



Friends of Corte Madera Creek Watershed

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Dredging Policy

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Friends of Corte Madera Creek Watershed recognizes the need to dredge certain areas in the watershed. We do not oppose dredging when it meets the following criteria:

1. There is a demonstrated need to maintain channels for flood control purposes.
2. Spoils are disposed of at a suitable location. Upland disposal within the watershed is not acceptable unless the spoils are tested and found suitable to support native vegetation appropriate for the elevation and hydrologic regime of the disposal area.
3. Work areas, laydown areas, equipment storage areas, and spoils disposal areas are sited to avoid and minimize impacts to both wetland and upland habitats.
4. Dredging is done after public environmental review and comment that includes identification and analysis of: (a) impacts to upland and wetland habitats during all phases of the operation; (b) appropriate locations for spoils disposal; (c) avoidance and minimization of impacts, including potential mobilization of noxious materials in the dredged materials and potential destabilization of adjacent areas; (d) mitigation for all unavoidable impacts, including identification of suitable environmental windows for the dredging to avoid and minimize impacts on aquatic species, especially migrating fish.
5. Dredging is done in full compliance with measures required by the appropriate regulatory agencies, including but not limited to, San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Marine Fisheries Service.