon Are Working, but Some Fear They Could Backfire](#)

News Deeply - November 20, 2017

[Release of Juvenile Salmon Jump-Starts Russian River](#)

San Francisco Chronicle - November 19, 2017

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