



Alder Creek Watershed

*Lessons from the
Watershed Tours*

April and May
2007

ALDER CREEK



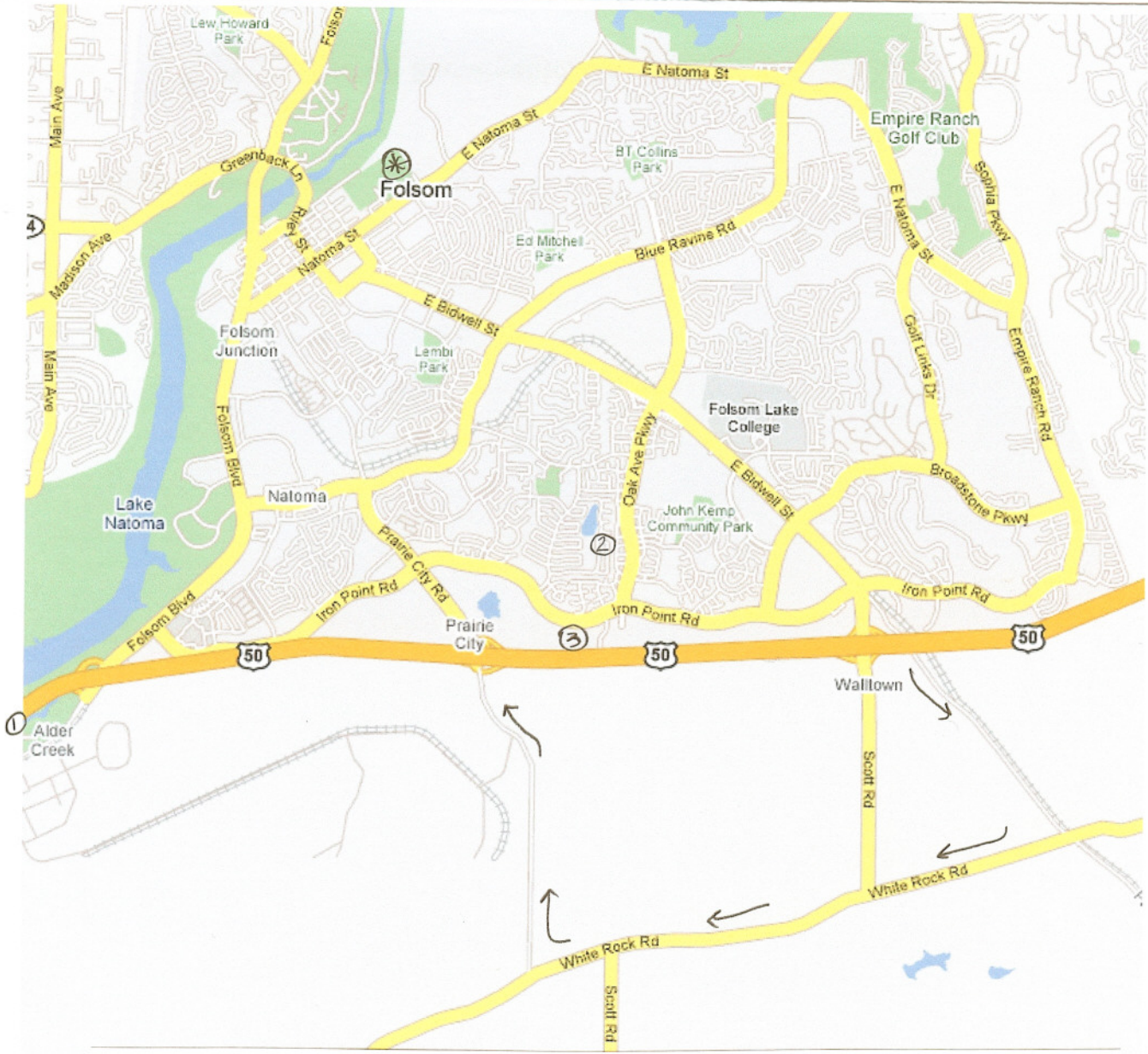
WATERSHED

April 2007

- Folsom Auto Mall and Alder Pond
- Willow Springs Lake/Pond
- Commercial Office Center on Iron Point Circle
- “Windshield Survey” of Sphere of Influence Area
- Prairie City Road Creek Crossing

May 2007

- GenCorp/Aerojet Property Along Alder Creek – future Easton development



Alder Creek Watershed Tour 1 – April 26, 2007

9:00 AM - Meet at Folsom City Hall (✱)

Stop 1 – Alder Pond at Folsom Auto Mall (lower watershed)

Stop 2 – Willow Springs Residential Neighborhood/Marsh Hawk Drive

Stop 3 – Iron Point Circle/Office Complex

Time allowing – windshield survey of Sphere of Influence (SOI) Area

12 Noon – Return to Folsom City Hall

Alder Creek Watershed Tour

Site 1 (there's a sheet like this for each site)

1. Please tell us what you see - describe the current condition of the creek and watershed at this location.

2. Describe what you hope to see at this location in the next 10-20 years in the future.

3. What issues should be addressed at this site? Check all that apply and circle your top 3.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> safety | <input type="checkbox"/> economic development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> flood control | <input type="checkbox"/> trash removal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> water quality | <input type="checkbox"/> watershed education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> creating public/private partnerships |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public access | <input type="checkbox"/> creating volunteer opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> erosion/sedimentation | <input type="checkbox"/> habitat for fish and wildlife |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> other (please list: _____) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site beautification | |

4. What is the biggest opportunity to be addressed at this site?

5. What is the biggest challenge to be addressed at this site?

6. Do you feel this location would benefit from restoration activities? If yes, what projects would you suggest at this location?

If yes, do you see an opportunity for the community to be involved? If so, what opportunities might be possible at this location?

These questions are asked at the end of the tour.

Do you see these 3 sites connected as part of the same watershed? Please tell us why or why not.

Based on the tour of today's 3 sites, what is your opinion of the creek's condition?
(check one)

Amenity to the community

Health hazard

Wonderful natural resource – excellent condition

Good condition – few changes needed

Has potential, there are opportunities if we address: (please list problem areas or issues)

Conditions vary so much by location, can't make a generalization about the creek condition.

Based on the tour of today's 3 sites, what opportunities do you see for improving the watershed in the next 5-10 years.

What challenges or barriers will this process need to be addressed for this process to succeed?

Folsom Auto Mall



Auto Mall Swales and Detention Basin



Alder Pond

Lower Alder Creek

from here creek drains under freeway culverts to
Lake Natoma/American River



**Alder Creek Tributary North of Hwy 50
Wetlands and Detention Basins
Willow Springs Neighborhood (Marsh Hawk Drive)**



Discussing Residential Landscaping and Watering Practices With Folsom's Water Conservation Specialist



Alder Creek Tributary North of Hwy 50 Commercial Center – Iron Point Circle



Looking south toward Hwy 50



Exploring the Discharge Point for the Detention Basins



Unnamed Tributary East of Commercial Center (chosen later as sampling location)



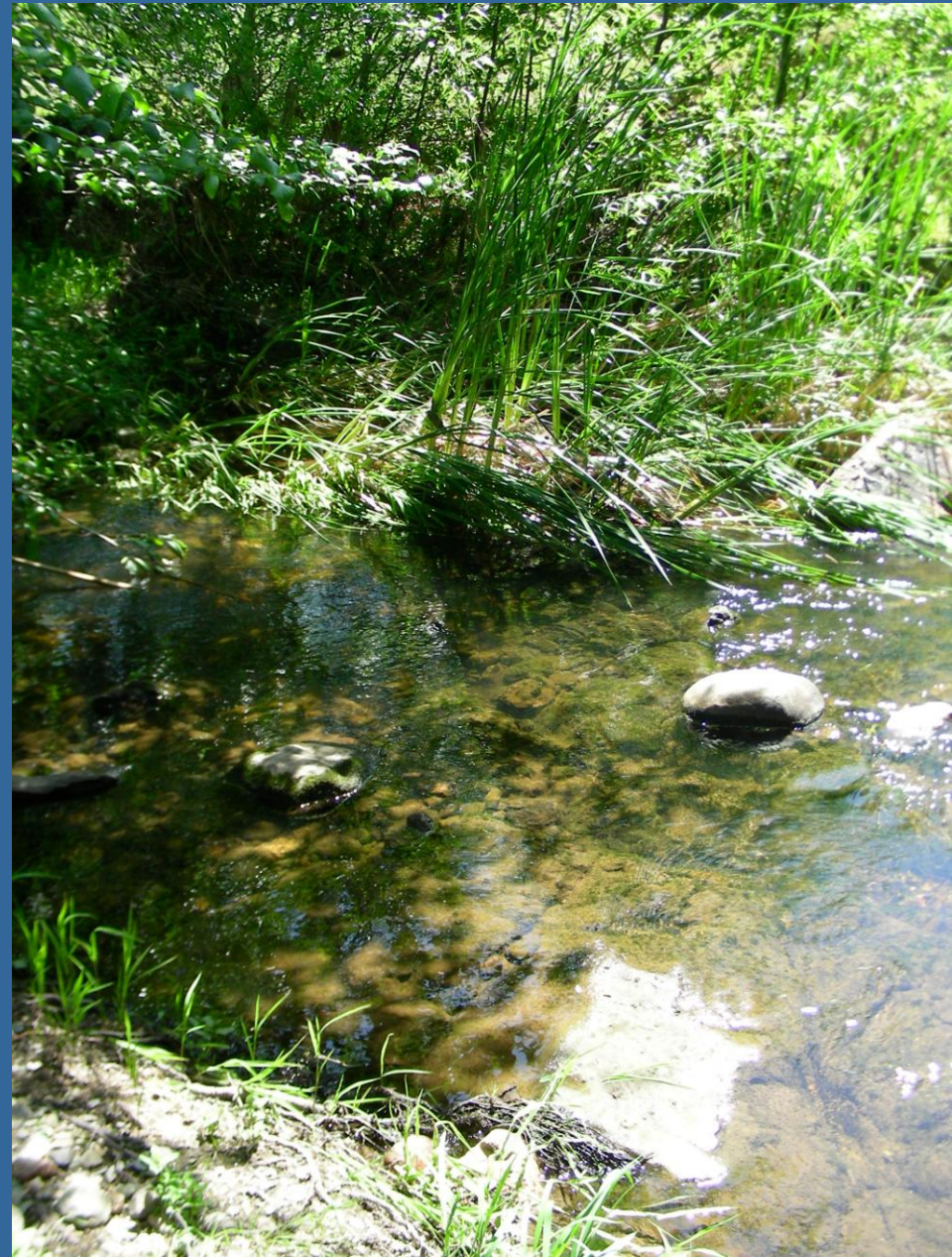
**Windshield Survey South of Hwy 50
Alder Creek Tributary**



Alder Creek Tributary South of Hwy 50



Alder Creek at Prairie City Road





Tour 1: Observations

Alder Pond

- Water quality looked good (different from late summer condition)

Opportunities:

- Water quality demonstration site
- Environmental education
- Community stewardship
- Recreation area for fishing and wildlife viewing

Tour 1: Observations

Willow Springs

- High aesthetic value
- Water primrose

Opportunities:

- Good wildlife viewing opportunity
- Homeowner education regarding function of the lake and reducing irrigation runoff, pesticides and fertilizers

Tour 1: Observations

Iron Point Circle Office Center

- Development encroachment and interactions
- Beaver den
- Algae
- Nice tributary on east side

Opportunities:

- Environmental education for users
- Enhance natural values at site
- Tributary is excellent sampling location

Tour 1: Observations

Prairie City Road Crossing

- Grafitti under bridge
- Road will be widened
- Blue oak grove



Opportunities:

- Sampling site



May 2007 Tour of GenCorp Property (future Easton development)



GenCorp Environmental Consultant Presentations - Highlights

- History - floating dredge gold mining activities by Natomas Company
- Innovative, collaborative planning process with Sacramento County
- Easton Valley Parkway – future 4-6 lane road to connect Glenborough and SOI area
- Trees in this area: white alder, cottonwood, willow, blue and live oaks

GenCorp Environmental Consultant Presentations – Highlights (*cont'd*)

- Maintenance road paralleling creek proposed to become 12' wide trail with 3' on each shoulder (connect to regional trail in future)
- Precipitous drop between road and creek
- 300-600 ft wide creek corridor proposed
- There will be water quality basins along the riparian corridor (details not available yet)
- Small nature and community centers and possible nursery for propagating natives proposed





Alder Creek Reservoir



- Present in 1937 aerial
- Owned by City of Folsom (10 acres)
- Reservoir was once part of municipal water supply system (crop irrigation?)



Tour 2: Observations

- Natural riparian corridor
- Reservoir supports waterfowl (e.g., heron), fish
- Algae in reservoir

Opportunities:

- Encourage trail and recreation opportunities
- Maintain and enhance natural values
- Protect and improve (as needed) water quality
- Lake feature

Questions?

