



January 14, 2008

To: Dawn Calciano
Executive Director
Putah Creek Council

Subject: Water flow in Upper Dry Creek Watershed



Flowing water in Upper Dry Creek Watershed. 1/14/08

Background:

In the spring of 2006, I collected ten species of aquatic invertebrates in the Design Channel that had never been documented in Putah Creek. Due to the proximity of the new invertebrates to the confluence with Dry Creek, the most logical source of the invertebrates was the Upper Dry Creek watershed.

Determining the source of the invertebrates is important for the following reasons:

- restoring the invertebrate population in Putah Creek
- invertebrates are a significant food source for salmonids.
- mitigate invertebrate losses caused by the New Zealand Mudsnaill infestation in Putah Creek.



Flowing water in Upper Dry Creek Watershed. 1/14/08

Report:

Water flow in the Dry Creek watershed is essential to measuring the invertebrate population in the watershed. On 1/14/08, I walked into the Upper Dry Creek watershed to assess the water flow and take samples if feasible.

Results:

There is a water flow on several benches in the Upper Dry Creek watershed. The flow - if it continues - is enough to support the invertebrates found in the Design Channel. Similar flows in Pope Creek (2006) supported one of the highest densities of mayflies I've ever encountered. Enos Creek, a tributary of Dry Creek, has numerous very deep pools that certainly could support some of the invertebrates.

Recommendation:

Depending upon rainfall, I will be monitoring Dry, Enos, Pope, and Capell watersheds as part of the Rumsey Community Fund grant.

Submitted 1/15/08 via e-mail

Ken W. Davis, Aquatic biologist (916) 747-8537



Pooled water in Enos Creek Watershed. 1/14/08