

**DESCRIPTION**

The Mattole River is in Southern Humboldt County, approximately 15 miles south of Humboldt Bay. Approximately 2 river miles are in the coastal zone, but the coastal portion of the watershed is not heavily developed. Water uses in this watershed include municipal, agricultural, and industrial water supply; recreational uses; and fisheries, fish, and wildlife habitat-related uses.

Land uses in the watershed that contribute Non Point Source (NPS) pollution include timber harvesting (primarily in the headwaters and upper river areas), and livestock agriculture (primarily in the lower river watershed areas). The key NPS stakeholder concern for the Mattole River is the decline of the once healthy coho and chinook salmon fisheries, which is thought to be associated with excess sediment load and elevated water temperatures.



Mattole River Estuary  
(Photo courtesy Mattole Restoration Council).

For more photos, visit the California Coastal Records Project:  
[www.californiacoastline.org](http://www.californiacoastline.org)

**REASON FOR CCA IDENTIFICATION**

The Mattole River is a 2002 303(d)-listed **impaired waterbody that flows into a Marine Protected Area** (Punta Gorda State Marine Reserve), and was also 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)		Other Pollutants			
<b>Selected Coastal Zone Waterbodies</b>	<u>Sediment</u>	<u>Temperature</u>	?	?	?	
Mattole River ▲	▲ High (2004)	▲ High (2004)				
Bear River ■						
Stansberry Creek ●						
Collins Gulch ◆						
Other Waterbodies □						
<b>Potential Sources of Pollutants in Coastal Waterbodies</b>						
<b>Agriculture</b>						c, h
➤ Crop Production	▲					
➤ Range Grazing	▲	▲				h
<b>Forestry (Silviculture)</b>	▲	▲				b, c, d, i
<b>Urban Areas</b>						a, d, e
➤ Road Construction	▲	▲				
<b>Hydromodification</b>	▲					c
➤ Streambank Modification	▲					
<b>Wetlands &amp; Riparian Areas</b>						b, c

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Potential Sources of Pollutants, continued	Sediment	Temperature	?	?	?	Efforts to Address Pollutants
➤ Removal of Riparian Vegetation	▲	▲				a
Erosion/Siltation	▲					a, e
Habitat Modification	▲	▲				e, b, f, g
Unspecified Nonpoint Source	▲	▲				e
Natural Sources	▲	▲				a, e

### MAJOR EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT NPS MANAGEMENT MEASURES

<b>a)</b>	<b>Mattole River Enhancement Plan/ Lost River Creek Road Decommissioning for Salmonid Recovery/ Mattole Watershed, Salmon, and Ecological Education Project</b>		<a href="http://www.mattole.org">http://www.mattole.org</a>
	Mattole Restoration Council	Chris Larson	(707) 629-3514 <a href="mailto:chris@mattole.org">chris@mattole.org</a> <a href="mailto:mrc@mattole.org">mrc@mattole.org</a>
	➤ Efforts to restore natural systems (e.g., forests, fisheries, soils and native plant and animal communities) within Mattole River watershed to historic levels of health and productivity; road decommissioning, school education.		
<b>b)</b>	<b>Mattole River Watershed Restoration</b>		<a href="http://www.ca.blm.gov/arcata/">http://www.ca.blm.gov/arcata/</a>
	U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Arcata Resource Area	Lynda Roush	(707) 825-2309 <a href="mailto:lynda_roush@ca.blm.gov">lynda_roush@ca.blm.gov</a>
	➤ Provide recreation opportunities that complement the rugged primitive character that makes the area distinctive as California's Lost Coast; protect and enhance wildlife habitat with an emphasis on anadromous fisheries restoration.		
<b>c)</b>	<b>Timber Harvest Plan review</b>		
	North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)	Mark Neely	(707) 576 2689 <a href="mailto:mneely@waterboards.ca.gov">mneely@waterboards.ca.gov</a>
	➤ Responsible for regulating waste discharges from timber harvesting activities that could affect the quality and beneficial uses of waters in the North Coast Region.		
<b>d)</b>	<b>Upper Mattole Large Wood and Boulder Placement (2004)/ Rex's Wing Dam and Enhancement and Repair Project</b>		<a href="http://www.mattolesalmon.org">http://www.mattolesalmon.org</a>
	Mattole Salmon Group	Ray Lingel	(707) 629-3433 <a href="mailto:msg@mattolesalmon.org">msg@mattolesalmon.org</a>
	➤ Install large wood and boulder structures for complex cover and scour in the upper Mattole Watershed; enhance and repair two wing dam structures in Mattole River.		
<b>e)</b>	<b>Ancestor Creek Fish Passage Project</b>		<a href="http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/dot/">http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/dot/</a>
	Mendocino County Department of Transportation	Michele Fortner, RWQCB contract manager	(707) 576-6706 <a href="mailto:mfortner@waterboards.ca.gov">mfortner@waterboards.ca.gov</a>
	➤ Fish passage improvement project.		
<b>f)</b>	<b>Painter Creek Culvert Replacement/Indian Creek Culvert Replacement with a Bridge</b>		<a href="http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/dot/">http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/dot/</a>
	Humboldt County Public Works Department	Michele Fortner, RWQCB contract manager	(707) 576-6706 <a href="mailto:mfortner@waterboards.ca.gov">mfortner@waterboards.ca.gov</a>
	➤ Provide access to potential anadromous fish habitat by replacing existing culverts that are fish barriers, to allow unimpeded passage for adult and juvenile salmonids.		

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<b>g)</b>	<b>Mattole River Watershed Assessment Report (March 2003)</b>			<a href="http://www.ncwatershed.ca.gov/">http://www.ncwatershed.ca.gov/</a>
	Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game, Coastal Watershed Planning & Assessment Program; and partners	Scott Downie	(707) 725-1070	<a href="mailto:sdownie@dfg.ca.gov">sdownie@dfg.ca.gov</a>
	➤ Multi-disciplinary, systematic, basin-level assessment includes analyses of factors limiting or benefiting salmonids in freshwater habitat, in context of watershed processes that alter stream habitat, water quantity and quality.			
<b>h)</b>	<b>Humboldt County Resource Conservation District</b>			<a href="http://www.cared.org/wisp/humboldt/">http://www.cared.org/wisp/humboldt/</a>
		Curtis Ihle	(707) 444-9708	<a href="mailto:curtisihle@yahoo.com">curtisihle@yahoo.com</a>
	➤ Provides technical and financial assistance to help landowners and resource users develop locally driven solutions to address a range of natural resource concerns, including watershed management and protection of water quality.			
<b>i)</b>	<b>Mattole River and Range Partnership, Implementation Phase</b>			<a href="http://www.mattole.org">http://www.mattole.org</a>
	Mattole Restoration Council	Chris Larson	(707) 629-3514	<a href="mailto:chris@mattole.org">chris@mattole.org</a> <a href="mailto:mrc@mattole.org">mrc@mattole.org</a>
	➤ To reduce sediment and water temperatures through implementation of road decommissioning and stormproofing treatments, streambank stabilization using bioengineered rock/willow structures, and planting native conifers.			

### REGULATORY/PLANNING JURISDICTIONS

➤ 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 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>
➤ BLM, King Range National Conservation Area	<a href="http://www.ca.blm.gov/arcata/king_range.html">http://www.ca.blm.gov/arcata/king_range.html</a>	Lynda Roush	(707) 825-2309	<a href="mailto:lynda_roush@ca.blm.gov">lynda_roush@ca.blm.gov</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, Coastal Watershed Planning & Assessment Program	<a href="http://www.ncwatershed.ca.gov/">http://www.ncwatershed.ca.gov/</a>	Scott Downie	(707) 725-1070	<a href="mailto:sdownie@dfg.ca.gov">sdownie@dfg.ca.gov</a>
➤ Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game, Region 1	<a href="http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/mlpa/mpa.html">http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/mlpa/mpa.html</a>	John Mello	(707) 441-5755	<a href="mailto:jmello@dfg.ca.gov">jmello@dfg.ca.gov</a>
➤ 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>