



# Santa Clara County Creeks Coalition

*Advocates for living streams*

February 1, 2018

Mayor Hendricks and Members of the City Council  
City of Sunnyvale  
By email

Re: Next Steps in Improving Fish Passage on Stevens Creek

Dear Mayor Hendricks and Members of the Council,

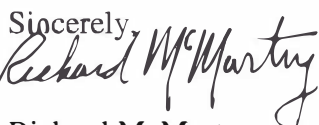
It has been slightly over 2 years since we began our conversations with you about a community partnership to improve steelhead trout passage on Stevens Creek. At that time, your council expressed their support for restoring the steelhead trout fishery on Stevens Creek and generously contributed funds along with the Cities of Mountain View and Cupertino and the Mid-Pen Open Space District as local match for a grant to the Santa Clara Valley Water District to conduct a study of eight fish migration barriers along the creek.

A workshop was held on January 22, 2018 to discuss next steps in moving forward on the recommendations of the report which was previously distributed to you.

- **Moffett Blvd Fish Ladder in Mountain View:** The Santa Clara Valley Water District has recently released a request for proposal for bids to complete a 10% design evaluation of replacing the Moffett Boulevard Fish Ladder with a more self-cleansing and effective ladder. This is a major change for the better in the approach by the Water District to this facility and we believe that our report had an impact on the timing of the release of this RFP.
- **SFPUC Hetch Hetchy Pipeline Crossing in Mountain View:** NOAA Fisheries, the federal agency in charge of restoring the steelhead trout population in local streams and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission have agreed to meet soon to discuss the fish migration barrier at the Hetch Hetchy Pipeline crossing of Stevens Creek in Mountain View. The PUC staff thanked us for bringing this barrier to their attention and indicated that if action was needed at this location, they would move forward to take care of the problem.
- **Deep Cliff Golf Course in Cupertino:** The Deep Cliff Golf Course in Cupertino had written us granting approval to pursue grants to remove the barrier on their property. This barrier is a barrier to the movement of juvenile trout during the sensitive rearing period during their first two years of life.

We are proud of the activity that our work has generated and would like to move forward on removing the barrier at the Deep Cliff Golf. Unlike the larger barriers owned by the Water District whose remediation will cost on the order of \$1.5 million, the Deep Cliff barrier could be addressed at more modest cost. Our engineers estimate that the cost for removing Deep Cliff barrier would be about \$140-\$160,000. If we could get four agencies to contribute \$9900 each, then this would amount to the 25% match needed to get a 75% grant from the Water District.

We are hoping to meet with your staff to discuss this project and hope that you could agendize a discussion of this item at your meeting in late February.

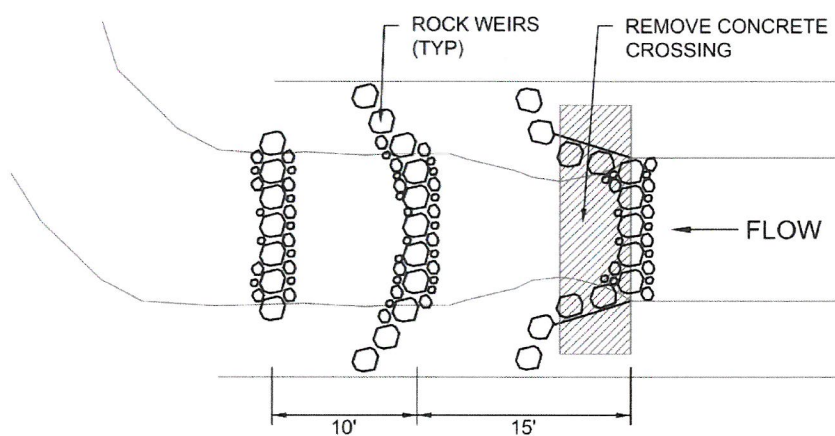
Sincerely,  


Richard McMurtry  
Program Coordinator

25 below shows a rendering of the design concept for this crossing. Appendix A shows a plan and profile for the preliminary design.



**Figure 25. Rendering of Proposed Rock Baffles**



**Figure 26. Golf Course Rock Baffle Schematic**

This site design would include three rock weir structures using rock sized adequately as a base that will not be washed away, with intermediate sized rocks to fill most of the voids. Because this feature will replace the existing barrier to flow, no measurable impact to flood flow is anticipated for this design. With properly sized and placed rock at this location, grouting of the rock will not be necessary. Maintenance of the weir will likely require annual inspection and replacement of intermediate sized rocks.

Table 12 provides an opinion of probable costs for the rock weir system at this site.

Table 14. Summary of Findings and Recommendations [Zoom out \(Ctrl+Minus\)](#)

Project Site	Preferred Alternative	Estimated Construction Costs	Engineering & Construction Management	Permitting and Administration Costs	TOTAL Opinion of Probable Project Cost
Deep Cliff Golf Course	Rock weir and pool system	\$88,000	\$30,800	\$26,400	\$145,200