

Alameda Creek in the News

[Calaveras Dam Replacement to Begin Amid Retrofit](#)

San Francisco Chronicle – September 16, 2011

[Calaveras Dam Construction Begins](#)

KQED Radio - September 19, 2011

[A Massive Lake Will Grow As Calaveras Dam Takes Shape](#)

Milpitas Post - September 21, 2011

Industrial Solar Development Coming to Alameda County?

Alameda County is considering permitting and encouraging development of large-scale industrial solar energy facilities in rural eastern Alameda County, within habitat for numerous endangered species, important breeding and foraging areas for birds of prey and prime agricultural lands, including significant lands within the Alameda Creek watershed. The need for the policy is prompted by County approval and promotion of several industrial solar plants near Mountain House in eastern Alameda County with minimal environmental review or consideration of impacts on wildlife habitat and agricultural lands.

The Alameda Creek Alliance has concerns about the impacts of massive industrial energy facilities on habitat for endangered, threatened and rare species in eastern Alameda County, and the cumulative effects of large-scale solar development combined with ongoing severe impacts to raptors from wind turbines at Altamont Pass Wind Resource Area. We are advocating for a proper level of environmental review for proposed large-scale solar facilities and minimizing environmental damage these facilities will cause. We are also concerned that approved and proposed projects conflict with the East County Area Plan and Measure D. The Alameda Creek Alliance has signed on with the coalition SOLAR (Saving Our Lands Agriculture and Raptors).

At the last Alameda County Board of Supervisors' Transportation/Planning Committee meeting, the supervisors decided to postpone recommendation of the planning department's solar policy until the impacts of this policy are more closely considered. In response to the SOLAR coalition's statement of principles the supervisors did not feel comfortable bringing the policy before the full board yet. The supervisors agreed that much more needs to be done to understand the issues in order to craft a sound policy for solar development in the rural areas. The Planning Department will keep working on the policy and bring it back to the Transportation/Planning Committee in November in "much greater detail." Alameda County will hold public meetings to discuss proposed policies for the siting of solar energy facilities in rural Alameda County.

Visit the Alameda Creek Alliance's [web page](#) on industrial solar development in the watershed for more information, to read our comment letter to the Board of Supervisors encouraging development of rooftop solar rather than sacrificing open space for industrial energy facilities, and to read the SOLAR statement of principles.

Creeks Around the Bay

Restoration news and happenings from other watersheds around the Bay Area:

Santa Clara - *Learn about efforts to restore Santa Clara County creeks to living streams*

The [Santa Clara County Creeks Coalition](#) is hosting their annual [Creeks and Watershed Conference](#) on November 5 in Mountain View – the theme is "Healthy Creeks/Vibrant Bay."

Palo Alto - *Help open tributaries of San Francisquito Creek to steelhead trout*

[Beyond Searsville Dam](#) will host a fundraiser event titled "Give a Dam" on December 1 at the Schultz Cultural Arts Center in Palo Alto.

Beyond Searsville Dam is a coalition of groups trying to get Stanford University to study removal of Searsville Dam to restore steelhead trout to the best habitat in the San Francisquito Creek watershed. Current efforts are to get Stanford to acknowledge and adequately address impacts of Searsville Dam as part of a proposed Habitat Conservation Plan. Check the [BSD web site](#) for more information.

San Francisco - *Celebrate salmon month with commercial fishing and salmon restoration groups*

October is Salmon Month at the Aquarium of the Bay in San Francisco. Join [SalmonAID](#) and its member organizations (including the Alameda Creek Alliance) at San Francisco's Aquarium of the Bay for Salmon Month during October. You'll find information and exhibits about wild salmon protection and restoration every day, as well as special events, such as:

October 5 - Salmon Cinema Night

October 8 - Calling Back the Salmon Ceremony on the South Yuba River

October 8-9 – Wild About Salmon weekend with salmon-themed activities for kids

October 13 - Dine Out for Salmon, all over the Bay Area

October 22-23 - Wild About Salmon weekend with salmon-themed activities for kids

October 8, 22, 29 - Salmon Viewing Tours on the South Yuba River

Check the [SalmonAid](#) web site for more information.

Marin - *Support the west coast's only marine wilderness area, within Point Reyes National Park*

Drakes Estero, the ecological heart of the Point Reyes National Seashore, is an important fish nursery and the only designated marine wilderness on the west coast. The National Park Service recently released a draft Environmental Impact Statement evaluating whether the Interior Secretary should extend operating rights to a private commercial oyster farm within the estuary or honor the 1976 Congressional commitment to wilderness and agreed-upon termination of the oyster farm lease. Over 40 local, regional, and national organizations support creating the west coast's only marine wilderness, as Congress long intended when it passed the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, and oppose efforts by the Drakes Bay Oyster Company to extend their use of national park wilderness for private profit.

The draft EIS identifies wilderness as the "environmentally preferable alternative." The draft EIS states unequivocally that extending commercial mariculture operations within the park's wilderness area would be damaging to national park policies and goals, and contradictory to wilderness protection laws. The best available science shows there are substantial long-term adverse environmental impacts from oyster operations to numerous biological and natural resources in Drakes Estero, including wetlands, wildlife, birds, marine mammals, benthic fauna, water quality, soundscapes and wilderness values. Overturning the wilderness designation at Drakes Estero in favor of a private, commercial use would establish a terrible precedent nationwide enabling other private commercial entities to seek political favors and use lobbying pressure and high-powered public relations campaigns to operate in our nation's wilderness beyond the termination of their operating rights.

The public can submit comments on the draft EIS through November 29th. Please support wilderness status for Drakes Estero. For more information and to read and comment on the draft EIS, visit the Save Drakes Bay Coalition [web site](#).

Regional Salmon News

[Salmon Hatchery Gets Good News](#)

Contra Costa Times – October 4, 2011

[Huge Coalition Presents Historic Recommendations to Delta Council](#)

AlterNet – October 3, 2011

[Food & Water Watch Exposes Federal Funding of Frankenfish](#)

IndyMedia – October 3, 2010

[Record Amount of Water Pumped From the Delta](#)

Vallejo Times-Herald – October 3, 2011

[Yuba River Salmon Tours–The Salmon Have Arrived!](#)

Yuba Net – September 30, 2011

[Half Moon Bay Fishermen Plan To Boost Salmon Population by Using Net Pens](#)

San Jose Mercury News – September 30, 2011

[Despite Controversy Over Regulations, Record Water Deliveries Pumped From Delta](#)

San Jose Mercury News – September 30, 2011

[Reclamation Announces Delta Gate Closure as Two Records Are Set](#)

IndyMedia – September 30, 2011

[Judge Rejects Attempt to Close California Salmon Fishery](#)

Los Angeles Times - September 30, 2011

[Delta Gates Will Open For 10 Days to Help Mokelumne Salmon](#)

AlterNet – September 30, 2011

[Lost In the Valley of Excess](#)

California's Wealthiest Growers, Poorest Workers, and the Water Between Them
Earth Island Journal - Winter 2011

[Salmon Spawning Runs Under Way on the Russian River](#)

Santa Rosa Press-Democrat – September 29, 2011

[Klamath Deal Needs a Boost From Congress](#)

Sacramento Bee editorial - September 26, 2011

[The Science is Right: Salmon, Delta Smelt and other Fish Populations are at Risk of Becoming Extinct](#)

San Francisco Chronicle blog – September 27, 2011

[Removal of 4 Klamath Dams Would Lift Salmon Count, Studies Find](#)

Los Angeles Times – September 22, 2011

[Salazar Admits Peripheral Canal Could Lead To More Water Exports](#)

AlterNet – September 22, 2011

[Hopeful Signs for Klamath](#)

Eugene Register Guard editorial - September 21, 2011

[Judge Orders U.S. to Revise Salmon Safeguards](#)

Los Angeles Times – September 21, 2011

[***On The Klamath, It's Go With the Flow***](#)

The Oregonian – September 20, 2011

[***Judge Nixes Key Parts of Delta Salmon Plan***](#)

Fresno Bee - September 20, 2011

[***Delta Advocates Say Salazar Is 'Badly Mistaken' About Estuary Situation***](#)

IndyMedia – September 20, 2011

[***Big Kings Return To Reign in Elwha***](#)

Seattle Times – September 20, 2011

[***Delta Water Grab Fears Unfounded, Says U.S. Resources Chief***](#)

San Jose Mercury News – September 19, 2011

[***Report on S.F. Bay Details Progress, Problems***](#)

San Francisco Chronicle – September 19, 2011

[***Will Giant Chinook Salmon Return? Dam-Removal Project Opens the Door***](#)

Seattle Times – September 17, 2011

[***Idaho Sockeye Salmon Count Exceeds Expectations***](#)

KPLU- September 16, 2011

[***Long-Awaited Freedom Comes to Olympia NP's Elwha River***](#)

New York Times - September 15, 2011

[***A Graffiti Taunt to Tear Down Matilija Dam***](#)

Ventura County Star – September 13, 2011

[***Salmon Can Sniff Out Predators***](#)

PhysOrg - September 13, 2011

[***CSPA, Winnemem Wintu Sue Westlands Over Contract Renewals***](#)

Bay Area Indymedia – September 13, 2011

[***Snake River Salmon Climb Almost 7,000 Ft***](#)

National Geographic – September 12, 2011

[***Record Fish Numbers Salvaged In Calif. Water Pumps***](#)

San Francisco Chronicle – September 12, 2011

[***Friends of the Eel River, Wiyot Tribe Host Ceremony to Return Salmon Populations***](#)

IndyMedia – September 10, 2011

[***Over 11 Million Fish 'Salvaged' In Delta Death Pumps Since January 1***](#)

AlterNet – September 9, 2011

[***Water Divides Central Valley Lawmakers***](#)

Fresno Bee – September 2, 2011

[***Warming Could Affect Salmon in California***](#)

UPI – September 1, 2011

[***Largest U.S. Dam Removal to Restore Salmon Runs***](#)

National Geographic – August 31, 2011

[Tribe Travels Across Pacific To Recover Lost Salmon Species](#)

California Watch - August 31, 2011

[Punching Holes In the Concrete](#)

Oregonian editorial - August 27, 2011

[Last Call for Coho](#)

Humboldt County Journal – July 7, 2011