## **A Case Study**

Impacts to Wildcat Creek and San Pablo Creek
North Richmond, Contra Costa County
by
Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water
Conservation District

The Wildcat and San Pablo Creeks Flood Control Project was designed and constructed by the Army Corps of Engineers in the 1980's to include riparian vegetation rather than a barren channel. A multi-agency community design team shepherded this project through, and has continued monitoring it since completion. Congressman George Miller and County Supervisor John Gioia were instrumental in this project's success. This project has been a model across the nation for multi-objective flood control projects

The new Corps Engineers requirement to remove vegetation from these levees will impact rare habitat for the Pacific Coast Steelhead, Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse, Black Rail, and Clapper Rail. In reality, this loss of habitat cannot be mitigated for. Without the riparian forest, the community will lose a beautiful and natural resource which they fought hard to preserve and protect for the past 25 years. Implementation of the Corps policy would require this impoverished community to raise millions of dollars, which could not be achieved without assistance from state and federal grants.



Wildcat Creek Levee with Trees



Wildcat Creek Levee without Trees