

DESCRIPTION

The Petaluma River, located in southern Sonoma and Northern Marin counties, drains an area of approximately 146 square miles into San Pablo Bay. The river is tidally influenced in the lower 11 miles, up to downtown City of Petaluma, and it is used for navigation by commercial and recreational vessels. Considerable open space remains in the watershed, and the watershed supports an unusually diverse community of native fish and wildlife species in its stream, riparian, and wetland habitats.

The Petaluma River receives Nonpoint Source (NPS) inputs from agricultural and rural land uses (primarily dairies, livestock grazing, and vineyards) in the upper portions of the watershed, and from urban uses in the City of Petaluma. Water quality impacts include impairment of fish populations and recreational opportunities due to excess sedimentation and elevated nutrient and pathogen loads. Pesticides and metals from urban sources also affect the lower portion of the river.



Petaluma River

(Photo courtesy Aeroventure,
<http://www.aeroventure.com/>).

REASON FOR CCA IDENTIFICATION

Petaluma River is a 2002 303(d)-listed **impaired waterbody that is adjacent to a Wildlife Refuge** (the San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge).

POLLUTED RUNOFF CONDITIONS

Selected Coastal Waterbodies	Top 5 Runoff Pollutants of Concern					Efforts to Address Pollutants (See next page)
	<u>2002 303(d)-Listed Pollutants</u> TMDL Priority (& Proposed Completion)					
	<u>Diazinon</u>	<u>Nutrients</u>	<u>Pathogens</u>	<u>Sediment</u>	<u>Nickel</u>	
Petaluma River ▲	▲ Low	▲ Medium	▲ Medium	▲ Medium		a, b, c, d, e, f, g
Petaluma River, Tidal Portion ■	■ Low	■ Medium	■ Medium		■ Low	a, b, c, d, e, f, g
Black John Slough •						
Unnamed Tributaries ◆						
Potential Sources of Pollutants in Coastal Waterbodies						
Agriculture		▲■	▲■	▲		a, b, c, d, e, f, g, i
Forestry (Silviculture)						
Urban Areas						
➤ Urban Runoff/ Storm Sewers	▲■	▲■	▲■	▲	■	a, b, c, d, e, f, g
➤ Construction/ Land Development		▲■	▲■	▲		a, b, c, d, e, f, g
➤ Atmospheric Deposition					■	
Marinas & Boating						
Hydromodification						
Wetlands & Riparian Areas						h, i

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MAJOR EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT NPS MANAGEMENT MEASURES

a)	Vineyard Best Management Practices (BMPs)			http://www.sonomamarinrcds.org/district-ssc/
	Southern Sonoma County Resource Conservation District	Leandra Swent	(707) 794-1242	sscrd@ca.nacdn.net
	➤ Public outreach and education about vineyard BMPs, including sustainable agriculture workshops and demonstration sites.			
b)	Petaluma Watershed Management Plan			http://www.sonomamarinrcds.org/district-ssc/
	Southern Sonoma County Resource Conservation District	Leandra Swent	(707) 794-1242	sscrd@ca.nacdn.net
	➤ Improving water quality and ground water recharge in the Petaluma watershed, with the ultimate purpose of removing the Petaluma River from the 303(d) list of impaired waters.			
c)	Petaluma River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Projects			http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/
	San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board	Sandia Potter, Mike Napolitano, & Peter Krottje	(510) 622-2426	spotter@waterboards.ca.gov mnapolitano@waterboards.ca.gov pkrottje@waterboards.ca.gov
	➤ Projects on Diazinon, Nutrients, Pathogens, Sedimentation/Siltation, and Nickel.			
d)	Petaluma River Council			http://www.museumca.org/creeks/92-RescPetaluma.html
		David Keller	(707) 763-9336	
	➤ Preserve wetlands and battle environmental degradation due to large developments.			
e)	Guide to San Francisco Bay Area Creeks			http://www.museumca.org/creeks/index.html
	Oakland Museum		(510) 238-2200	
f)	Petaluma Watershed Sediment Retention			http://www.sonomamarinrcds.org/
	Southern Sonoma County Resource Conservation District	Leandra Swent	(707) 794-1242	sscrd@ca.nacdn.net
	➤ Reduce and retain sediment and to enhance riparian corridor with installation of native riparian plants and fencing to restrict livestock.			
g)	Regional Stormwater Monitoring and Urban BMP Evaluation: A Stakeholder-Driven Partnership to Reduce Contaminant Loadings			http://www.sfei.org/
	San Francisco Estuary Institute		(510) 746-7334	webfeedback@sfei.org
	➤ This project aims to improve our understanding of effectiveness of storm-water management and helps prioritize implementation of further efforts to improve water quality.			
h)	Wetland Design and Management Options for Control of Mercury in San Francisco Bay			http://www.abag.ca.gov/
	Association of Bay Area Governments		(510) 464-7900	webmaster@abag.ca.gov
	➤ Project to identify specific, practical measures to substantially reduce methylation of mercury in the Bay and to produce a Wetland Implementation Report as element in the Implementation Plan for the Bay mercury TMDL Plan.			
i)	Marin County Resource Conservation District			http://www.sonomamarinrcds.org/district-mc/info.html
		Nancy Scolari	(415) 663-1170	marinrcd@svn.net

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- Assist private landowners in the coastal watersheds of western Marin County to implement a specific set of erosion control and habitat enhancement activities in multiple implementation areas through a coordinated review process.

REGULATORY/PLANNING JURISDICTIONS

➤ City of Fremont, Planning Division	http://www.ci.fremont.ca.us/CityHall/Departments/Planning.htm	William Meeker	(510) 494-4540	planinfo@ci.fremont.ca.us
➤ City of Novato, Community Development Dept.	http://www.ci.novato.ca.us/cd/index.cfm	Carol Branan	(415) 897-4341	cd@ci.novato.ca.us
➤ City of Petaluma, Stormwater Program	http://cityofpetaluma.net/wrcd/stormwater.html	Dean Eckerson	(707) 778-4583	stormwater@ci.petaluma.ca.us
➤ Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program	http://mcstoppp.org/	Liz Lewis	(415) 499-7226	lizlewis@co.marin.ca.us
➤ Marin County, Community Development Dept.	http://www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/CD/main/index.cfm	Thomas Lai	(415) 499-6292	tlai@co.marin.ca.us
➤ Sonoma County, Permit & Resource Management	http://www.sonoma-county.org/prmd/	Greg Carr	(707) 565-1944	gcarr@sonoma-county.org
➤ Sonoma County Water Agency	http://www.scwa.ca.gov/naturalresources.html		(707) 526-5370	
➤ San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission	http://www.bcdc.ca.gov	Lindy Lowe	(415) 352-3642	lindyl@bcdc.ca.gov
➤ Calif. Coastal Commission, Water Quality Unit	http://www.coastal.ca.gov/nps/npsndx.html	Lisa Sniderman	(415) 904-5270	lsniderman@coastal.ca.gov
➤ San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board	http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/	Dale Hopkins	(510) 622-2362	dhopkins@waterboards.ca.gov
➤ State Water Resources Control Board	http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/	Heidi Hall	(916) 323-2871	hhall@waterboards.ca.gov
➤ California Coastal Conservancy	http://www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov/	Karyn Gear	(510) 286-4171	kgear@scc.ca.gov
➤ Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game, Region 3	http://www.dfg.ca.gov/	Bill Cox	(707) 944-5500	bcox@dfg.ca.gov
➤ Calif. State Parks, Diablo Vista District	http://www.parks.ca.gov/parkindex/region_info.asp?id=5&submit_l=go	Marla Hastings	(707) 938-9548	mhast@parks.ca.gov