

DESCRIPTION

This watershed flows into the ‘Julia Pfeiffer Burns’ Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS), located in Monterey County on the Big Sur coast. This ASBS, which protects 3.7 miles of coastline and 1,743 acres of marine habitat, lies entirely within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, and contains the Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Marine Conservation Area. Cliffs along this stretch of coastline are rugged and steep, greatly limiting access to the waterline. Inland from the ASBS is Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park, which has a small campground and parking area near McWay Falls.

Most drainage into coastal waters is runoff from rural and wilderness watersheds, but there are twenty-five discharge locations from Highway 1. After a large landslide triggered by heavy rains during the winter of 1982-83, Caltrans road-clearing operations on Highway 1 resulted in the deposition of massive amounts of sediment into the ASBS, completely filling McWay Cove. The cove had been populated by diverse intertidal and subtidal marine life; now McWay Falls flows onto a sandy beach. As a result, sediment erosion and downstream deposition into the ASBS is a continuing concern, as deposition of sand, and scour associated with the currents transporting that sand, is known to impact marine life there.



Coastline of Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Marine Conservation Area

(Photo courtesy State Water Resources Control Board).

For more photos, visit the California Coastal Records Project: www.californiacoastline.org.

REASON FOR CCA IDENTIFICATION

This watershed flows into the ‘Julia Pfeiffer Burns’ Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS), which is a State Water Quality Protection Area.

POLLUTED RUNOFF CONDITIONS

Selected Coastal Zone Waterbodies	Top 5 Runoff Pollutants of Concern ¹					Efforts to Address Pollutants (See next page)
	Sediment	?	?	?	?	
Partington Creek ▲	▲					
McWay Creek ■						
Anderson Creek						
Potential Sources of Pollutants in Coastal Waterbodies						
Agriculture						a
Forestry (Silviculture)						
Urban Areas	▲					a, b
➤ Road Runoff	▲					b
Marinas & Boating						
Hydromodification						
Wetlands & Riparian Areas						a
Erosion/Sedimentation	▲					

¹ Information on sediment as a pollutant of concern is from the California Coastal Commission.

MAJOR EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT NPS MANAGEMENT MEASURES

a)	Monterey County Resource Conservation District			http://www.carcd.org/wisp/monterey/
			(831) 424-1036	
➤ Helps farmers and landowners to adopt conservation practices on their lands; making significant efforts to deal with field and streambank erosion, sedimentation of spawning beds, and degradation of riparian habitat and estuaries.				
b)	Monterey Bay Sanctuary Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network			http://www.mbnms.nos.noaa.gov/monitoringnetwork/welcome.html
	NOAA, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	Bridget Hoover	(831) 883-9303	info@monitoringnetwork.org bhoover@monitoringnetwork.org
➤ Consortium of approximately twenty citizen monitoring groups that monitor the health of the watersheds flowing into the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.				

REGULATORY/PLANNING JURISDICTIONS

➤ Monterey County Water Resources Agency	http://www.mcwra.co.monterey.ca.us/	Manuel Quezada	(831) 755-4874	quezadam@co.monterey.ca.us
➤ 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/	Amanda Bern	(805) 594-6197	abern@waterboards.ca.gov
➤ State Water Resources Control Board, ASBSs	http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/plnspols/oplans/asbs.html	Connie Anderson	(916) 341-5280	csanderson@waterboards.ca.gov
➤ 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/mrd/mlpa/	Paul Reilly	(831) 649-2879	preilly@dfg.ca.gov
➤ Calif. State Parks, Monterey District	http://www.parks.ca.gov/parkindex/region_info.asp?regiontab=0&id=6	Tom Moss	(831) 649-2854	tmoss@parks.ca.gov