What Lives in our Creeks?

Many creatures depend on good water quality and habitat

Mallards and other ducks dabble and loaf. Herons, egrets, and kingfishers hunt in lower creeks; Swainsons thrushes and other songbirds nest near creeks.

Tiny but loud Pacific chorus frogs lay eggs in slow-moving water. Newts and salamanders that lay eggs in water are rare in urban creeks, but those that use damp logs remain.

Rainbow trout or steelhead (center) are known only from Codornices Creek in Friends of Five Creeks’ area. Crayfish, three-spined sticklebacks (right), and other small minnow-like fish are common.

Aquatic earthworms, insect nymphs (here, damselfly and dragonfly), beetle larvae, and other creatures that live on stream bottoms provide the basic food of larger animals. They need clean, cool water and rocky bottoms. Water-striders (far right) skim the surface.

Want to work for creeks, clean water, wildlife, native plants, and access? Join Friends of Five Creeks!

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