

## **Channel clearance work at Cosgrove Creek to expand**

**By Nick Baptista / The Valley Springs News / October 1, 2021**

Work could begin as soon as next week to clear vegetation and debris within flood-prone Cosgrove Creek and the scope of removal has been expanded.

According to District 1 Supervisor Gary Tofanelli, he received approval for additional funding from the rest of the Board of Supervisors to extend the work south of the St. Andrews Road bridge, through La Contenta Golf Course and past Vista Del Lago Drive.

Work along the creek is highly scrutinized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service since the area is considered habitat for the California red-legged frog, which is a threatened species protected by the endangered species act.

To get the permit this year for the project, the county agreed to hire an on-call biologist to investigate any instances of possible habitat disturbance.

The clean-up operation closes in November.

Yearly maintenance of the channel has been off and on since the 2006 flood along the creek. That flood damaged 20 homes and businesses and forced more than 100 other households to be evacuated.

Some properties near the creek experienced flooding during the 2016-17 rainfall year and yearly maintenance resumed in the fall of 2017.

The 2021 clean-up effort has been budgeted for \$43,000.