

## **PRECIOUS WATER**

After decades of decline due to inadequate freshwater inflows, the San Francisco Bay-Delta might finally get a new lease on life. The state water board has released its updated Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan, calling for 40 percent of unimpaired flows between February and June on the lower San Joaquin River and its three major tributaries. This would double the amount of water flowing down the lower Tuolumne River, providing tremendous benefits for water quality and fish and wildlife habitat. Historically, an estimated 130,000 salmon spawned in the Tuolumne. Last year the number plummeted to fewer than 500. The situation is desperate, but the water board is finally doing something about it. Ask the water board ([waterboards.ca.gov](http://waterboards.ca.gov)) to stand strong in the face of extreme pressure from water purveyors, who for too long have taken more water out of our rivers than necessary at the expense of healthy ecosystems. (Source: Peter Drekmeier, Tuolumne River Trust, email [peter@tuolumne.org](mailto:peter@tuolumne.org) or call 415-882-7252)

## **CLEAN UP HIGHWAY 1**

Last week I told you about the trash and weeds along Highway 1 above Linda Mar all the way to the tunnels. Sarah Gates, Bob Haxo, and other Tribune readers responded to me and to Caltrans. Please add your voice to get the state highway department (Caltrans) off its butt and out there cleaning up our highway. The trash and weeds are a safety/visibility issue for bicyclists and

motorists who white-knuckle that dangerous S curve up and down the hill. Use Caltrans' District 4 maintenance request form ([dot.ca.gov](http://dot.ca.gov)) or call Jim Kennard (510-286-4421) and Jose Montoya (510-286-6227).

### **AS THE WORLD TURNS**

Once again, the Pacifica Police activity log provides a million laughs. This town is a combination soap opera and reality TV show. To wit: a man offered someone \$200 to let him lick a certain part of the complainant's anatomy; multiple reports of reckless and aggressive drivers; dead animals found by the side of the road, including fox, coyote, and deer; a drunk driver arrested at a fast-food drive-through; late-night fireworks; a stepfather stared at family members and acted "creepy"; a woman sat in a car and set off the panic alarm over and over; a man wearing mismatched socks banged on a store window; a man opened someone's car door and asked if the driver wanted to hear a joke; a homeless woman yelled at people on the street. Ho hum, just another day in paradise.

### **WEIRDOVILLE, USA**

If you drive somewhere off the grid and don't have GPS in your car, you might stumble upon Satan's Kingdom, Mass. or Catfish Paradise, Ariz. Research and data firm Estatelly (Sam Blum at [blog.estate.com](http://blog.estate.com)) has created a map and compiled a list of the "Most Oddly Named Towns in Each U.S. State." Examples: Ding Dong, Tex.;

Booger Hole, W.Va.; Boring, Ore.; Boar Tush, Ala.; Old Roach (ghost town), Colo.

### **SWAMI SEZ**

"If voting made a difference, they wouldn't let us vote."  
(The ever cynical Mark Twain)

### **MAYBURRITOVILLE**

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