



Santa Cruz Bird Club

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February 28, 2017

From: Santa Cruz Bird Club
Re: 2/28/17 City Council meeting
Agenda item # 7, Annual San Lorenzo Flood Control Maintenance(PW)

To: Mark Dettle and Santa Cruz City Council City of Santa Cruz

Dear City Council Members & Mark Dettle,

For item # 7, "Annual San Lorenzo Flood Control Maintenance", the Santa Cruz Bird Club offers these suggestions based on members' interest in the study & conservation of birdlife:

It is advisable to start the Flood Control Maintenance after August 15th, which the Calif. Dept. of Fish & Wildlife states as the end of nesting season. 38 bird species nest along the San Lorenzo River corridor, of which 10-12 species of birds are known to nest in riparian corridor of the San Lorenzo River.

It is vital that a thorough, detailed, land & water bird nesting survey is conducted a week prior to Flood Control Work. This will assure that any late breeders' nests are spotted.

It is recommended that the hired contractor be well qualified to execute riparian specialized maintenance, adhering to City regulations and the San Lorenzo River environment habitat guidelines. A riparian specialized contractor will avoid unnecessary vegetation damage thus protecting important bird habitat.

Respectfully,
Jane Mio, Santa Cruz Bird Club Conservation Officer