

DESCRIPTION

The reach of the San Lorenzo River within the coastal zone is surrounded by dense urban development, and passes through the heart of the City of Santa Cruz. This river supports an important anadromous fishery, and is used for public water supply; the estuarine waters are a popular public recreation area.

The San Lorenzo River receives polluted runoff from both failing septic systems and erosion of rural roads within the upper watershed, and from urban drainage within the lower valley. Identified water quality impacts include impairment of drinking water, fish populations, and recreational opportunities; and increased sedimentation of the estuary.



San Lorenzo River Mouth
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 For more photos, visit:
www.californiacoastline.org.

REASON FOR CCA IDENTIFICATION

The San Lorenzo River one of the original CCAs identified in 1995 as an **impaired coastal watershed that flows into an estuary.**

POLLUTED RUNOFF CONDITIONS

	Top 5 Runoff Pollutants of Concern				Efforts to Address Pollutants (See next page)
	2002 303(d)-Listed Pollutants TMDL Priority (& Proposed Completion if available)			Other Pollutants of Concern	
Selected Coastal Zone Waterbodies	Nutrients	Pathogens	Sediment	?	?
San Lorenzo River ▲	▲ Low	▲ Medium	▲ High (2002)		
San Lorenzo River Lagoon ■		■ Medium			
Branciforte Creek ●			● Low		
San Lorenzo Estuary ◆					
Potential Sources of Pollutants in Coastal Waterbodies					
Agriculture					
Forestry (Silviculture)			▲ ●		
Urban Areas					a, b
➤ Urban Runoff/Storm Sewers		▲ ■	▲		a
➤ Septic Systems	▲	▲	▲		
➤ Construction			▲		
➤ Land Development			▲		
➤ Road Construction			●		c, d

San Lorenzo River CCA

Potential Sources of Pollutants, continued	Nutrients	Pathogens	Sediment	?	?	Efforts to Address Pollutants
Marinas & Boating						a
Hydromodification						
Wetlands & Riparian Areas						a, b
Erosion/Siltation						c, d
Unspecified Nonpoint Source	▲		●			a
Natural Sources		■				

MAJOR EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT NPS MANAGEMENT MEASURES

a)	San Lorenzo River Restoration Institute				http://members.cruzio.com/~slriver/
			(408) 426-0156		slriver@cruzio.com
	➤ The San Lorenzo River Institute conducts research, public education, and advocacy about the San Lorenzo River watershed's ecological conditions, and human actions affecting those conditions.				
b)	San Lorenzo Watershed Caretakers				http://www.sccrcd.org/index.php?section=Main
	Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District	Karen Christensen	(831) 464-2950		feltongal@aol.com
	➤ Designing and implementing watershed restoration plans, particularly for the Watsonville area.				
c)	Cost-Share Implementation of Erosion & Sediment Control BMPs for Private Roads in the San Lorenzo River Watershed				http://www.sccrcd.org/index.php?section=Main
	Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District		(831) 464-2950		sccrcd@sccrcd.org
	➤ The mission of the Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District is to help people protect, conserve, and restore natural resources through information, education, and technical assistance programs.				
d)	Cost-Share Implementation of Erosion and Sediment Control BMPs for Non-County Roads in the San Lorenzo, Soquel, and Aptos/Valencia Creek Watersheds				http://www.sccrcd.org/index.php?section=Main
	Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District	Karen Christensen	(831) 464-2950		ed@sccrcd.org
	➤ Addresses sediment inputs from roads into the San Lorenzo River, Soquel Creek, and Aptos Creek watersheds, reducing sediment through road drainage improvements, public outreach and education, and technical trainings.				

REGULATORY/PLANNING JURISDICTIONS

➤ City of Santa Cruz	http://www.ci.santa-cruz.ca.us/	Donna Meyers	(831) 420-5132	DMeyers@ci.santa-cruz.ca.us
➤ Santa Cruz County, Water Quality Programs	http://www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/	John Ricker	(831) 454-2750	john.ricker@co.santa-cruz.ca.us
➤ Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District	http://www.carcd.org/wisp/santacruz/index.htm	Karen Christensen	(831) 464-2950	sccrcd@cruzio.com
➤ Calif. Coastal Commission, Water Quality Unit	http://www.coastal.ca.gov/nps/npsndx.html	Ross Clark	(831) 427-4873	rclark@coastal.ca.gov
➤ Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board	http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/	Bill Arkfeld	(805) 542-4627	barkfeld@waterboards.ca.gov
➤ State Water Resources Control Board	http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/	Steve Fagundes	(916) 341-5487	sfagundes@waterboards.ca.gov

San Lorenzo River CCA

➤ California Coastal Conservancy	http://www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov/	Terri Nevins	(510) 286-4161	tnevins@scc.ca.gov
➤ Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game, Marine Region	http://www.dfg.ca.gov/	Kevin Urquhart	(831) 649-2882	kurquhart@dfg.ca.gov
➤ Calif. State Parks, Santa Cruz District	http://www.santacruzstateparks.org/index.php	George Gray	(831) 335-6383	ggray@parks.ca.gov
➤ NOAA, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	http://www.mbnms.noaa.gov/	Chris Coburn	(831) 420-1670	Chris.Coburn@noaa.gov