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WATERSHED LOOKOUT NOVEMBER 2021



Dear acwForum stakeholders, partners and friends,

Are you wondering if we are still in a drought after all that rain? (Spoiler alert: the drought persists.) What do October's rain storms amount to? See below for exciting post-storm salmon sightings and read these insights from [Bay Nature](#) and [Zone 7](#).

Read on for important events on Wednesday addressing drought, post-fire research and more. Have you heard about the Water Leaders Program featured in our Toolbox section? Scroll down to learn more and to welcome new Steering Committee member Edward Reyes!

Be sure to register and join us next Tuesday, November 9, for the final webinar to "Unravel the Mystery of Sycamores."

Finally, we plan to host a **Spring 2022 photo contest**, so start (or continue) taking photographs of your work or time spent in the Alameda Creek Watershed!

Events

Wednesday, November 3
9:00am - 3pm
EBRPD 2021 Stewardship Seminar

Please join us virtually for informative talks that focus on resource and land management within the East Bay Regional Park District. Presentations will include:

- Post-Fire Research in Morgan Territory/Round Valley
- Pond Turtle Populations and Disease in East Bay Regional Parks
- Pleasanton Ridge Native Grassland Mapping

[Register](#)

Wednesday, November 3
12pm & 6:30pm
Virtual Drought Town Hall

Join a public meeting (via Zoom webinar) about current drought conditions presented by ACWD's Water Use Efficiency staff.

[Zoom Link](#)

SAVE THE DATE
Thursday, May 5th



*Are you hosting an event in
December/January?
Let us know!*
[Allison Rodacker](#)

Saturday, December 4
9:45am - 1pm
**Carlos Bee Park Clean Up
& Water Testing Demo**

The Alameda County Flood Control & Water Conservation District's Clean Water Volunteers and the Hayward Area Parks & Recreation (H.A.R.D.) Volunteers in the Park (VIP) have partnered to help clean up and beautify this park. There will also be a water testing demonstration. For more information click [HERE](#).

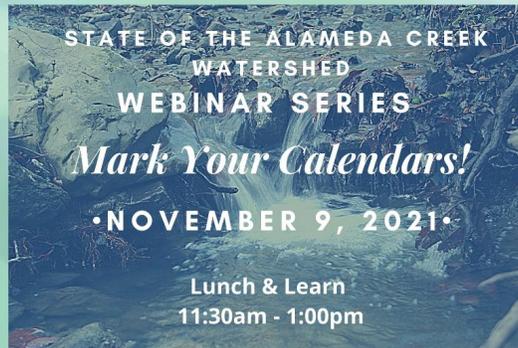
[Register](#)

Sunday, December 5
9:00am - 11:00am
**Stonybrook Volunteer Stream
Surveys**

Join the Alameda Creek Alliance for two upcoming trout habitat surveys on Stonybrook

Save the date for the annual State of the Alameda Creek Watershed conference. This event is currently being planned as an in-person event at the Shannon Center in Dublin, Ca. Details are forthcoming.

ACA Restoration and Volunteer Coordinator. Volunteers will be trained to collect stream condition data.

[Register](#)


Join us next week for this much anticipated webinar

Unravelling the Mystery of Sycamores

Presentation given by:

Sarah Pearce (SFEI)

Alison Whipple (SFEI)

Ryan Hegstad (HT Harvey)

Charles McClain (HT Harvey)

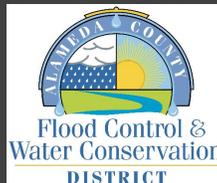
Tami Church (Zone 7 Water Agency).

California sycamores are iconic riparian trees native to California's storm-event driven and often seasonally dry streams and rivers.

The historical extent of sycamore alluvial woodland has been reduced significantly as a result of land use change and alteration of streamflow and sediment regimes. As part of the EPA-funded "Preparing for the Storm" project, the San Francisco Estuary Institute, Zone 7 Water Agency, and HT Harvey are collaborating to expand a regional dataset to better understand how sycamore distribution, health and regeneration patterns relate to geomorphic and hydrologic processes. Field-based sycamore surveys at sites along Arroyo Mocho and Arroyo Valle in Livermore Valley were conducted and analyzed with geospatial and hydrologic information. This work, as well as insights from other sycamore research such as genetic studies, is being used to develop regional suitability analyses to advance process-based restoration and provide planting guidance.

Outcomes of this work address the larger goals of the "Preparing for the Storm" project to develop regional visioning and implement projects that address flood, water quality, sediment, and habitat concerns under increasing urbanization and a changing climate. Overall, improving sycamore alluvial woodlands could help increase the resilience of California stream ecosystems to a changing future.

THIS WEBINAR IS SPONSORED BY


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Alameda Creek Alliance Sees Chinook Salmon Post Early Storm



lower Alameda Creek. The salmon are blocked from moving upstream by a cement weir, where construction of a fish migration ladder is currently nearing completion. Chinook have not successfully spawned in Alameda Creek for more than half a century, but fish

passage projects in the lower creek aimed at helping movement of threatened steelhead trout will aid salmon migration as well.

Stream flow in lower Alameda Creek reached nearly 7,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) on Monday after the big storm, but by Tuesday morning had dropped to 175 cfs and salmon were in a rapidly receding pool below an impassable cement drop structure. East Bay Regional Park District fisheries biologists are assessing whether these fish need to be rescued or relocated.

Just a handful of adult Chinook salmon have attempted to migrate up to Alameda Creek to spawn in recent decades. The fish are most likely strays from Central Valley fish hatcheries. However, Chinook could stray from the nearby Guadalupe River in San Jose. Chinook of hatchery origin began spawning in the 1990s in South Bay streams, where there are now small numbers of naturally reproducing fish. Chinook will likely repopulate Alameda Creek once fish passage projects are completed.

To read the full press release visit [HERE](#).

TOOLBOX

APPLY FOR THE WATER LEADERS CLASS

Applications due December 7th

One of the Water Education Foundations most popular programs, the Water Leaders class is aimed at providing a deeper understanding of California water issues and building leadership skills with class members by studying a water-related topic in-depth and working with a mentor.

The deadline to apply for 2022 is Dec. 7 at 5 p.m. Find the online application form and other required items for [your application package here](#). Remember, this is a competitive program so make your application your best effort.

For comprehensive information about the program visit [HERE](#).

Welcome new Steering Committee Member Edward Reyes, City of Livermore



Please welcome the newest acwForum Steering Committee member, Edward Reyes! Edward is a registered Civil Engineer and has worked for the City of Livermore for the past 4 years. When asked about his favorite project in the Alameda Creek watershed, he says "the Low Flow Channel in the Arroyo Las Positas in Springtown neighborhood of Livermore. The City excavated a 2400ft channel along the Arroyo Las Positas to increase capacity of the channel, discourage sedimentation, and help prevent flooding in the area during rain events."

We are thankful for his willingness to represent the City of Livermore on the acwForum Steering Committee and for all our Steering Committee members! This group is currently planning the Spring 2022 State of the Alameda Creek Watershed Conference. Stay tuned for details!

The informed participation of all watershed stakeholders (YOU) is key to the success of watershed protection and enhancement efforts.



**LET US KNOW ABOUT YOUR 2022 PROJECTS,
EVENTS AND PLANS!**

Please reply to this email or send a direct message to [Allison Rodacker](#) to share the good work you are doing. It can be one sentence, paragraph, link or press release with pictures by **November 19th**.

Alameda Creek Watershed
Forum

Click on the logo to view events and past newsletters.

The acwForum's mission is to protect and enhance water-related beneficial uses and resources in the Alameda Creek Watershed in order to create a healthy and sustainable watershed for the community. The acwForum will promote collaboration and the sharing of information among all stakeholders.

You have received this message because of your interest and relationship with Alameda Creek Watershed Forum (acwForum). The monthly e-News will provide you updates of events, news and activities related to the acwForum, whose mission is to protect and enhance water-related beneficial uses and resources in the Alameda Creek watershed in order to create a healthy and sustainable watershed for the community.

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