

# Mill Valley StreamKeepers



*With our community, we are committed to preserving, conserving and restoring the ecologic integrity of the watershed for Mill Valley's future generations.*

Issue 11 Newsletter

WINTER 2010

## New Online Donations

When you visit our website you can now make tax deductible donations online and securely at:

[www.millvalleystreamkeepers.org](http://www.millvalleystreamkeepers.org)

This donation site is sponsored by the Trees Foundation.



## Get Involved and Volunteer

Our organization is always looking for community members from the expert to the inexperienced and people of all ages. Our meetings are typically at the Sewerage Agency of Southern Marin on the second saturday at 10:00 am. We also have opportunities throughout the year for volunteers. Please call to confirm times and places.

## Partnership with the Trees Foundation

This year we became a partner with the Trees Foundation based in Northern California. Through this partnership we hope to expand our outreach and education capabilities and join a larger watershed network of 37 non-profits that support our common goals. This will enable our online donations and web updating in addition to supporting our policy efforts.

[www.treesfoundation.org](http://www.treesfoundation.org)

Mill Valley  
StreamKeepers  
P.O. Box 2531  
Mill Valley, CA 94942  
415 388-4187



Enclosed with this newsletter is the recent Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program "*Fish Friendly Guide*" for Marin County residents. Our special thanks to MCSTOPPP and Terri Fashing for their generous contribution in providing this educational flyer. It is also available online at [www.MCSTOPPP.org](http://www.MCSTOPPP.org).

## 2010 Accomplishments

- Miller Grove restoration planting with City and neighborhood.
- Public Testimony: Miller/La Goma Project public hearing Mill Valley Planning Commission; Marin County Board of Supervisors public hearing for San Geronimo Valley Coho Salmon Enhancement Plan ordinance adoption.
- Steelhead Survey of the Arroyo Corte Madera del Presidio Creek system for National Marine Fisheries Service of NOAA.
- Trees Foundation partnership.
- Annual newsletter publication.
- Mill Valley Fall Arts Festival information tables.
- Representation of Mill Valley's Arroyo Corte Madera Del Presidio Steelhead in the San Francisco Bay Steelhead Recovery Plan.
- Library case display about the biologic cycles of Salmon.
- Participation in Salmon Restoration Federation Conference in Redding, CA.
- "We Love Fish" banner over E. Blithedale Ave.
- Opening of online donations on website.
- Distribution of California Department of Fish and Game Arroyo Corte Madera del Presidio Habitat Assessment from 2009.
- Mill Valley Beautification Day and Earth Day (enlarge rain garden) planting and creekside clean up.
- Creek Walk with Mill Valley Chief Planner, Michael Moore.
- Watershed presentation to students at Old Mill School.
- Policy work on the Mill Valley Creek Ordinance.
- Compilation and presentation of water quality data to the National Marine Fisheries Service for the Arroyo Corte Madera del Presidio.
- Policy advocacy for ecosystem preservation and enhancement in Mill Valley.
- Attendance and representation at numerous functions.
- Grant applications including awards from Marin County Fish & Wildlife Commission.
- Grant application with City of Mill Valley for restoration & flood control improvement.
- Support Students and Teachers Restoring a Watershed (STRAW) efforts.
- Continuing research and development with Roger Leventhal - for fish migration baffle engineering to improve variable roughness element.

## SOME GOALS FOR 2011

- 2011 California Department of Fish and Game Adaptive Grant for Education and Outreach.
- General Plan revision input, community outreach and education, restoration, City code re: Tree Ordinance, Riparian Ordinance and Creek Ordinance, grants.

# Help us achieve our goals for 2011; & Save Steelhead

*In 2010 we surveyed portions of the Arroyo Corte Madera del Presidio (ACM) watershed for Endangered Species Act, threatened Steelhead Salmon. We found 55 of them in 10 pools. The National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is working on a San Francisco Bay Steelhead Recovery Plan where this data was entered. Though we have an urbanized system, there is still plenty of viable habitat according to the 2009 California Department of Fish and Game ACM 2009 Habitat Assessment Report. If we are to continue to support these evolutionarily significant steelhead we must work together, with the community, to understand and begin to remove impediments to biologic functions. We need your help. Please volunteer with us to protect these magnificent fish and other riparian species for future generations. We all live in a watershed.*



**Arroyo Corte Madera Stream Gauge during big storm event October 2010.**

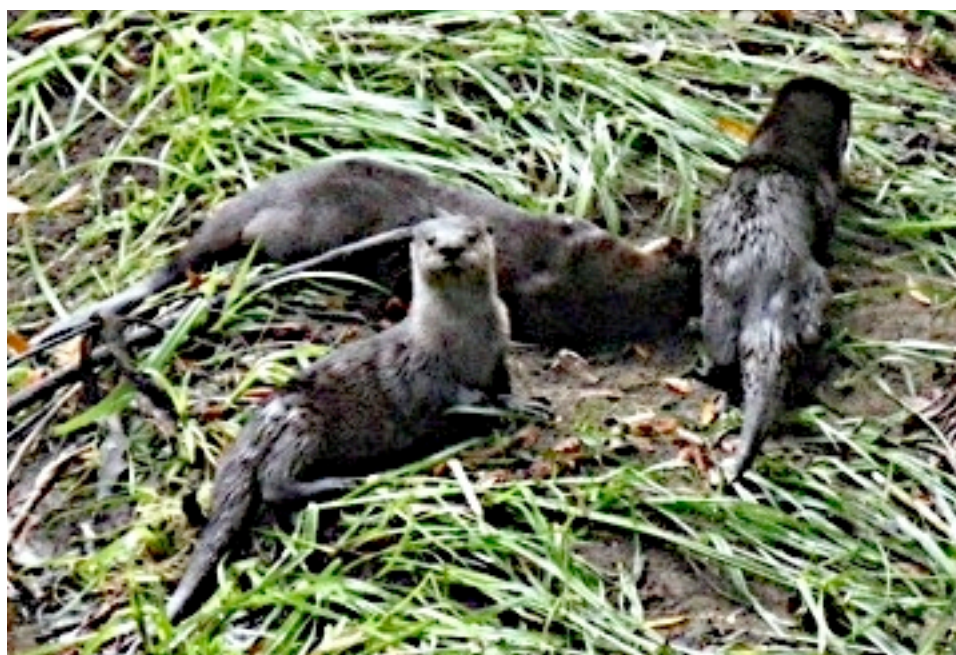


**Channelized creek: loss of fish habitat.**



**Miller Grove in need of restoration and fish passage barrier removal.**

.....  
**•REMINDER: It is against the law to remove or fish Endangered or Threatened Animals from our Creeks. Our Steelhead are a federally protected species. If you see anyone fishing, first ask them to please stop or, if necessary, immediately contact the California Department of Fish and Game hot line: 1 888 DFG-CALTIP or 1-888 334-2258.**  
 .....



**During October 31, 2010 survey for steelhead, a mother and two teenage otters came zooming out hunting the fish. . Wouldn't it be wonderful if there were enough fish for the otters, egrets, and herons that live in our creeks?**

## *Once upon a time...there were Coho Salmon* in our creeks.

Teachers, community leaders, find out why they are gone and how we can save the remaining Steelhead population.

Laura Chariton and MVSK will give a power point presentation to your group or class. We have valuable age appropriate information and literature for distribution. (415) 388-7060

[laurachariton@comcast.net](mailto:laurachariton@comcast.net)

### **Donors**

**We wish to thank our generous donors for they make the efforts of Mill Valley StreamKeepers possible.**

Harold Ball

Jean Berensmeier

Betsy and Dan Bikle

Patricia L. Blumin

Liz and John Bolton

Joyce Britt

Peter/Mimi Buckley

Laura Chariton

Paul Chuljian

The Cleaveland Family

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Raoul Wertz and  
Wendy Tobiasson

S. Cummings and I.  
Woods

Periann Wood

Margaret K. Zegart

### **Please Support Mill Valley StreamKeepers**

MVSK is a 100% volunteer non-profit organization working to protect and restore our watersheds. Your help is urgently needed as a volunteer and/or donor. Please return this form or donate online [www.millvalleystreamkeepers.org](http://www.millvalleystreamkeepers.org).

**Please include your address label if you have one.**

I am enclosing a check made out to **Mill Valley StreamKeepers** in the amount of \$25 \_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_  
 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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