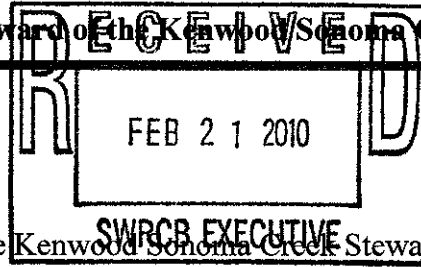


commentletters - Comment by Keith Hanover, Lead Steward of the Kenwood/Sonoma Creek Stewardship



From: "keith hanover" <jandkhanover@earthlink.net>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Sunday, February 21, 2010 12:01 PM
Subject: Comment by Keith Hanover, Lead Steward of the Kenwood/Sonoma Creek Stewardship

As I have commented in the previous version of this plan it has been scientifically stated that the single largest contributor to increased sediment in this watershed is the loss of it's freshwater marshland. Loss of marshland increased sediment in this watershed by three fold since 1800's. See SEC Sonoma Creek Watershed Sediment Source Analysis Oct '06.

SEC'S-SEDIMENT SOURCE ANALYSIS OCTOBER 2006

Pg 17 Table 2 see 1823: Fish population stated as abundant and notes state many disconnected tributaries & wetlands

Pg 20 Table 3 see Juvenile Rearing:

Factor; Summer and Winter Off-Channel Habitat. "Hypothesis; The loss of the majority of historical off-channel rearing habitat due to direct and indirect physical alteration has reduced steelhead populations. Summary Statistics; Historical ecology mapping indicates that remaining freshwater wetland and floodplain areas are less than approximately 10% of historical conditions. **Potential Impact; High. Certainty; High."**

Factor; Pool Filling by Sediment. "Hypothesis; Episodic deposition of fine sediment in pools causes moderate impacts to the quantity of available habitat. Summary Statistics; Measured pool habitat lost to fine sediment averaged 8.5% of pool volume, approximately four times values measured in the Napa basin. **Potential Impact; Moderate. Certainty, Moderate."**

See also:

Strandings by Low Flow; Potential Impact: High, Certainty: High

Water Temperature; Potential Impact: Moderate, Certainty: Moderate to High

Suspended Sediment; Potential Impact: Moderate, Certainty: Moderate

Water Quality; Potential Impact: Moderate (localized), Certainty: Low (*I believe this Water Quality Potential Impact should be rated as high with a high Certainty. This I feel is because the quality should be directly impacted by the above stated higher Temperatures and Suspended Sediment Impacts and Certainties which when combined should decrease quality .)*

Pg 34 Legacy Effects; "A significant amount of sediment from sub basins with discontinuous channels is believed to have been stored in the alluvial fans and marshy areas that existed on the valley floor. Because of these conditions, we hypothesize that the current sediment delivery to Sonoma Creek could be as high as three times the baseline rate, c. 1800."

Pg 34 Rulse Model Sediment Source Proportions

SOURCE; It states that discontinuous tributaries potentially created 63% of sediment from "natural" and Legacy erosion rates. However, current **PROPORTIONS** when not taking discontinuous tributaries into account produce 53% of in stream sediment.