



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
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GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



August 8, 2022

Re: Public informational meeting notification for Mark West Creek watershed reports

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) is hosting an informational public meeting on August 25, 2022, from 11:00 am to noon PDT to present two reports: *Watershed-Wide Instream Flow Criteria for Mark West Creek* and *Instream Flow Evaluation: Juvenile Rearing of Steelhead and Coho Salmon in Upper Mark West Creek, Sonoma County*. Mark West Creek is a significant watercourse within the Russian River Watershed and has high resource value for aquatic species, including anadromous salmonids. Mark West Creek was selected for development of flow criteria due to its inclusion in the 2014 California Water Action Plan, as well as the need to assure the continued viability of stream-related fish and wildlife resources and ecological functions in the watershed.

The [California Water Action Plan](#) was released by former Governor Jerry Brown in January 2014, with the purpose of addressing California's complex water issues. The Department is focused on *Action 4: Protect and Restore Important Ecosystems*, and specifically the *Sub-Action: Enhance Water Flows in Stream Systems Statewide*. The Department is developing flow criteria for the priority streams outlined in the California Water Action Plan, including Mark West Creek mainstem and tributary reaches. For additional information on the Department's instream flow efforts and to review the study plan associated with the Mark West Creek instream flow evaluations, visit the Instream Flow Program's web page at: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Watersheds/Instream-Flow/Studies/Mark-West-Creek-Study>.

The public meeting can be accessed on August 25, 2022, at 11:00 am PDT here: [CDFW Mark West Creek Informational Meeting](#). Following this meeting, both the watershed criteria report and instream flow evaluation technical report will be available on the Department's Instream Flow Program website at the link provided above. For any questions regarding the Department's California Water Action Plan efforts in the Mark West Creek watershed, please email instreamflow@wildlife.ca.gov.