

What SPAWN does...

- * Collaborate with residents, partner organizations, and local schools (including the Lagunitas School) habitat restoration
- * Teach watershed ecology in classrooms across Marin
- * Grow native plants provided at low cost to Valley residents
- * Help repair non-County maintained dirt roads
- * Help design and fund streambank repairs
- * Rescue fish from drying streams and relocate them to safer waters
- * Lead creek cleanups
- * Monitor the salmon migrations and stream health
- * Train creek naturalists and lead public field tours
- * Rainwater harvesting projects at schools and residences
- * Review County, State and Federal policies.



SPAWN's mission is to protect and restore coho salmon and the health of the Lagunitas watershed for all wildlife and its human residents.



We focus on coho because they are an environmental "indicator species" reflecting the biological health of our lands and streams. Coho salmon are our watershed's equivalent of the "canary in the coal mine."

The San Geronimo Valley represents one of the last remaining strongholds for wild coho salmon in Central California and we feel a special responsibility as local residents to help protect and restore this precious biological resource.

LEARN MORE!

Read the SEP and Q&A Fact Sheet
at www.SpawnUSA.org

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San Geronimo Valley Salmon Enhancement Plan

Separating Fact from Fiction



October 2009

READ THE PLAN - KNOW THE FACTS

“WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP IS A COLLABORATION” – Woodacre Creek Resident

WHAT IS THE SEP?

The SEP (Salmon Enhancement Plan) is a study performed by independent scientific consultants hired by the County. These independent consultants made science based recommendations on ways we, local residents and County Supervisors, can begin to reverse the perilous decline of salmon that grace our streams. These recommendations have no force of law and are only to inform the public and Board of Supervisors, who after public hearings and input, will ultimately decide to accept, reject, modify or ignore all or some of these recommendations.

WHO WROTE THE SEP?

SPAWN did not write the SEP. The SEP was produced by independent, highly qualified scientific consultants, hired by the County to review the biological data on endangered coho and existing habitat conditions for salmon in the San Geronimo Valley.

WHY?

Lagunitas coho are State and federally-listed endangered species. The SEP is the result of an agreement between the County and SPAWN for an independent review of the available data. The County is required under California law to undertake a cumulative impact study before approving new policies that impact the environment, such as the relatively recent County-wide Plan.

HOW WILL IT AFFECT ME?

The SEP has no force of law. It is a suite of science-based recommendations to inform County Supervisors of options to slow habitat degradation and start to improve critical stream habitat conditions for endangered salmon.

Recommended voluntary actions include replacing invasive plants with native species, installing rainwater harvesting systems, and reducing impermeable surfaces.

Recommended changes in land-use include limiting new development in the most critical habitat for salmon, the 35-ft buffer adjacent to the stream which provides crucial food, shade and shelter for salmon, AND acts to stabilize streambanks, prevent property loss, and filter pollutants from entering streams.

Fear-Driven Misinformation is circulating widely.

KNOW THE FACTS - THIS PLAN DOES NOT RECOMMEND:

- **Eminent domain**
- **Forced easements**
- **Forced replacements of septic**
- **Forced removal of gardens, structures, fences**
- **Mandatory County inspections of creek-side residences**