

**DESCRIPTION**

The Mad River is located just north of Arcata in Humboldt County, extending inland about 100 miles to the southeast, with approximately 5.5 miles of river in the coastal zone. Uses of this river include municipal and domestic water supply, recreation, and navigation. The river and estuary also provide habitat for wildlife, migration and spawning of aquatic organisms, and support of shellfish harvesting.

The Mad River has high sediment loads, and has water quality problems associated with debris, nutrient loads, habitat loss, suspended solids, and coliform bacteria (from municipal waste). The primary water quality issues for the watershed are forestry-related, with urbanization and associated industrial and public point sources.



Mad River and Arcata Bottoms  
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For more photos, visit:  
[www.californiacoastline.org](http://www.californiacoastline.org).

**REASON FOR CCA IDENTIFICATION**

The Mad River was one of the original CCAs identified in 1995 as an **impaired waterbody 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		
<b>Selected Coastal Zone Waterbodies</b>	<u>Sediment</u> <sup>1</sup>	<u>Temperature</u> <sup>1</sup>	<u>Turbidity</u> <sup>1</sup>	?	?	
Mad River ▲	▲ Low	▲ Low	▲ Low			
Mad River Slough ■						
Mill Creek •						
<b>Potential Sources of Pollutants in Coastal Waterbodies</b>						
<b>Agriculture</b>						f, k, l, m
<b>Forestry (Silviculture)</b>	▲		▲			a, b, e, f, k, l, m
<b>Urban Areas</b>						b, c, d, f, k, l, m
➤ Urban Runoff/Storm Sewers						i
➤ Septic Systems						i
➤ Construction						
<b>Marinas &amp; Boating</b>						f
<b>Hydromodification</b>						a, f
➤ Upstream Impoundment		▲				k
➤ Flow Regulation		▲				
<b>Wetlands &amp; Riparian Areas</b>						a, b, c, e, g, h, k, l, m
➤ Removal of Riparian Vegetation		▲				j

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Potential Sources of Pollutants, continued	Sediment <sup>1</sup>	Temperature <sup>1</sup>	Turbidity <sup>1</sup>	?	?	Efforts to Address Pollutants
Habitat Modification		▲				a, e, h
Resource Extraction	▲		▲			a, e, c
Unspecified Nonpoint Source	▲	▲	▲			a, e

<sup>1</sup>Information on sediment, temperature, and turbidity as pollutants of concern is from the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board.

### MAJOR EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT NPS MANAGEMENT MEASURES

<b>a) TMDL Allocations</b>					
U.S. EPA	David Smith	(415) 972-3416	<a href="mailto:dsmith@waterboards.ca.gov">dsmith@waterboards.ca.gov</a>		
➤ Provides a quantitative assessment of water quality problems, contributing sources of pollution, and pollutant load reductions or control actions needed to restore and protect the beneficial uses of an individual impaired waterbody.					
<b>b) Mad River Restoration Plan and Program</b>	<a href="http://www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov/index.htm">http://www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov/index.htm</a>				
California Coastal Conservancy	Karyn Gear	(510) 286-1015	<a href="mailto:kgear@scc.ca.gov">kgear@scc.ca.gov</a>		
➤ In discussions with Redwood Community Action Agency regarding a potential planning grant for the Lindsay Creek watershed, which is a tributary to the Mad River.					
<b>c) Mad River Slough and Dunes Cooperative Management Area</b>	<a href="http://www.ca.blm.gov/arcata/">http://www.ca.blm.gov/arcata/</a>				
The Nature Conservancy; Bureau of Land Management; Louisiana-Pacific Corporation; and the Redwood Gun Club	Bob Wick, BLM Arcata Field Office	(707) 825-2321	<a href="mailto:Robert_Wick@ca.blm.gov">Robert_Wick@ca.blm.gov</a>		
➤ Efforts are intended to protect valuable resources on their land and to provide public access.					
<b>d) Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP)</b>	<a href="http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/swamp/index.html">http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/swamp/index.html</a>				
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board	Peter Otis	(707) 576-2662	<a href="mailto:potis@waterboards.ca.gov">potis@waterboards.ca.gov</a>		
➤ Integrates existing water quality monitoring activities of the State Water Resources Control Board and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards, and coordinates with other monitoring programs.					
<b>e) Timber Harvest Plan review</b>					
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board	Fred Blatt	(707) 576-2800	<a href="mailto:fblatt@waterboards.ca.gov">fblatt@waterboards.ca.gov</a>		
➤ Responsible for the regulating waste discharges from timber harvesting activities that could affect the quality and beneficial uses of waters in the North Coast Region.					
<b>f) Humboldt Bay Watershed Management Area</b>	<a href="http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb1/index.html">http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb1/index.html</a>				
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board	Janet Blake	(707) 576-2805	<a href="mailto:jblake@waterboards.ca.gov">jblake@waterboards.ca.gov</a>		
➤ The management strategy for this area is a 4-year cyclic enhancement program starting in FY 96-97 (with problem identification/ assessment in 1st year, implementation in all 4 years, assessment/feedback in 4th year).					
<b>g) Constructed Wetlands for Stormwater and Wastewater</b>					
McKinleyville Community Services District	Tom Marking	(707) 839-3251	<a href="mailto:mcsdgm@mckinleyvillecsd.com">mcsdgm@mckinleyvillecsd.com</a>		
➤ Installing two treatment wetlands in McKinleyville, one for polishing treated wastewater, and one to treat stormwater runoff; anticipate project completion by the fall of 2005.					

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<b>h)</b>	<b>Lindsay Creek Coho Over-winter Rearing Restoration Project</b>			
	Pacific Coast Fish, Wildlife & Wetlands Restoration Association	Mitch Farro	(707) 839-5666	<a href="mailto:pcfwwra@reninet.com">pcfwwra@reninet.com</a>
	➤ Improve over-winter growth and survival of Coho juveniles through the creation and management of seasonally inundated wetland habitat., removal of invasive vegetation, and placement of fish passable water control structures.			
<b>i)</b>	<b>The Lindsay Creek Project: A Watershed and Community Based Land Use Assessment (2005)</b>			<a href="http://www.rcaa.org/nrs/lindsaycreek/">http://www.rcaa.org/nrs/lindsaycreek/</a>
	Redwood Community Action Agency	Jennifer Rice	(707) 269-2060	<a href="mailto:jen@rcaa.org">jen@rcaa.org</a>
	➤ Integrating watershed and community values with rural land use planning.			
<b>j)</b>	<b>Dunes Protection</b>			<a href="http://www.friendsofthedunes.org">www.friendsofthedunes.org</a>
	Friends of the Dunes	Carol Vander Meer	(707) 444-1397	<a href="mailto:info@friendsofthedunes.org">info@friendsofthedunes.org</a> <a href="mailto:Carol@friendsofthedunes.org">Carol@friendsofthedunes.org</a>
	➤ Friends Of The Dunes is dedicated to conserving the natural diversity of coastal environments through community supported education and stewardship programs			
<b>k)</b>	<b>Friends of the Mad River</b>			
		Dave Feral	(707) 822-2514	
	➤ Watershed stakeholder group.			
<b>l)</b>	<b>Lindsay Creek Watershed Group</b>			
		Margo Williams	(707) 839-8967	
	➤ Watershed stakeholder group.			
<b>m)</b>	<b>Northcoast Regional Land Trust</b>			<a href="http://www.ncrlt.org/">http://www.ncrlt.org/</a>
		Shayne Greene	(707) 822-2242	<a href="mailto:s.green@nrllt.org">s.green@nrllt.org</a> <a href="mailto:info@ncrlt.org">info@ncrlt.org</a>
	➤ Dedicated to protection of working farms, forests, and grazing lands, and to preservation of land for its natural, educational, scenic, and historic values. Works with landowners on a voluntary basis to promote stewardship.			

### REGULATORY/PLANNING JURISDICTIONS

➤ McKinleyville Community Services District	<a href="http://www.humboldt1.com/~mcsd/">http://www.humboldt1.com/~mcsd/</a>	Tom Marking	(707) 839-3251	<a href="mailto:mcsdgm@mckinleyvillecsd.com">mcsdgm@mckinleyvillecsd.com</a>
➤ Humboldt County, Planning & Building Dept.	<a href="http://www.co.humboldt.ca.us/">http://www.co.humboldt.ca.us/</a>	Tom Hofweber	(707) 268-3738	<a href="mailto:THofweber@co.humboldt.ca.us">THofweber@co.humboldt.ca.us</a>
➤ Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District	<a href="http://www.hbmwd.com/">http://www.hbmwd.com/</a>	Carole Rische	(707) 443-5018	<a href="mailto:Office@hbmwd.com">Office@hbmwd.com</a>
➤ Humboldt County, Public Works Dept.	<a href="http://www.co.humboldt.ca.us/">http://www.co.humboldt.ca.us/</a>	Ann Glubczynski	(707) 268-2687	<a href="mailto:Ann.Glubczynski@co.humboldt.ca.us">Ann.Glubczynski@co.humboldt.ca.us</a>
➤ Calif. Coastal Commission, Water Quality Unit	<a href="http://www.coastal.ca.gov/nps/npsndx.html">http://www.coastal.ca.gov/nps/npsndx.html</a>	Vanessa Metz	(707) 445-7873	<a href="mailto:vmetz@coastal.ca.gov">vmetz@coastal.ca.gov</a>
➤ North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, NPS Complaint Response	<a href="http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/">http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/</a>	Diana Henriouille-Henry	(707) 576-2350	<a href="mailto:dhenriouille-henry@waterboards.ca.gov">dhenriouille-henry@waterboards.ca.gov</a>
➤ State Water Resources Control Board	<a href="http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/">http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/</a>	Heidi Hall	(916) 323-2871	<a href="mailto:hhall@waterboards.ca.gov">hhall@waterboards.ca.gov</a>
➤ California Coastal Conservancy	<a href="http://www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov/">http://www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov/</a>	Karyn Gear	(510) 286-4171	<a href="mailto:kgear@scc.ca.gov">kgear@scc.ca.gov</a>
➤ Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game	<a href="http://www.dfg.ca.gov/">http://www.dfg.ca.gov/</a>	John Mello	(707) 441-5755	<a href="mailto:jmello@dfg.ca.gov">jmello@dfg.ca.gov</a>

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➤ Caltrans, Stormwater Management	<a href="http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/env/stormwater/">http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/env/stormwater/</a>	Alex Arevalo	(707) 445-6600	<a href="mailto:Alex_Arevalo@dot.ca.gov">Alex_Arevalo@dot.ca.gov</a>
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