

Up Your Creek!

The electronic newsletter of the Alameda Creek Alliance

Spring Butterfly Walk - May 24

You're invited to a Butterfly Walk with butterfly expert Liam O'Brien in Sunol Regional Wilderness, on Saturday, May 24.

Come hike along Alameda Creek in Sunol Regional Wilderness, viewing and learning about our local butterflies with [Liam O'Brien](#), the Bay Area's premier butterfly naturalist and conservationist. We'll be on the lookout for Sara Orangetips, Silvery Blues, Large Marbles, and other species on display. Join us and find out why Bay Nature recently named Liam their 'Environmental Educator of the Year'!

Spaces are limited, so [register on our Eventbrite here](#), or email ralph@alamedacreek.org with questions.

We'll meet at 11am at the end of the parking area for the Sunol Regional Wilderness on Geary Road in Sunol, CA. The trip to Little Yosemite is nearly four miles roundtrip, and the trail includes some moderate inclines and uneven ground. Be prepared with sturdy, closed-toe shoes for hiking. The trail can be exposed at time, so have sun protection, including a hat and sunscreen. Bring plenty of water in re-usable bottles, and pack a lunch for yourself - we'll take a lunch break along the way. We expect to be back to the parking area around 3pm.

Please be aware that there is a \$5 parking fee at the entrance to the Sunol Regional Wilderness.

Spring Creek Cleanup - May 31

Help us clean up trash from known trout spawning habitat along Stonybrook Creek on Sunday, May 31.

We meet at the dirt turnout at mile marker 8.75 on Palomares Road, about 1 mile up from Niles Canyon Road. There is a dirt turnout on the right as you come up the canyon, and there is an adopt-a-spot sign at this location. Please bring clothes that can get dirty, gloves if you have them (we'll also have gloves for those that need them), and sturdy shoes- boots are recommended.

Please [RSVP on our Eventbrite page here](#), or email ralph@alamedacreek.org with questions.

This is a steep, rugged location- If you don't feel comfortable on uneven ground, this isn't the event for you.

We'll go until 12:30 or until all the trash is removed. Please be aware that parking is limited at the site, so please carpool if you can.

Directions:

From Pleasanton, come down Niles Canyon Road about 4 miles down the canyon from the town of Sunol, turn right on Palomares Road, and go about 1 mile up the canyon. Dirt turnout is on the right.

From Fremont/Niles, come up Niles Canyon Road about 2 miles up the canyon from Mission Boulevard, turn left on Palomares Road, and go about 1 mile up the canyon. Dirt turnout is on the right.

From Berkeley/Oakland/SF, can come east on Highway 580 through Castro valley and take exit #39 for Eden Canyon Road/Palomares Road. Turn right onto Paloverde Road, then left on Palomares Road. Come up the hill and over the divide, then down Palomares Road toward Niles

Canyon. About 1 mile or so after you pass the two wineries, look for the turnout on your left at mile marker 8.75.

2014 Sunol Wildflower Festival A Success

We had a great time as co-hosts of the 2014 Sunol Wildflower Festival on April 12th. There were hikes that focused on wildflowers, ethno-botany, butterflies, and other insects. There was live music and activities for visitors of all ages, including arts and crafts, face painting, slideshows, and local environmental exhibits. We had a wonderful time meeting people at the Alameda Creek Alliance booth. Special thanks to John and Susie for helping out at the booth- having you there made the day especially enjoyable!

Thank You Earth Day Volunteers for Alameda Creek Cleanup

Those who came out on March 19th to celebrate Earth Day at our adopted site along Alameda Creek in Fremont were rewarded with fantastic weather. Twenty-one volunteers spent a morning of environmental service by removing shopping carts, food wrappers, beverage containers, an old sleeping bag, and cigarette butts from Alameda Creek. We also pulled invasive ivy from around native trees that line its banks. Thank you to all of the volunteers who contributed their time and energy, and thanks to the Alameda Country Resource Conservation District for being great partners on this event.

Thanks to Grizzly Peak Fly Fishers

Nine members of the Grizzly Peak Fly Fishers visited our adopted stretch of Alameda Creek on March 23rd to help remove trash and pull invasive ivy. We're seeing a real difference at the site with their help, and we're very grateful. This is the second time the Grizzly Peak Fly Fishers have had work-parties at our site there, and we look forward to partnering with them again in the future!

Open House on Irvington Tunnel Project June 3

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission will hold an open house on their New Irvington Tunnel project in the Sunol Valley, which is nearing completion.

The SFPUC anticipates commissioning the new tunnel sometime this fall 2014, with project completion expected in mid-2015.

The SFPUC informational open house for the project will be on Tuesday, June 3, from 4:30 to 6:30 pm at the Mission Coffee House, at 151 Washington Blvd. in Fremont.

The project team will be present to answer questions regarding the project and discuss what to expect post-construction with the Groundwater Management Plan participants.

Support Wild & Scenic Mokelumne River in Oakland May 13

Speak out at an EBMUD meeting in Oakland on May 13 to support SB 1199 (Hancock), which would designate 37 miles of the Mokelumne River as a state Wild and Scenic River.

EBMUD owns and operates two large dams on the Mokelumne and sells the water stored behind the dams to residents of Berkeley, Oakland, Richmond, San Leandro, and other cities in the East Bay. In response to a lawsuit two years ago, EBMUD removed from its long-term water plan a proposal to expand its existing Pardee Reservoir, which would have flooded a portion of the river proposed for protection in S.B. 1199. Some members of the EBMUD Board would still like to expand Pardee Reservoir and flood the river. This would not be allowed if S.B. 1199 passed the Legislature.

The Wild & Scenic bill passed out of policy committee on a 7-2 vote and is moving in the state Senate. But an opposition vote from EBMUD could derail the protection.

Residents of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties who are EBMUD ratepayers, please send an e-mail to the EBMUD directors expressing your support for SB 1199 and asking them to support the bill consistent with their mission to provide reliable, high-quality water while preserving and protecting the environment for future generations.

You can send an e-mail to board@ebmud.com with cc to renee.estoista@sen.ca.gov and carolyn@foothillconservancy.org.

If you're available, come to the EBMUD Board meeting on Tuesday, May 13 at 1 pm at EBMUD Headquarters, 375 - 11th Street, in Oakland. Speak out to protect the Mokelumne River.

More info from [Friends of the River](#)

Regional Salmon News

[Internal Memo Reveals 'The Fix Is In' On Delta Tunnel Plan](#)

Calatics – May 11, 2014

[Skepticism Growing Toward 'Twin Tunnels' Project: Gov. Brown's Bay Delta Conservation Plan In Hot Water](#)

SF Bay View – May 7, 2014

[The Case for Removing Searsville Dam](#)

The Stanford Daily opinion – May 5, 2014

[This Year's California Salmon Catch Could Be the Last Good One for a While](#)

Los Angeles Times – April 30, 2014

[Historic Agreement Reforms Trinity River Fish Hatchery](#)

EPIC press release – May 28, 2014

[Billionaires' Influence Felt In State's Water Policy](#)

San Francisco Chronicle – April 25, 2014

[West Marin Projects Score Half Million to Help Endangered Coho](#)

Marin Independent Journal – April 21, 2014

[Bureau to Release Fish Pulse Flows on American River](#)

Daily Kos – April 21, 2014

[The Potter Valley Project Variance Dance: Drought and the Russian River Diversion](#)

Friends of the Eel River – April 18, 2014

[Oregon's Klamath River Basin One Step Closer to Historic Dam Removal](#)

Earth Island Journal – April 17, 2014

[Spring-run Salmon Release Marks Progress in Restoring San Joaquin River](#)

NRDC press release – April 17, 2014

[Young San Joaquin River Salmon Catch a Truck Ride from Friant Dam](#)

Fresno Bee - April 16, 2014

[**San Joaquin River Restoration Program Release of Juvenile Spring Run Chinook Salmon**](#)

You Tube video - April 16, 2014

[**San Francisquito Creek Listed Among Most Endangered In US**](#)

The Paly Voice – April 16, 2014

[**Marijuana's Thirst Depleting North Coast Watersheds**](#)

Santa Rosa Press-Democrat – April 12, 2014

[**American Rivers Names San Joaquin and Its Tributaries the #1 Most Endangered River In America**](#)

American Rivers – April 9, 2014

[**America's Most Endangered Rivers for 2014: San Francisquito Creek**](#)

American Rivers – April 9, 2014

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