

DESCRIPTION

The Aliso Creek drains a long, narrow coastal canyon with headwaters in the Cleveland National Forest. The creek ultimately discharges into the Pacific Ocean at Aliso Beach. The approximately 30-square-mile watershed includes portions of the cities of Aliso Viejo, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest, and Mission Viejo.

The Aliso Creek Watershed is largely developed, with the exception of the Cleveland National Forest in the upper watershed and the Aliso Wood Canyon Regional Park in the lower watershed. Major transportation arteries through the watershed include the San Joaquin Hills Transportation Corridor and Interstate 5. Most of the water quality impairments are a result of urban runoff. Residential and commercial use of fertilizers and pesticides, and pet and waterfowl waste, are most likely the primary contributors to the nutrient and potential stormwater toxic impacts and elevated bacteria load.



Aliso Creek

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For more photos, visit: www.californiacoastline.org.

REASON FOR CCA IDENTIFICATION

The Aliso Creek is a 2002 303(d)-listed **impaired waterbody that flows into a Marine Protected Area.**

POLLUTED RUNOFF CONDITIONS

	Top 5 Runoff Pollutants of Concern					Efforts to Address Pollutants (See next page)
	<u>2002 303(d)-Listed Pollutants</u> TMDL Priority (& Proposed Completion if available)			<u>Other Pollutants</u>		
Selected Coastal Zone Waterbodies	<u>Bacteria Indicators</u>	<u>Phosphorus</u>	<u>Toxicity</u>	?	?	
Aliso Creek ▲	▲ Medium	▲ Low	▲ Low			
Aliso Creek Mouth ■	■ Medium					
Wood Canyon ●						
Sulphur Creek ◆						
Other Waterbodies □						
Potential Sources of Pollutants in Coastal Waterbodies						
Agriculture						
Forestry (Silviculture)						
Urban Areas						
➤ Urban Runoff/ Storm Sewers	▲	▲	▲			a, b, c, d
Marinas & Boating						
Hydromodification						
Wetlands & Riparian Areas						a
Unspecified Nonpoint Source	▲ ■					d
Unknown Nonpoint Source		▲	▲			d

Aliso Creek CCA

MAJOR EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT NPS MANAGEMENT MEASURES

a)	Watershed and Coastal Resources Office	http://www.ocwatersheds.com/watersheds/introduction.asp	
	Orange County	Larry McKenney	(714) 834-5067 Larry.McKenney@rdmd.ocgov.com
➤ Developing regional management strategies to preserve, protect, and enhance coastal resources and surface waters throughout Orange County.			
b)	Aliso Beach--Dry Weather Diversion: Wetland Treatment of Runoff (2003)	http://www.haimann.com/poche/updates/CBI_updates_Aliso_Beach.html	
	Orange County	George Edwards	(714) 834-3173 george.edwards@rdmd.ocgov.com
➤ Project is to install package water quality treatment Best Management Practice (BMP) system downstream of San Joaquin Toll-Road along Aliso Creek. Stormwater to be treated for bacteria, and treated water returned to the creek.			
c)	Aliso Beach Project (2001)	http://www.ocwatersheds.com/watersheds/coastal_projects_grants_aliso_beach_project.asp	
	Orange County	Sonia Nasser	(714) 834-5302 nassers@rdmd.ocgov.com
➤ Installed a "Clear Creek" treatment system at two locations, to harvest water from Aliso Creek and reduce the total dissolved solids (salts) in the water. Treated creek water can be used to irrigate a golf course returned to the creek.			
d)	Aliso Creek Watershed Annual Report 2004-2005	http://www.ocwatersheds.com	
	County of Orange RDMD	Marilyn Thoms	(714) 834-2352 Marilyn.Thoms@rdmd.ocgov.com
➤ <i>Drainage Area Management Plan – Aliso Creek Watershed Chapter</i> focused on management of urban runoff within the Aliso Creek Watershed. Summarizes progress made in 2004-05 by the Watershed Permittees (Aliso Viejo, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, County of Orange, and the Orange County Flood Control District), and identifies a schedule of management activities for 2005-06.			

REGULATORY/PLANNING JURISDICTIONS

➤ City of Laguna Beach, Water Quality Dept.	http://www.lagunabeachcity.net/government/departments/waterquality/	Craig Justice	(949) 497-0781	justice@lagunabeachcity.net
➤ City of Laguna Niguel	http://www.ci.laguna-niguel.ca.us/	Nancy Palmer	(949) 362-4384	npalmer@ci.laguna-niguel.ca.us
➤ County of Orange, Watershed & Coastal Resources Division	http://www.ocwatersheds.com/	Larry McKenney	(714) 834-5067	Larry.McKenney@rdmd.ocgov.com
➤ Calif. Coastal Commission, Water Quality Unit	http://www.coastal.ca.gov/nps/npsndx.html	Tracy Duffey	(805) 585-1809	tduffey@coastal.ca.gov
➤ San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board	http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/	Bruce Posthumus	(858) 467-2964	bposthumus@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/	Mary Small	(510) 286-4181	msmall@scc.ca.gov
➤ Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game, Marine Region	http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/	John Ugoretz	(831) 649-2893	jugoretz@dfg.ca.gov
➤ Calif. State Parks	www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=644	David Pryor	(949) 497-1421	pryor@fea.net