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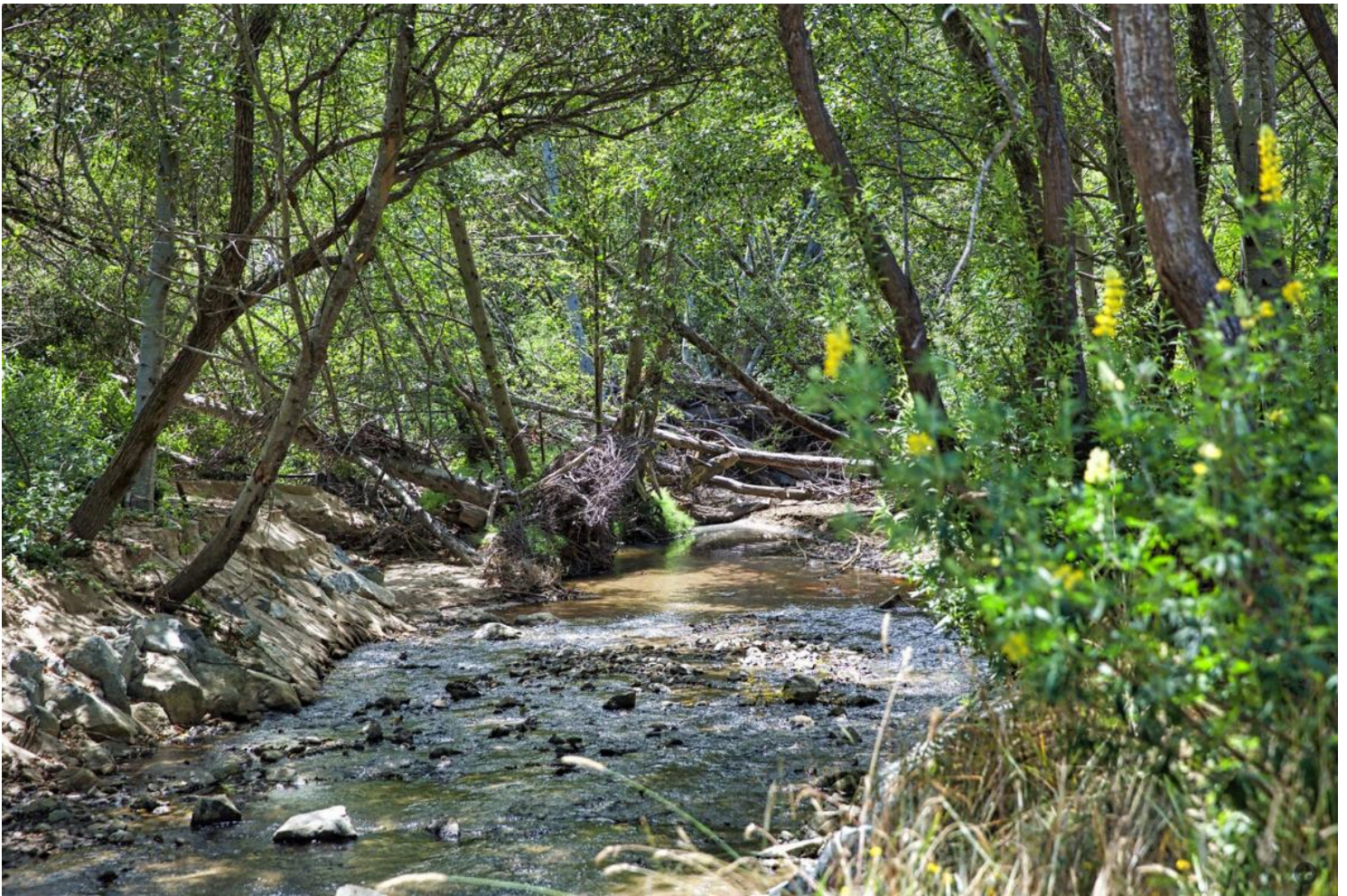
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From the Daily Journal archives

San Mateo County's Little Butano Creek gets restoration help

Daily Journal staff report

Apr 17, 2025



San Mateo County's Little Butano Creek fish and habitat restoration project is the first in the state to benefit from a new streamlined permitting process designed to cut the red tape away from restoration projects.

According to an April 10 press release from Gov. Gavin Newsom’s office, California has been working to streamline environmental work through its “Cutting Green Tape” program since 2021.

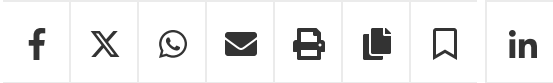
The Butano Creek project — designed to restore fish passage at an existing 15-foot chute, enhancing access to the Butano Creek watershed — was granted the first restoration management permit to complete work.

The permit consolidates five of the most common California Department of Fish and Wildlife approvals needed for restoration projects, the press release said.

“Making it faster and easier to approve restoration projects has huge benefits for people and wildlife alike, which is why I’m excited we’ve issued our first restoration permit for the Little Butano Creek Project in the Pescadero watershed,” CDFW Director Charlton Bonham said in the press release.

When completed, the Butano Creek project will enhance 1,000 linear feet of aquatic habitat and 3.52 acres of wetland for coho salmon, steelhead trout and the California red-legged frog, including a variety of other species.

Various restoration efforts around Butano Creek — including restoration of the floodplain habitat to create flood protection and agricultural security for coho salmon — have long been priorities for the San Mateo Resource Conservation District.



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