

## **Alameda Creek and Niles Canyon Update**

### **Judge Issues Temporary Restraining Order Halting Caltrans Highway Widening In Niles**

Yesterday an Alameda Superior Court Judge granted the Alameda Creek Alliance's request for a Temporary Restraining Order barring Caltrans from initiating planned construction June 15 on the first phase of the controversial \$80 million highway widening project in Niles Canyon along Alameda Creek. The restraining order is in effect until a June 23 hearing on whether the Alameda Creek Alliance may proceed to trial challenging the inadequate environmental review for the Route 84 "Safety Improvement" project.

Read the [press release](#) about this initial legal victory.

### **Come to the June 23 Court Hearing in Oakland**

Thursday, June 23, the Alameda Superior Court will hold a hearing on whether to grant the Alameda Creek Alliance an injunction against Caltrans from continuing with construction on the phase one Niles Canyon project, and whether we can proceed to trial to determine the legality and adequacy of the shoddy environmental review for the project.

The hearing will be at 11:00 am in Department 31 of the County of Alameda Superior Court, located at 201 - 13th Street, in Oakland. Department 31 is located on the second floor of the U.S. Post Office Building.

If you are interested in attending, it would help to have a showing of community interest in the case for the judge. Please be respectful and quiet in the courtroom regardless of the court's decision.

### **Donate to Our Legal Fund!**

Please consider a donation to the Alameda Creek Alliance to help us pay for the costs of the Niles Canyon lawsuit. We have outstanding legal representation, but legal help is expensive. Donation checks can be sent to: ACA, PO Box 2626, Niles, CA 94536. Donations are tax-deductible.

### **Come to the Movie Fundraiser July 17, Benefitting the Niles Canyon Protection Campaign**

**Save the date – July 16-17.** The Alameda Creek Alliance and Save Niles Canyon will hold a movie night fundraiser to help defray the costs of our lawsuit against Caltrans. We will have a weekend of river restoration-themed films at the Silent Film Museum in the Niles District of Fremont on July 16 and 17. All proceeds will benefit the Alameda Creek Alliance efforts to protect Niles Canyon. More details coming soon.

### **San Francisco Explains Role in Land Swap for Tree Cutting**

Read the SFPUC's [June 9 letter](#) explaining how San Francisco transferred land title and gave legal easements in Niles Canyon to Caltrans for construction of phase one of the Niles highway project, the areas where trees have been cut and further impacts to the creek are planned. The SFPUC has committed to requiring Caltrans to "minimize and mitigate any and all potential environmental impacts to Alameda Creek" before considering another real estate transaction for phase two.

### **Recent Media on the Niles Canyon Project**

#### ***Judge Says Caltrans Must Halt Niles Canyon Project***

San Francisco Chronicle – June 10, 2011  
<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/06/09/BA411JS53L.DTL>

***Judge Halts Niles Canyon Roadwork***

Oakland Tribune – June 10, 2011  
[http://www.insidebayarea.com/oaklandtribune/localnews/ci\\_18241393](http://www.insidebayarea.com/oaklandtribune/localnews/ci_18241393)

***Group Sues to Stop Niles Canyon Road Project***

Oakland Tribune – June 9, 2011  
[http://www.insidebayarea.com/oaklandtribune/localnews/ci\\_18231651](http://www.insidebayarea.com/oaklandtribune/localnews/ci_18231651)

***Alameda Creek Alliance Sues Caltrans Over Niles Canyon Highway Project***

Fremont Bulletin – June 9, 2011  
[http://www.mercurynews.com/fremont/ci\\_18241433?nclick\\_check=1](http://www.mercurynews.com/fremont/ci_18241433?nclick_check=1)

***Editorial Cartoon by Angelo Lopez***

In Tri-City Voice - June 8, 2011  
<http://www.savenilescanyon.org/?p=698>

***Caltrans Sued Over Plan to Widen Niles Canyon Road***

San Francisco Chronicle – June 8, 2011  
<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/06/07/BAT71JQVUL.DTL#ixzz1OhLnS4yr>

***Environmental Group Sues Caltrans Over Niles Canyon Project***

Silicon Valley Business Journal – June 8, 2011  
<http://www.bizjournals.com/sanjose/news/2011/06/08/environmental-group-sues-caltrans-over.html>

***Caltrans Sued Over Fremont Road-Widening Project***

Oakland Tribune - June 8, 2011  
[http://www.insidebayarea.com/oaklandtribune/localnews/ci\\_18230259?source=rss](http://www.insidebayarea.com/oaklandtribune/localnews/ci_18230259?source=rss)

***Caltrans Rushes Project***

Livermore Independent editorial - June 4, 2011  
[http://www.independentnews.com/editorials/article\\_ff995678-8d91-11e0-8f16-001cc4c002e0.html](http://www.independentnews.com/editorials/article_ff995678-8d91-11e0-8f16-001cc4c002e0.html)

***Controversial Niles Canyon Project Reopened for Comment***

Bay Nature Magazine – June 3, 2011  
<http://baynature.org/articles/web-only-articles/controversial-niles-canyon-project-reopened-for-comment/?searchterm=Isaura>

***Niles Canyon Roadwork Opponents Warn Caltrans***

Fremont Bulletin – May 26, 2011  
[http://www.mercurynews.com/fremont/ci\\_18148133?nclick\\_check=1](http://www.mercurynews.com/fremont/ci_18148133?nclick_check=1)

***More Caltrans Work Along Niles Canyon Road***

Tri-City Beat – May 24, 2011  
<http://www.ibabuzz.com/tricitybeat/2011/05/24/more-caltrans-work-along-niles-canyon-road/>

## **Upcoming Alameda Creek Alliance Events**

### **July 30 - Alameda Creek Alliance BBQ and Picnic in Sunol**

The Alameda Creek Alliance will hold a picnic and BBQ for our members and supporters on Saturday, July 30 in Sunol Regional Wilderness.

The BBQ will begin at 11 am at the Alameda Grove picnic area in Sunol Regional Park. Click [here](#) for a park map.

Join us at 8:30 am at the picnic area for a morning bird-watching and wildlife hike along Alameda Creek. There will also be an afternoon tour of Alameda Creek to Little Yosemite with a discussion of planned steelhead restoration projects in the area.

Please RSVP to Rich Cimino (yellowbilledtours@gmail.com) by July 25, and state your food preference (meat or vegetarian).

### **September 25 - Alameda Creek Alliance Membership Dinner and Silent Auction**

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.

This year we will have a silent auction at the dinner. Please contact Rich Cimino (yellowbilledtours@gmail.com) if you have an item or event to donate for the auction.

### **Regional Salmon News**

#### ***Pumps' Fish Slaughter Alarms Conservationists***

San Francisco Chronicle - June 9, 2011

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/06/09/MNNB1JOVQP.DTL>

#### ***San Joaquin River Plan in Peril***

Stockton Record – June 3, 2011

[http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110603/A\\_NEWS/106030309/-1/NEWSMAP](http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110603/A_NEWS/106030309/-1/NEWSMAP)

#### ***House Bill to Restore Science and Common Sense to Federal Salmon Efforts***

Save Our Wild Salmon press release - June 3, 2011

#### ***California Water Pact Attacked by GOP Congressmen***

San Francisco Chronicle – June 3, 2011

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/06/02/MNL31JORS6.DTL#ixzz1OGbaQKG3>

#### ***Delta Pumps Killed 15,000 Salmon, 6 Million Splittail in May!***

IndyMedia – June 3, 2011

<http://www.indybay.org/newsitems/2011/06/03/18681060.php>

#### ***New Battlefront Over California Water***

KQED – June 2, 2011

<http://blogs.kqed.org/climatewatch/2011/06/02/new-battlefront-over-california-water/>

#### ***Report Claims Land Fallowing Tied to Soil and Groundwater Quality***

Central Valley Business Times – June 2, 2011

<http://www.centralvalleybusinesstimes.com/stories/001/?ID=18584>

#### ***Two Elwha River Dams Unplugged On Wednesday***

Seattle Times – June 2, 2011

[http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2015202387\\_elwha02m.html](http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2015202387_elwha02m.html)

#### ***A Better Life? Devin Nunes and His Bad Bill***

Salmon Water Now video – June 1, 2011

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=me6qEpSgack&hd=1>

***Hook, Line And Sinker***

Chico News & Review – May 26, 2011

<http://www.newsreview.com/chico/hook-line-sinker/content?oid=2148909>

***Nunes Bill Benefits Westside Growers at Expense of Environment, Public***

AlterNet – May 26, 2011

<http://blogs.alternet.org/danbacher/2011/05/26>

***Delta Fish Slaughter a Tragedy***

Stockton Record – May 25, 2011

[http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110525/A\\_NEWS0803/105250310](http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110525/A_NEWS0803/105250310)

***Delta Pumps Kill 4.4 Million Splittail, 3600 Salmon In One Week***

AlterNet – May 24, 2011

<http://blogs.alternet.org/danbacher/2011/05/24>