

From: [Jack Lucas](#)
To: [Stephanie Simunic](#)
Subject: Re: NOTICED OF PUBLISHED AGENDA: 03122026 SCVWD SPOC Meeting
Date: Friday, March 6, 2026 10:25:33 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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Stephanie,

Had not realized that FAHCE agreement was not being implemented to assure that Coyote Creek, Guadalupe River and Stevens Creek were being managed to assure health and safety of migratory runs of steelhead and salmon. Had thought that legal settlement was to be upheld in perpetuity in the three rivers.

The reason that I feel this legal settlement may be in jeopardy is recent District 'flood control' and salt pond restoration projects plan to pierce stream and slough levees in manner that will divert migratory runs from home stream into dead end salt pond or alternate stream system. Stevens Creek Slough is planned to have its western levee breached into Mountain View's salt ponds 1 & 2, and Guadalupe River's breached levee into pond 8 does not appear to be managed to preserve integrity of migratory runs up main stem of river and more recently District San Tomas Aquino River flood project is proposed to breach levee at Harvey mitigation marsh to connect San Tomas Aquino to Pond 8 and Guadalupe River. This would then enable fish to be diverted to dead end in San Tomas Aquino rather than to upper Guadalupe River spawning grounds.

San Tomas Aquino has flowed into Guadalupe Slough (as Saratoga Creek) for centuries as has Stevens Creek into its historic slough so these projects will disrupt migratory fish spawning instincts critically to destroy species survival.

These levee breaches are said to be engineered to increase sediment deposits in salt ponds when that has not happened in other cases so is a false premise. Also in storm events when streams do have high flows to carry sediment loads to the Bay, these ponds will be at high water levels and cause reflux and floods inland and upstream. Five to seven miles of slough have historically buffered low lying Valley streams so this proposed engineering is dangerously flawed. Subsidence and saltwater intrusion in groundwater only compound flood threat.

Please include participants in the original FAHCE deliberations in these latest proposed 'stream improvements' to make certain historic steelhead and salmon runs are not lost forever. Heritage Institute lawyers need to be included as well to insure there is full compliance with your original FAHCE agreement.

Thank you for forwarding these concerns to the Board and to respective staff.

I might also add that it has been my observation that engineers involved in salt pond restoration efforts do not appear to understand the dynamics of this north Santa Clara Valley terrain, that streams do not have an unimpaired slope to Bay but due to subsidence and centuries of flow into built up marshland the majority of stream sediment is dropped at base of foothills miles from Bay. If they do not care to walk the streams with soil conservation experts then they should review maintenance records. East Bay engineers fall into this category all too often.

Libby Lucas

[REDACTED]

Los Altos, CA