

# Up Your Creek!

The electronic newsletter of the Alameda Creek Alliance

## Alameda Creek Cleanup This Saturday

Join us along Alameda Creek for 2014 Coastal Cleanup Day this coming Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, from 9 am to noon.

In most of California, storm-water does not pass through a water treatment plant. That means that litter and pollutants carried into the storm drain system by wind and water flow directly into creeks and the Bay, where they harm fish, marine mammals and birds. The vast majority of marine debris—up to 80%—originates inland. Plastic bags and other lightweight plastic litter items are particularly hazardous because they float, entangling and poisoning marine wildlife that mistakes the items for food. Coastal Cleanup Day volunteers not only prevent litter from entering the ocean, but they also help gather valuable data on types of litter and its distribution.

We'll meet at the [Niles Staging Area](#), along Old Canyon Rd. at Canyon Oaks Ct. in the Niles area of Fremont at 9 am.

We'll pick up trash and recyclables from the creek banks and along the Alameda Creek trail, and report our haul as part of CA Coastal Cleanup Day.

We'll also remove invasive plants that damage the riparian area and its valuable wildlife habitat. Wear work clothes, including long pants and sturdy shoes that can get dirty. We'll have all of the supplies you need- trash and recycling bags, gloves, trash grabbers, water to refill your re-usable bottle, and a snack after the clean-up. All ages are welcome!

RSVP to Ralph Boniello at [ralph@alamedacreek.org](mailto:ralph@alamedacreek.org)

## Alameda Creek Watershed Center Meeting – September 22

The SFPUC will hold a meeting regarding the proposed Alameda Creek Watershed Center on Monday, September 22, at 10 am. The meeting will be at the SFPUC Corporation Yard next to the Sunol Water Temple, 505 Paloma Way. The SFPUC will show more details regarding the design of proposed interpretive exhibits and the architects will share the latest, more detailed architectural and landscape design concepts.

For more info contact Betsy Lauppe Rhodes of the SFPUC at [blauppe@sflower.org](mailto:blauppe@sflower.org).

## Alameda Creek Alliance Membership Dinner – October 18

Join us for our quasi-annual Alameda Creek Alliance membership dinner on Saturday, October 18 at [Chouinard Winery](#) in Palomares Canyon, from 5:30 to 8:30 pm.

**We are pleased to announce that Niles singer/songwriter [Michael McNevin](#) will be playing live music at the event.**

We also will be serving good food; there will be wine for sale by the glass or bottle, and updates on Alameda Creek restoration progress. More details on our web site soon.

You can buy tickets for the dinner (\$60 each) easily and securely by going to our web site ([www.alamedacreek.org](http://www.alamedacreek.org)) and clicking on "Upcoming Events."

Help us celebrate our many accomplishments and plan for the future restoration of Alameda Creek and its fisheries. Come meet and mingle with other watershed residents and the Alameda Creek Alliance staff and Board of Directors. We look forward to seeing you on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

## Sinbad Creek Cleanup A Success

Many thanks to the 14 volunteers who came out on Saturday, August 30<sup>th</sup> to remove tamarisk along Sinbad Creek. Tamarisk (or salt-cedar) is considered to be one of the most invasive weeds of the western U.S. Tamarisk can take hold in new areas by sprouting from small pieces that get carried downstream. To account for this we did all of our work over tarps and made sure to collect every piece that came down. With the strong volunteer effort that showed up we were able to remove the tamarisk plants that threatened downstream areas of Arroyo de la Laguna and Alameda Creek. Thanks also to those who picked up trash from Sinbad Creek that day.



## Rare Livermore Plant Endangered

The California Native Plant Society recently determined that the Livermore tarplant (*Deinandra bacigalupii*) is at risk of going extinct due to its rarity and damaging land use practices where it occurs. The East Bay Chapter of California Native Plant Society recently submitted a petition to the California Fish and Wildlife to list this plant endemic to the Livermore Valley as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act.

The Livermore tarplant was described as new to science in 1999 and is known from only three locations within Alameda County. These locations experience constant encroachment, including road construction and off-road vehicle use which directly threaten the plant. Current zoning of these locations sanctions land alteration without environmental review. If approved, this petition would allow for the tarplant to be listed under the California Endangered Species Act, providing critical legal protections that ensure the plant's survival.

More info here: [East Bay Chapter Works to Protect Endangered Livermore Tarplant](#)

## **Thank You Members for Your Support**

Many thanks to all of the Alameda Creek Alliance members who recently renewed their membership. Your support keeps us going and allows us to advocate for our creeks and wildlife. If you would like to join or renew your membership in the Alameda Creek Alliance, visit our [web site](#).

## **Restore Stanford's Watershed and Wildlife**

Tell Stanford University to remove the environmentally harmful and obsolete Searsville Dam, which blocks steelhead trout from accessing miles of valuable habitat in the San Francisquito watershed. The dam regularly dewateres an important tributary to the San Francisquito Creek, which flows from Stanford's campus to the San Francisco Bay.

Sign the Change.org [petition](#)

More info at [Save Stanford Steelhead](#)

## **Vote NO on Prop 1, the Water Bond, on November 4th**

Help stop the \$14 billion boondoggle that damage the Bay Delta and California's rivers by funding the Delta diversion tunnels scheme, diverting more water from the Bay-Delta, and paying for building more large dams in California. More info at [www.noonprop1.org](#)

## **Regional Salmon Restoration News**

### **[More Emergency Water Releases for Klamath Salmon](#)**

Sacramento Bee – September 17, 2014

### **[Water-Starved Eel River Goes To Ground Near Fortuna](#)**

Santa Rosa Press-Democrat – September 14, 2014

### **['Injection' Plan to Save Fall Run Salmon](#)**

Willits News – September 11, 2014

### **[\\$7.5 Billion California Water Bond Headed for the November Ballot](#)**

Earth Island Journal – September 10, 2014

### **[Salmon Spawning Run Excellent, So Far](#)**

Stockton Record – September 9, 2014

### **[Butte Creek Looks Bad At Highway 99, But Spring-Run Salmon Are High and Wet](#)**

Chico Enterprise-Record – September 5, 2014

### **[Why the Eel River Disappeared and What It Means for Fish](#)**

Lost Coast Outpost – September 5, 2014

### **[7 Ways to Save the San Joaquin -- America's 'Most Endangered' River](#)**

CNN – September 3, 2014

[\*Racing to Save a Drought-Threatened Species of Salmon in California\*](#)

ABC News – August 29, 2014

[\*Judge Rejects Westlands Bid to Stop Releases for Klamath Salmon\*](#)

Daily Kos - August 29, 2014

[\*EPA Says California's Delta Water Tunnel Project Could Violate Federal Law\*](#)

Sacramento Bee - August 28, 2014

[\*Bay Delta Conservation Plan Delayed\*](#)

Indy Media – August 28, 2014

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