



Wildlife Survey & Photo Service

2443 Fair Oaks Blvd. # 209 • Sacramento, CA 95825 • (916) 747-8537

February 8, 2017

To: Rich Marovich
Putah Creek Streamkeeper

RE: LPCCC Meeting - February 9, 2017 - Salmon Monitoring

Mr. Marovich,

I will not be able to attend the LPCCC Meeting today. I request that you briefly address the group with a couple of comments regarding the flood conditions and salmon eggs / alevin currently within Lower Putah Creek.

My Comment(s): I keep hearing statements that all the salmon eggs and alevin were washed downstream in the current flood. I'm not so sure about those claims and will be able to eventually ascertain the damage to salmon redds that were documented during the 2016 salmon spawn. All known spawning sites and redds between the PDD and I-505 were mapped. Some were photographed. Of course, we will also have other methodology to determine the survival of salmon alevin / fingerlings.

During the recent storm events, when conditions allowed, I looked at several of the Scarification Spawning sites. After the first flood event I looked at salmon redds on January 16th. The redds that were in areas with large enough cobble that allowed the female salmon to "armor" the upstream side of the redds looked fine. They were not significantly impacted by flood scour. Those areas were also in areas with sufficient flood plains to disperse the flows energy away from the main channel. The impact of the sediment is another matter.

I am working on the 2016 Spawning Scarification Report and will have that to you ASAP. Please note the image below taken at Scarification Site 10. The redd was well armored with larger cobble and eventually was deep enough to withstand significant flows.

Thanks, 

