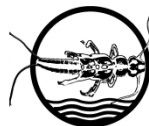


The Stream Team

July 2021 Newsletter



Timmarie Hamill,
Program Director

It's summer! And it is hot! For many of us a refreshing dip in one of our local waterways is a time-honored tradition to beat the heat and co-mingle with fellow citizens of all local species. Come and join The Stream Team and dip your toes in the cool waters of Big Chico Creek while helping to understand if our water is safe to swim in.

Thanks for being a volunteer!

Looking forward to seeing you for our next monitoring on **Saturday, July 10** from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Five Mile Picnic Area Parking Lot (Centennial Way).

If you can come, please RSVP by calling 530-342-6620 or by e-mailing me at: timmariehamill@gmail.com.

Remaining 2021 Monitoring Events:

Our monitoring events always meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Five Mile Picnic Area Parking Lot (Centennial Way). From there, we travel to various sites and complete our monitoring at approximately 12:00 noon.

Don't be shy! Rest assured – you'll be teamed up with an experienced Stream Team Leader to show you "the ropes!"

Just bring typical personal items for a 3-hour outing on the creek (water, snack, sunscreen, hat, water shoes, etc...).

The remaining 2021 monitoring events are:

- July 10
- August 14
- September 11
- October 9

Question of the Month

What is EC?

EC is Electrical Conductivity. It is the ability of water to conduct an electrical current. Dissolved ions in the water are conductors. The major positively charged ions are sodium (Na^+) calcium (Ca^{2+}), potassium (K^+) and magnesium (Mg^{2+}). The major negatively charged ions are chloride (Cl^-), sulfate (SO_4^{-2}), carbonate (CO_3^{-2}), and bicarbonate (HCO_3^-). Nitrates (NO_3^{-2}) and phosphates (PO_4^{-3}) are minor contributors to conductivity, although very important biologically.

Got a question? E-mail to: timmariehamill@gmail.com



Big Chico Creek Stream Monitor volunteers come in all ages! Here are Luciana and Sophia Sufuentes working at Five Mile 6-12-21.

Sycamore Pool Fecal Coliform Test Results - 2021

Please be advised, every lake, stream or creek can have bacteria including E. coli, a natural bacteria that lives in the intestines of people and animals. There are hundreds of strains of E. coli and only a few of them cause disease or sickness. Water quality conditions can change quickly. Follow healthy water habits such as do not swallow water, wash hands, shower and/or towel dry after water contact. Do not swim if you are sick or have open cuts or sores.

THRESHOLD: E coli >320 MPN/ml (Advisory Signs - no pool closure)
 n/a Not available - E. Coli results only

UPSTREAM OF POOL (EAST)			
Sample Date	Total Coliform (MPN/100 ml)	Fecal Coliform (MPN/100 ml)	E. Coli (MPN/100 ml)
1/5/21	>2419	540	225
2/2/21	>2419	920	613
2/3/21	866	n/a	52
3/9/21	921	920	291
4/6/21	1046	220	172
5/4/21	>2419.2	540	276
5/11/21	>2419.2	540	548
5/13/21	>2419.2	n/a	214
5/18/21	>2419.2	170	148
5/26/21	>2419.2	110	137
6/1/21	>2419.2	240	161
6/8/21	1986.3	TBD	124

DOWNSTREAM OF POOL WEST (at Dam)		
Total Coliform (MPN/100 ml)	Fecal Coliform (MPN/100 ml)	E. Coli (MPN/100 ml)
>2419.2	350	291
>2419.2	>1600	613
1120	n/a	67
1600	1600	291
980	240	85
>2419.2	350	299
>2419.2	350	365
>2419.2	n/a	308
>2419.2	920	291
>2419.2	220	219
>2419.2	350	285
>2419.2	TBD	219

turbulent
 Re-test
 Re-test

The chart above provides a summary of The Stream Team's Fecal Indicator Bacteria (FIB) results for May and June 2021.

Low water levels and increased human activities have the potential to impact water quality in Big Chico Creek. Remember to use caution when swimming if levels are above 320 MPN.

Here is a link to the City of Chico's Sycamore Pool bacteria sampling results:

https://chico.ca.us/sites/main/files/file-attachments/bcc_2021_coliform_public.pdf?1623354415