



South Coast Habitat Restoration Newsletter

Summer 2011

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Carpinteria Creek Watershed Coalition celebrates its 10 year anniversary



The Carpinteria Creek Watershed Coalition held its 10 year anniversary celebration at the Mouth of Carpinteria Creek on Saturday, May 14th from 1pm-4pm. The event included brief speeches from Coalition members, including the Mayor of Carpinteria, Al Clark, County Supervisor, Salud Carbajal, and SCHR Director Mauricio Gomez. The Watershed Hero Award was presented to Bob Hansen, for his years of dedication to the watershed. Bob was one of the founders of the Carpinteria Creeks

Committee and designer of the CCWC logo. He was presented the award by Mayor Clark, a longtime supporter of his efforts.

The anniversary celebration also included informational tables from different coalition members that have been involved in the Watershed. This included Santa Barbara Channelkeeper, the Cate School's Carpinteria Stream Team, South Coast Habitat Restoration, the California Conservation Corps, Channel Islands Restoration, the County Agricultural Commissioner's Office, and the Cachuma Resource Conservation District. In total around 65 individuals from the community came out to learn about the watershed and celebrate this important milestone. The event was a great success. Thank you to State Parks for hosting, and to all of the Coalition members that helped organize and support the celebration. All Organic CCWC t-shirts are still available for \$10, if you would like to purchase a t-shirt please contact us at mail@carpinteriacreek.org. If you are interested in getting involved, the Coalition meets on the third Thursday of every month, at the Carpinteria City Hall, from 10am-12pm.

For more information please check out, carpinteriacreek.org



LONGTIME CARPINTERIA CREEK SUPPORTER,
BOB HANSEN RECEIVED THE 2011
WATERSHED HERO AWARD



DAVID CHANG, WITH THE COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE
SETTING UP HIS INFORMATIONAL BOOTH

The mission of **South Coast Habitat Restoration** is to protect, conserve, and restore the various habitats and native biodiversity of Santa Barbara and Ventura counties.

For more information please visit us at:
schabitatrestoration.org

Support SCHR

Click here to support our ongoing efforts,
your contribution is tax deductible

CREATURE FEATURE: BLACK COTTONWOOD *Populus balsamifera*



Black cottonwood is the largest American poplar and the largest hardwood tree in western North America. The range of black cottonwood extends from Alaska, including various islands, through coastal regions of western Canada, down through the western United States and as far south as Northern Baja California. The Black cottonwood is a fast growing native riparian tree. The aggressive root system of black cottonwood makes it an effective soil stabilizer and a useful species for restoration of riparian areas, where it also provides protection for the aquatic environment, especially in helping to maintain low water temperatures through shading. Black cottonwood provides food and cover for a variety of wildlife species, including deer, and beaver. Large birds use the crowns for nesting sites and various animals rely on the trunk cavities, which commonly result from heart rot in most stands nearing maturity.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Creek Mouth Restoration

June 11th, from 9am –2pm come join us at the mouth of Carpinteria Creek for our next volunteer work day. Please wear appropriate attire and remember to pack sunscreen and water. For more info carpinteriacreekmouth.blogspot.com.

Patagonia's Advocate Weeks!

Come to the local Patagonia store in Ventura to support SCHR with every pair of shoes you purchase during the month of June. SCHR has been chosen to be part of Patagonia's Advocate Weeks program, through which Patagonia Footwear donates \$10 to a conservation organization for ever pair of shoes they sell. Starting June 1st through the end of the month, for every pair of shoes sold at the Ventura store, Patagonia will donate \$10 to SCHR. We will be in the store on Saturday June 11th, from 11:00am-3:00pm to talk to customers about the work that we do. Come by say hello, grab some free stickers and buy some shoes! For more info visit patagonia.com

Tri County FISH Team meeting

The next Tri-County FISH Team meeting will be taking place on Thursday, June 2nd, in Santa Barbara at Chase Palm Park. The Tri-County fish team is a partnership between local government agencies, sponsoring agencies, and non-governmental organizations within San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties to develop a regional approach for salmonid restoration in the tri-county area. For more info fishteam.org.

Patagonia Music

Ongoing with new artists and tracks added every week. Support SCHR with the purchase of Toad the Wet Sprockets' song "Walk on the Ocean". For the full list of artists and beneficiary organizations check out Patagonia.com/music

Widdoes Project Update

South Coast Habitat Restoration is moving forward with the Widdoes project, the last remaining barrier on Gobernador Creek, the main tributary to the Carpinteria Creek Watershed. Waterways Consulting, the engineering firm on the project has produced finalized designs for the site and SCHR is now working towards securing all the necessary permits and coordinating all the logistical details with the property owners. Construction is set to begin this summer. The project will allow for over 1.5 miles of habitat to be available to steelhead through the removal a low flow concrete crossing, creation of step pools and installation of a clear span vehicular bridge from Big R Manufacturing.

The barrier is located downstream of the County debris basin, which was modified to improve steelhead migration in 2008. The

Widdoes crossing represent the last barrier inhibiting steelhead passage to the perennial headwaters of the creek. The project has been awarded funding from the California Department of Fish and Game and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. This project is an essential component of the efforts to restore steelhead runs to the Carpinteria Watershed and has been a goal of the Carpinteria Creek Watershed Coalition for many years. SCHR looks forward to removing the final barrier to migration in Gobernador Creek and allowing steelhead the opportunity to return to their historic spawning grounds. Additional efforts are underway to remove the final barriers on the Carpinteria Creek mainstem.

For more information about the project, check out our website schabitatrestoration.org



THE CURRENT WIDDOES CROSSING IS A COMPLETE BARRIER TO STEELHEAD PASSAGE.



THE PERENNIAL HABITAT THAT WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE UPSTREAM OF THE CROSSING.

SANTA BARBARA EARTH DAY

Santa Barbara Earth Day was held at Alameda Park in downtown Santa Barbara on April 16th and 17th. South Coast Habitat Restoration was there to talk with the public about our sensitive streams and the restoration projects which we are involved in. Thank you to all of you that came out in support of Earth Day! It was a very successful and informative weekend. SCHR spoke with over 100 community members about our efforts on the south coast. Thanks to CEC for putting the event on. Hope to see you all there next year.




Buy a pair of shoes, and support SCHR through Patagonia's Advocate Weeks


ADVOCATE WEEKS

Help Support Local Conservation Efforts.

June 1st through 30th, support South Coast Habitat Restoration with every pair of shoes you purchase at the Ventura Patagonia Store.



Patagonia Footwear will donate \$10 to South Coast Habitat Restoration for every pair of shoes sold at the Ventura Patagonia Store during the month of June. Join us June 11th at the Ventura Patagonia Store to learn about SCHR and the work that we do. Stop by for this years Advocate Weeks program to purchase a great pair of shoes and, in so doing, support SCHR.



SCHR is excited to announce we have been chosen to be part of Patagonia's Advocate Weeks Program! The Patagonia Footwear team has partnered with [1% for the Planet](#), their Patagonia stores, and participating retailers to help raise awareness and funds for local conservation efforts. At participating store locations this Spring and Fall, [Patagonia Footwear](#) will donate \$10 to local conservation efforts for every pair of Patagonia shoes you purchase.

SCHR's event will be at the Patagonia store in Ventura for the entire month of June. For every pair of shoes sold at the Ventura Patagonia store during the month of June, SCHR will receive \$10! Please come out and support us with your purchase of a new pair of shoes. In addition we will be in the Ventura store on Saturday June 11th, from 11:00am-3:00pm, to talk to customers about the work that we do and encourage support of our efforts. Stop by and see us and get a free SCHR sticker.

VENTURA RIVER STEELHEAD SPAWNER SURVEYS

South Coast Habitat Restoration participated in two Steelhead Spawner surveys coordinated by NOAA Fisheries in the Ventura River Watershed this spring. Both surveys were along the mainstem of the Ventura River, one was upstream of the San Antonio Confluence the other was from the confluence with Canada Larga creek, to the confluence with San Antonio. A large steelhead around 18 inches was observed in the pool at Foster Park on April 27th, in addition to a large number of non-native carp and western pond turtles throughout the reach. The survey in March on the reach above the San Antonio confluence was during high flows following a storm event and no spawning activity or steelhead were observed.



VOICE YOUR CHOICE RESULTS: SCHR PLACES SECOND!!!!

SCHR is thrilled to announce that we placed second in this years [Patagonia's Voice Your Choice program](#). Thank you to all of our supporters that came out in support of SCHR and voted during the Voice Your Choice event last March. SCHR enjoyed being a part of the event and talking with customers while tabling at the Patagonia store. Heal the Ocean received the most votes and received \$2,500 in grant money from Patagonia, SCHR came in second and received \$1,500, and Ocean Futures Society received \$1,000. Stay tuned for next years event when three new local non profits will be up for the challenge to see who can attract the most votes. Thanks so much to Patagonia and all of you that came out to Voice Your Choice!



Tajiguas Project Update

SCHR is moving forward to implement a steelhead passage project in the Tajiguas Watershed this summer. The project will involve the removal of five low flow Arizona crossings and the installation of one new clear span vehicular bridge. The crossings slated for removal were constructed decades ago as part of the ranch agricultural operation and over time have created barriers to steelhead migration. Removal of the barriers and replacement of the crossings with a single bridge structure will significantly improve conditions for steelhead on the property. SCHR submitted a grant to the California Department of Fish and Game's Fisheries Restoration Grant Program last spring for this watershed restoration project. The 2011 grant recipients were announced in early February.

SCHR will be working with the property owner to make all the necessary arrangements for the project to go to construction this summer as planned. This includes finalizing engineering designs with Michael Love and Associates, securing necessary permits, hiring a contractor, and coordinating restoration efforts with the California Conservation Corps. The bridge will be ordered from Big R Manufacturing. SCHR is excited to work with the property owner on this voluntary habitat restoration project that is moving forward and will make considerable improvements for steelhead trout along the Gaviota Coast. Stay tuned for updates on this project.

For more information, check out our website schabitatrestoration.org



ONE OF FIVE CROSSINGS THAT WILL BE REMOVED THIS SUMMER FROM THE TAJIGUAS WATERSHED ON THE GAVIOTA COAST



THE TAJIGUAS WATERSHED HAS A DENSE RIPARIAN CANOPY THAT PROVIDES HABITAT AND SHADING FOR STEELHEAD

Salmonid Restoration Conference

The 29th annual Salmonid Restoration Federation conference was held in San Luis Obispo on March 23rd-26th. The conference is an annual gathering of hundreds of stream engineers and biologists from across the state, that get together to hear about the latest projects and techniques that are being implemented for salmonid restoration projects. South Coast Habitat Restoration participated in this year's conference through a presentation that was given in a fish passage design workshop and an informational poster that was created for the Friday night poster session of the conference.

The annual conference is a great way to learn about salmonids as well as the restoration efforts that are taking place across the state. The conference is put on by the Salmonid Restoration Federation, which also puts on workshops and field schools throughout the year on topics relating to the recovery of California's native salmonids. Congratulations to the Restorationist of the Year award which went to Meredith Hardy, the Fisheries specialist for the San Luis Obispo California Conservation Corps. This year the Life time achievement award went to Rosi Dagit of the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains.

For more information please check out calsalmon.org



MAURICIO GOMEZ GIVING HIS PRESENTATION AT SRF



FILED TOUR OF RESTORATION SITES

Watershed Stewards Project extends its reach to Santa Barbara



The AmeriCorps Watersheds Steward Project, based out of Fortuna California, places AmeriCorps members throughout the state of California working to conserve, restore, and enhance anadromous watersheds for future generations by linking education with high quality scientific practices. The program will be starting its 18th year this October, and SCHR is excited to announce that two members will be placed in Santa Barbara in a partnership between the Department of Fish and Game, the California Conservation Corps, and SCHR, each will be mentoring the members to help expose them to salmonid restoration efforts as well as provide connections for educational and community outreach opportunities. The programs original focus was in Northern California, but in recent years WSP has been working to find positive mentoring sites in Southern California.

Each Watershed Stewards member is placed with an organization which is committed to preserving and restoring California's watersheds and native salmon runs, whether it is a Federal, State or County agency, Tribal department, or a grassroots-based non-profit. Watershed Stewards members work under the guidance of a natural resource professional at their placement site to fulfill the WSP mission and provide support for their site. Each site varies in the duties, schedule, and scope of work, however, all sites provide some amount of watershed assessment, education and outreach opportunities, and training opportunities for the AmeriCorps members. If you are interested in applying to be a watershed steward or if you are interested in more information about the project please check out watershedstewards.com.



A COHO AND STEELHEAD SPawner
SURVEY IN MARIN COUNTY



WSP MEMBER WORKING ON A ROTARY
SCREW TRAP ON THE SHASTA RIVER



A WSP MEMBERS ON A SPawner SURVEY ON
THE SCOTT RIVER FOUND A COHO CARCASS

PORTOLA SYCAMORES DONATED TO SCHR FROM THE SANTA BARBARA GARDEN CLUB

The Santa Barbara chapter of the Garden Club has propagated over a 100 sycamore trees from the historic Portola sycamore in Carpinteria. The large effort was undertaken as part of the Garden Club's 100 year anniversary. The Garden Club was generous enough to donate 10 of these trees to SCHR to plant at restoration sites along Carpinteria Creek. The sycamore trees were planted this March and are doing great.



TWO OF THE TEN PORTOLA SYCAMORES
PLANTED ALONG CARPINTERIA CREEK AT
SCHR RESTORATION SITES



SCHR would like to thank Cricket Wingfield for her hard work propagating the trees and her generous contribution to the watershed.

The Mission of South Coast Habitat Restoration is to protect, conserve, and restore the various habitats and native biodiversity of Santa Barbara and Ventura. For more information please visit us at: schabitatrestoration.org

Support SCHR Visit www.earthisland.org/schr/donate to support our ongoing efforts, your contribution is tax deductible

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CALIFORNIA NEWT



GAVIOTA CREEK



CREEK CLEMATIS



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Place
Stamp
Here