



# COUNTY OF MARIN

## NEWS RELEASE

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### MARIN COUNTY RELEASES GUIDELINES FOR NOVATO CREEK BANK STABILIZATION

The Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District has released a report outlining design guidelines that will benefit homeowners and the environment by addressing erosion, flooding, and habitat enhancement along Novato Creek. The report, developed in consultation with federal, state, and local agencies, will be presented to the Flood Advisory Board for the Novato Watershed on July 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the North Marin Water District offices located at 999 Rush Creek Place in Novato.

“These guidelines will benefit residents and the city by encouraging a unified approach with the Flood Control District for bank stabilization,” said Supervisor Judy Arnold. “I am pleased that we are able to support work that will protect people’s property and the environment.”

Two specific sections of Novato Creek are covered in the report: Grant Avenue to Simmons Lane and Miwok Park from Las Tardes to Novato Boulevard. The report concludes the Novato Creek channel has deepened in response to urbanization, which causes a creek to deepen to maintain its flow area. Novato Creek has reached the natural limits of its depth and now the erosion is occurring across the creek channel, which threatens both residences and habitat along the creek.

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The report also addresses the analysis and design of creek bank stabilization projects and recommends a comprehensive approach to addressing bank erosion.

“The days of lining banks with concrete blocks and wood planks are over,” said Farhad Mansourian, County Public Works Director. “In order to continue to be stewards of our watersheds, we need to incorporate native vegetation and habitat into our design approach.”

The Point Richmond-based engineering firm of Questa Engineering prepared the report under the guidance of Flood Control District staff. The project was funded by a supplemental environmental project endorsed by the Novato Sanitary District, State of California Regional Water Quality Control Board and the North Bay Watershed Association. Copies of the report will be available online at [www.co.marin.ca.us](http://www.co.marin.ca.us) and at the City of Novato’s public works counter.

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