



Initiate and Sustain Collaboration by Focusing on the Delivery of Information to the User

Jon B. Marshack, D.Env.
Monitoring Council
Coordinator
State Water Resources
Control Board

A light blue silhouette of the state of California is positioned on the left side of the slide. At the bottom of the map, there is a stylized water drop icon with a white starburst effect inside it.

Everyone Needs Data

- 211,000 miles of rivers & streams
- 1.6 million acres lakes
- 1,100 miles of coastline
- 1.3 million acres of bays and estuaries
- 15 million acre-feet of groundwater extracted per year




The Water Quality & Ecosystem Information Problem

2006 CALIFORNIA 303(d) LIST * OF WATER QUALITY LIMITED SEGMENTS



* Includes waters requiring TMDLs, and those being addressed by completed TMDLs or actions other than a TMDL.



-  Regional Board Boundaries
-  2006 303(d) listed bays, estuaries, lakes, and wetlands
-  2006 303(d) listed rivers and shorelines

The Response – Senate Bill 1070

- ◆ Became state law in 2006
- ◆ Required formation of California Water Quality Monitoring Council
- ◆ Memorandum of Understanding between
 - ◆ California Environmental Protection Agency
 - ◆ California Natural Resources Agency
- ◆ By December 1, 2008:
Monitoring Council recommendations
 - ◆ Maximize efficiency and effectiveness of existing water quality data collection and dissemination
 - ◆ Ensure collected data available to decision makers and public
- ◆ Comprehensive Monitoring Program Strategy for CA

Monitoring Council Members



The Monitoring Council's Solution

Don't get mired in technical details!

- Focus first on streamlined data access
 - Theme-based web portals
 - Directly address users' questions
 - Single global point of entry
- Theme-specific workgroups
- Overarching Monitoring Council guidance



Theme-Specific Workgroups

Issue-experts represent key stakeholders

Monitoring Council

Develop web portal

**Develop
monitoring &
assessment methods
& data management
procedures**

**Achieve
standardization
to meet users'
needs**

**Coordinate
monitoring
programs**

Role of the Monitoring Council

- Establish policies and guidelines
- Clearinghouse for standards, guidelines & collaboration
- Resolve key issues
- Provide support
- Improve visibility



My Water Quality website and portals illustrate Monitoring Council's vision

www.CaWaterQuality.net





[Home](#)

Welcome to My Water Quality

This web portal, supported by a wide variety of public and private organizations, presents California water quality monitoring data and assessment information that may be viewed across space and time. Initial web portal development concentrates on four theme areas, with web portals to be released one at a time. Click the [Contact Us](#) tab for more information.

The Monitoring Council seeks to provide multiple perspectives on water quality information and to highlight existing data gaps and inconsistencies in data collection and interpretation, thereby identifying areas for needed improvement in order to better address the public's questions. Questions and comments should be addressed through the [Contact Us](#) tab.



- [Cal/EPA](#)
- [Natural Resources Agency](#)
- [About the California Water Quality Monitoring Council](#)
- [Web Portal Partners](#)
- [Monitoring & Assessment Programs, Data Sources & Reports](#)
- [Water Quality Standards, Plans and Policies](#)
- [Regulatory Activities](#)
- [Enforcement Actions](#)
- [Research](#)
- [State & Regional Water Boards](#)
 - [Performance Report](#)
 - [About SWAMP](#)
 - [SWAMP Tools](#)



IS OUR WATER SAFE TO DRINK?

Safe drinking water depends on a variety of chemical and biological factors regulated by a number of local, state, and federal agencies. [\[Future Portal\]](#)



IS IT SAFE TO SWIM IN OUR WATERS?

Swimming safety of our waters is linked to the levels of pathogens that have the potential to cause disease. [More >>](#)



IS IT SAFE TO EAT FISH AND SHELLFISH FROM OUR WATERS?

Aquatic organisms are able to accumulate certain pollutants from the water in which they live, sometimes reaching levels that could harm consumers. [More>>](#)



ARE OUR AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS HEALTHY?

The health of fish and other aquatic organisms and communities depends on the chemical, physical, and biological quality of the waters in which they live. [More>>](#)



CALIFORNIA WATER QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL

- Home
- Safe to Drink
- Safe to Swim
- Safe to Eat Fish
- Ecosystem Health
- Stressors & Processes
- Contact Us

- My Beach
- Recent Conditions
- Trends
- Closures & Postings
- Impaired Beaches
- Improvements

Office of Governor
Edmund G. Brown Jr.
[Visit his Website](#)

- Cal/EPA
- Natural Resources Agency
- About the California Water Quality Monitoring Council
- Web Portal Partners
- Monitoring & Assessment Programs, Data Sources & Reports
- Water Quality Standards, Plans and Policies
- Regulatory Activities
- Enforcement Actions
- Research
- State & Regional Water Boards
 - Performance Report
 - About SWAMP
 - SWAMP Tools



Home → Safe To Swim

Is It Safe to Swim In Our Waters?

Show County Info:

Monterey County

- [beach closure information](#)
- [bacterial impairment listings](#)
- [bacterial sampling data](#)
- [beach improvement projects](#)



Beach water quality monitoring and strong pollution prevention measures are critical for protecting beach goers from waterborne diseases. Monitoring is performed by city and county health agencies, publicly owned sewage treatment plants, other dischargers, environmental groups and numerous citizen-monitoring groups.

View Monitoring and Assessment Information

- Click on a county or;
- Select from the Show County Info menu.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED

- [Can I swim at my beach, lake, or stream?](#)
- [How clean was my beach, lake, or stream during the past week or month?](#)
- [What are the long-term trends at my beach, lake, or stream?](#)
- [Which beaches, lakes, and streams are currently closed by county health agencies?](#)
- [Which beaches, lakes, and streams are listed by the State as impaired?](#)
- [Are the problems getting better?](#)

Select Grades

[West Coast] [State View]

Grade Type: Dry Wet [?]

Los Angeles County

Search Beach

Predefined Searches

Los Angeles County

Sort By Name

5 [Avalon Beach- btw. Pier & Busy Bee \(1/3 distance\)](#)

Los Angeles County
F dry, ns wet

6 [Avalon Beach- btw. Pier & Busy Bee Rest \(2/3 distance\)](#)

Los Angeles County
B dry, ns wet

7 [Avalon Beach- btw. storm drain & Pier \(1/3 distance\)](#)

Los Angeles County
A+ dry, ns wet

8 [Avalon Beach- btw. storm drain & Pier \(2/3 distance\)](#)

Los Angeles County
A+ dry, ns wet

9 [Avalon Beach- btwn. Busy Bee & Tuna Club](#)

Beaches Key:

- A or B Grade
- C Grade
- D or F Grade
- ⊘ Beach Closed

All Beaches

[\[Recentre Map\]](#)
[\[Expand\]](#)

Los Angeles County




[Overview](#)
[Facts and Resources](#)
[Multimedia](#)
[User Comments](#)
[Historical Data](#)

[\[max zoom\]](#)
[\[set as default\]](#)
[\[close\]](#)

Avalon Beach- btw. Pier & Busy Bee (1/3 distance)

Grades based on a 30-day period ending 4/3/2012



Rain Advisory

F dry [\[?\]](#) **ns** wet [\[?\]](#)

Location: Avalon, Los Angeles County, CA 90704
Current Condition: Wind:

[Get Directions](#) [Extended Forecast](#)

[Get Updates via RSS](#) [Add a widget to my site](#)

[\[Report an Issue with this Beach\]](#)

State Alerts

⊘ [7 Closures](#)

☔ [15 Rain Advisories](#)

[Learn More](#)

State Summary

Heal the Bay analyzed data for [429 locations](#) in California this grading period. Grades updated on Fridays.

What's New

9/27/2011
[2011 End of Summer Beach Report Card](#)

Volunteer

Be Safe at the Beach

Tips for Clean Beach

Get Connected

Become a Member

Feedback Survey

Follow BRC On Twitter



Home → Safe To Swim → Trends

What are the Long-Term Bacteria Trends at My Beach, Lake, or Stream?

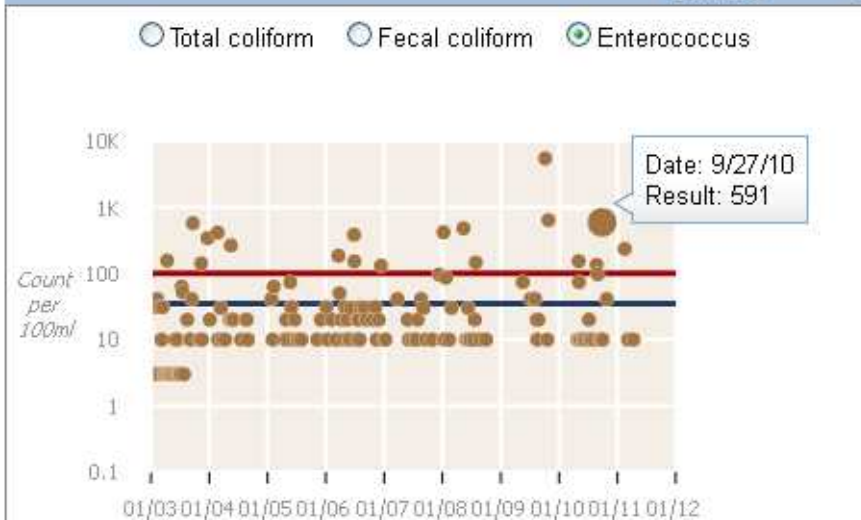


- Cal/EPA
- Natural Resources Agency
- About the California Water Quality Monitoring Council

SAFE TO SWIM LINKS

- Pollution Sources & Health Risks
- Laws, Regulations & Standards
- Regulatory Activities
- Enforcement Actions
- Research
- Monitoring Programs, Data Sources & Reports

Santa Barbara Show county



Understanding trends allows decision makers to determine whether pollution sources are increasing in magnitude and/or frequency and the effectiveness of control measures.

View Trends in Bacterial Indicator Levels

The interactive map below provides sampling results for coastal beach monitoring locations over time. A few county health agencies provide creek and lake information along with ocean beach information. Otherwise, lake and stream information is currently unavailable electronically.

- To find bacterial sample results for a particular site, first select the county, then click on a site location. The results will appear to the right of the map. **Results may take time to appear.**
- Place your mouse cursor over a point on the chart to see the date and sample result for a particular sample event.

Horizontal lines on the charts represent bacterial water quality objectives specified in the [2005 California Ocean Plan](#).

- **Red** is the Single Sample Maximum objective. Sample points above this line represent violations of the objective.
- **Blue** is the 30-day Geometric Mean objective - the geometric mean of the five most recent samples from each site. *Note: Individual sample results above this line do not necessarily represent violations.*



Home » Safe To Eat » Consumption Advisories

Can I Eat Fish or Shellfish Caught in My Lake, Stream, or Ocean Location?



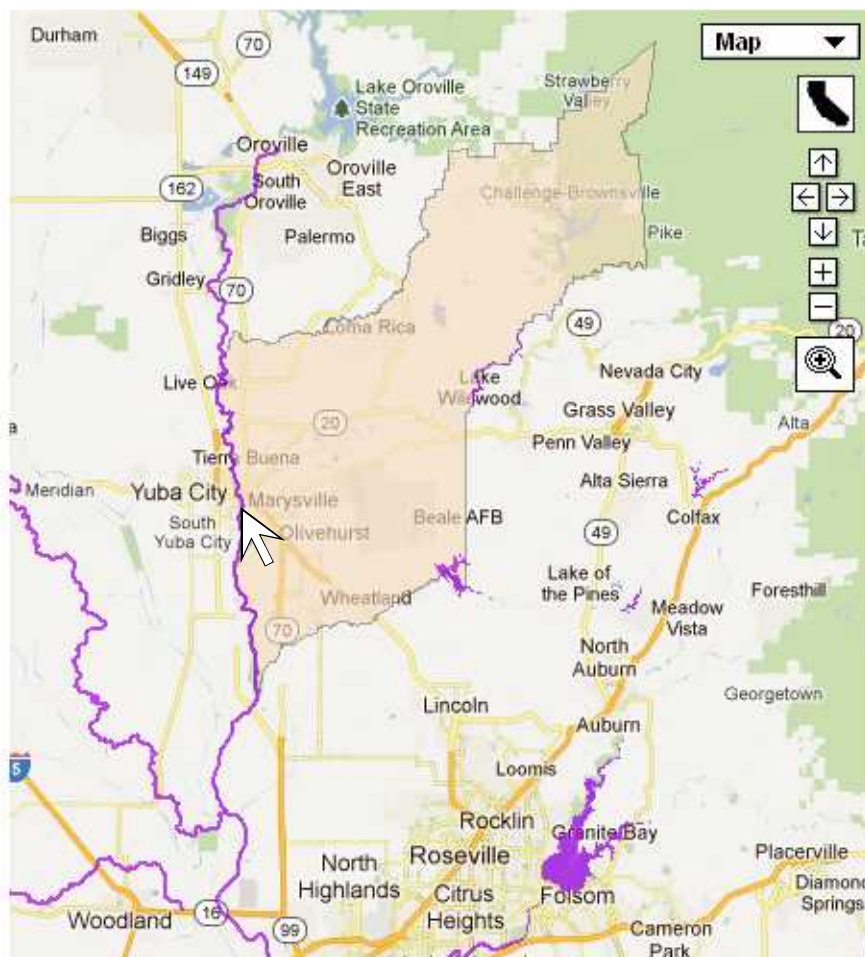
- » Cal/EPA
- » Natural Resources Agency
- » About the California Water Quality Monitoring Council

SAFE TO EAT FISH LINKS

- » Pollution Sources & Health Risks
- » Laws, Regulations, Standards & Guidelines
- » Assessment Thresholds
- » Regulatory Activities
- » Enforcement Actions
- » Research
- » Monitoring Programs, Data Sources & Reports
- » Statewide Perspective
- » National Perspective

County: Water Body:

Show county



Fish and Shellfish Consumption Advisories by Location

There are health benefits from eating fish and shellfish. But, some fish and shellfish may contain chemical or biotoxin contaminants that could pose health risks. When contaminant levels are unsafe, consumption advisories may recommend that people limit or avoid eating certain species of fish caught in certain places and at certain times.

[California Sport Fish Consumption Advisories](#)
 For a number of California water bodies, the Cal/EPA office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) publishes consumption advisories for chemicals in noncommercial fish which you and your family or friends catch.



These advisories are shown on the map to the left.

- » Click on a water body (shown in **purple**), or
- » Select (or type) the county in the County box, then select the water body from the Water Body menu, or
- » Select (or type) the water body name directly in the Water Body box
- » Use the magnifier tool to zoom into an area of interest (more highlighted water bodies will appear).
- » [How does OEHHA develop fish consumption advisories and safe eating guidelines?](#)



Home » Safe To Eat » Consumption Advisories

Can I Eat Fish or Shellfish Caught in My Lake, Stream, or Ocean Location?



- » Cal/EPA
- » Natural Resources Agency
- » About the California Water Quality Monitoring Council

County: Water Body:

Show county

Fish and Shellfish Consumption Advisories by Location

There are health benefits from eating fish and shellfish. But, some fish and shellfish may contain chemical or biotoxin contaminants that could pose health risks. When contaminant levels are unsafe, consumption advisories may recommend that people limit or avoid eating certain species of fish caught in certain places and at certain times.

[California Sport Fish Consumption Advisories](#)
For a number of California water bodies, the Cal/EPA office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) publishes consumption advisories for chemicals in noncommercial fish which you and your family or friends catch.

These advisories are shown on the map to the left.

















- » Click on a water body (shown in **purple**), or
- » Select (or type) the county in the County box, then select the water body from the Water Body menu, or
- » Select (or type) the water body name directly in the Water Body box
- » Use the magnifier tool to zoom into an area of interest (more highlighted water bodies will appear).
- » [How does OEHHA develop fish consumption advisories and safe eating guidelines?](#)

SAFE TO EAT FISH LINKS

- » Pollution Sources & Health Risks
- » Laws, Regulations, Standards & Guidelines
- » Assessment Thresholds
- » Regulatory Activities
- » Enforcement Actions
- » Research
- » Monitoring Programs, Data Sources & Reports
- » Statewide Perspective
- » National Perspective

**SAFE EATING GUIDELINES FOR FISH FROM THE LOWER FEATHER RIVER
(BUTTE, YUBA AND SUTTER COUNTIES)
[08/11/06, UPDATED 03/18/09, UPDATED 02/15/12]**

| <p align="center">Safe Eating Guidelines for the Lower Feather River</p> <p align="center">Women 18 – 45 and Children 1 – 17 Years</p> | | |
|--|---|---|
|  American Shad  |  Carp |  Black Bass |
|  Chinook (king) salmon  |  Redear or other sunfish |  Catfish |
|  Steelhead trout**  |  Sucker |  Pikeminnow |
| | |  Striped Bass |
| | |  White sturgeon |
| <p>2-3 Servings a week</p> | <p>1 Serving a week</p> | <p>Do not eat</p> |

- Fish Advice
- Department of Fish and Game Sport Fish Regulation Books
- Department of Public Health Fish Information
- Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Fish Mercury Project
- Southern California Fish Contamination Education Collaborative

LISTSERVS

- OEHHA Listserv
- Biomonitoring Listserv
- Fish Listserv
- Northern California Spill Alert
- Prop. 65 Listserv
- Southern California Spill Alerts

CONTACT OEHHA

- Help!
- Contact OEHHA Staff

- How to Follow Advisories
- Advice for Fish You Buy
- Women & Children
- Alternate Languages
 - Pescado
- Chemicals in Fish
 - DDTs
 - Dieldrin
 - Mercury
 - PCBs
- Advisory Map
- Reports
 - Angler Survey
 - Fish Consumption
 - Advisory Tissue Levels
- Oil Spill Information
- Links



What are the Levels and Long-Term Trends in My Lake, Stream, or Ocean Location?

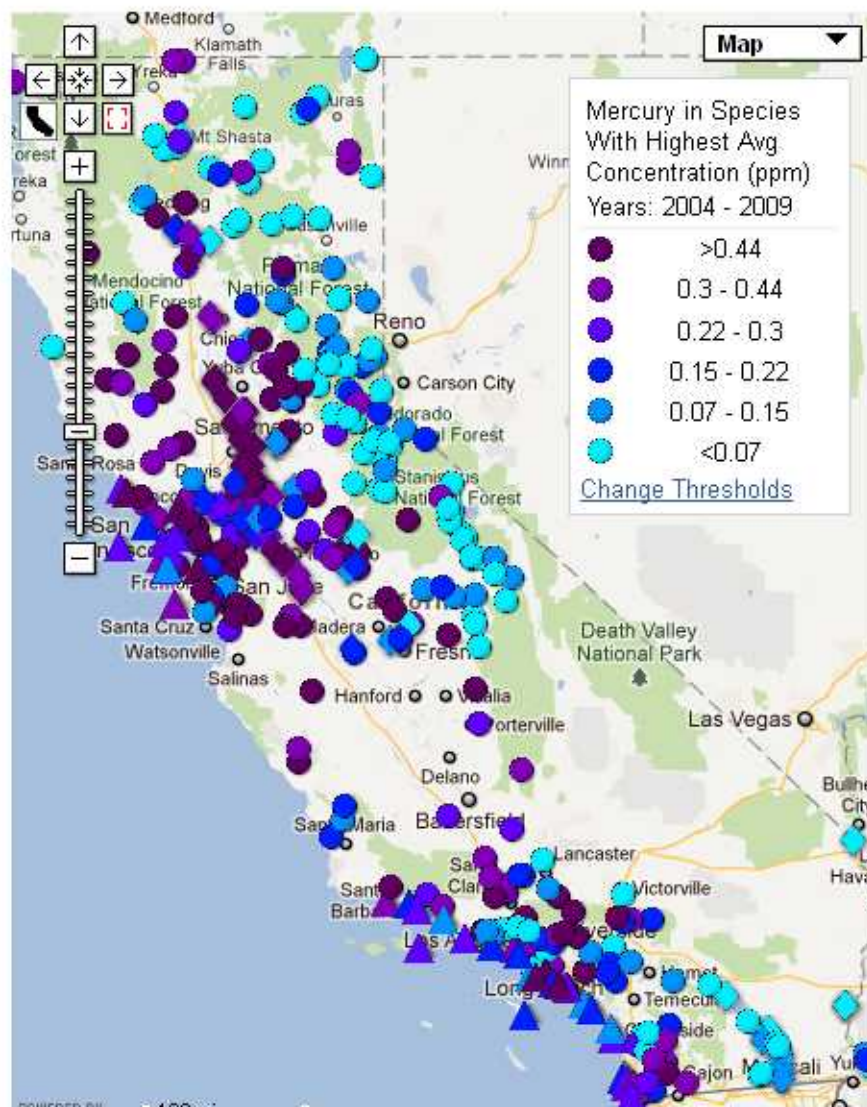
- Cal/EPA
- Natural Resources Agency
- About the California Water Quality Monitoring Council

SAFE TO EAT FISH LINKS

- Pollution Sources & Health Risks
- Laws, Regulations, Standards & Guidelines
- Assessment Thresholds
- Regulatory Activities
- Enforcement Actions
- Research
- Monitoring Programs, Data Sources & Reports
- Statewide Perspective
- National Perspective

Select location Zoom to county:

Show counties



Contaminant Data

This interactive map allows you to explore fish contaminant data for your fishing locations. Data are available from extensive monitoring by SWAMP of lakes and reservoirs in 2007 and 2008, from the coast in 2009, and from other studies. Data from 2007-2009 are shown by default. [Map Instructions](#)

Select Species:

Species With Highest Avg Concentration

Select Contaminant:

Mercury

Select Start Date: 2004

Select End Date: 2009

[Download Map Data](#)

More Information

- [Monitoring programs and reports](#)
- [Access Complete Datasets from CEDEN](#)
- [Assessment thresholds](#)

This map shows data generated by:





What are the Levels and Long-Term Trends in My Lake, Stream, or Ocean Location?

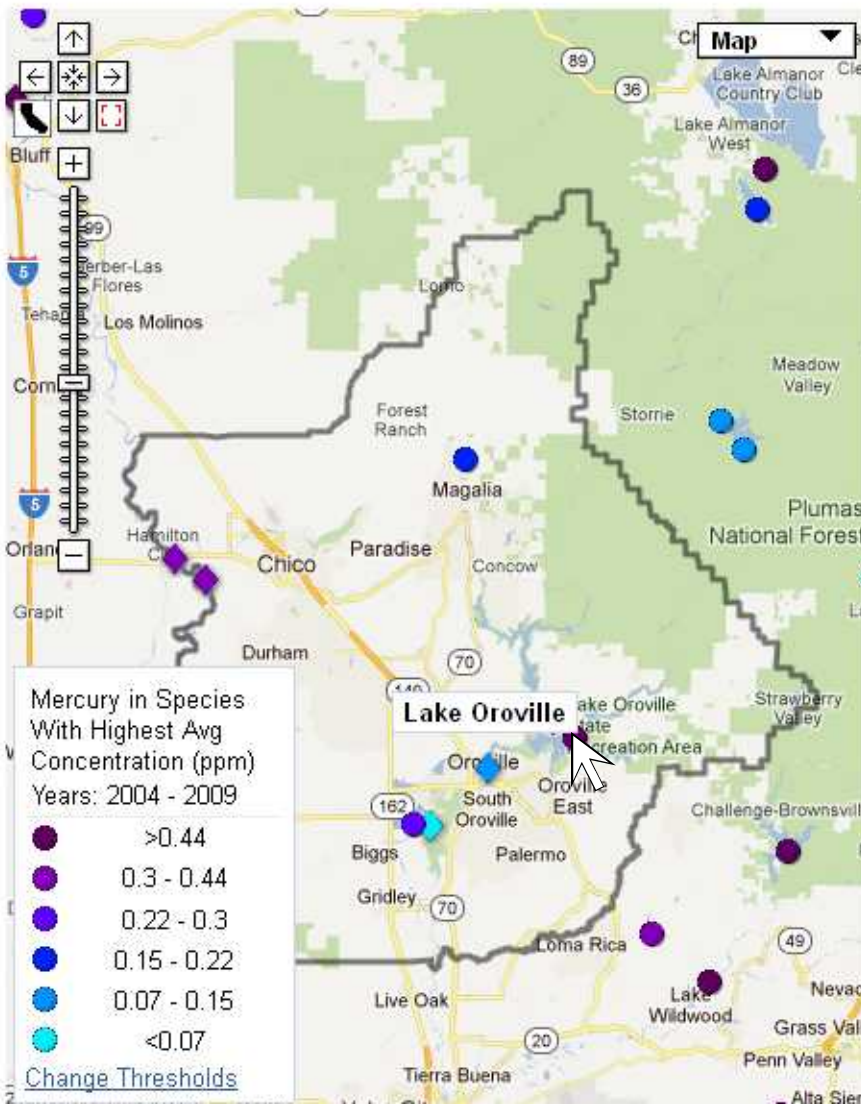
- Cal/EPA
- Natural Resources Agency
- About the California Water Quality Monitoring Council

SAFE TO EAT FISH LINKS

- Pollution Sources & Health Risks
- Laws, Regulations, Standards & Guidelines
- Assessment Thresholds
- Regulatory Activities
- Enforcement Actions
- Research
- Monitoring Programs, Data Sources & Reports
- Statewide Perspective
- National Perspective

Select location Zoom to county: Butte

Show counties



Contaminant Data

This interactive map allows you to explore fish contaminant data for your fishing locations. Data are available from extensive monitoring by SWAMP of lakes and reservoirs in 2007 and 2008, from the coast in 2009, and from other studies. Data from 2007-2009 are shown by default. [Map Instructions](#)

Select Species:

Species With Highest Avg Concentration

Select Contaminant:

Mercury

Select Start Date:

Select End Date:

2004 2009

Go

Reset

[Download Map Data](#)

More Information

- [Monitoring programs and reports](#)
- [Access Complete Datasets from CEDEN](#)
- [Assessment thresholds](#)

This map shows data generated by:





What are the Levels and Long-Term Trends in My Lake, Stream, or Ocean Location?

- Cal/EPA
- Natural Resources Agency
- About the California Water Quality Monitoring Council

SAFE TO EAT FISH LINKS

- Pollution Sources & Health Risks
- Laws, Regulations, Standards & Guidelines
- Assessment Thresholds
- Regulatory Activities
- Enforcement Actions
- Research
- Monitoring Programs, Data Sources & Reports
- Statewide Perspective
- National Perspective

Select location Zoom to county: Butte

Contaminant Data

This interactive map allows you to explore fish locations. Data from 2008, from the State Water Resources Control Board. Data from the State Water Resources Control Board. [Click on Instructions](#)

Show counties



Lake Oroville ⚠ [View Safe Eating Guidelines for this water body.](#)

Data Trends Nearby Locations

What are the most recent data for my location?

Contaminant Data For 2004 - 2009

| Species | MERCURY (ppm) | Sample Year | Prep Code | Sample Type |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Common Carp | 0.26 | 2007 | Skin off | Average of Location Composites |
| Smallmouth Bass | 0.44 | 2007 | Skin off | Average of Individuals |

A result of ND means the concentration was below detection limits.



Mercury in Species With Highest Avg Concentration (ppm) Years: 2004 - 2009

- >0.44
- 0.3 - 0.44
- 0.22 - 0.3
- 0.15 - 0.22
- 0.07 - 0.15
- <0.07

[Change Thresholds](#)

More Information

- [Monitoring programs and reports](#)
- [Access Complete Datasets from CEDEN](#)
- [Assessment thresholds](#)

This map shows data generated by:





What are the Levels and Long-Term Trends in My Lake, Stream, or Ocean Location?

- Cal/EPA
- Natural Resources Agency
- About the California Water Quality Monitoring Council

SAFE TO EAT FISH LINKS

- Pollution Sources & Health Risks
- Laws, Regulations, Standards & Guidelines
- Assessment Thresholds
- Regulatory Activities
- Enforcement Actions
- Research
- Monitoring Programs, Data Sources & Reports
- Statewide Perspective
- National Perspective

Lake Oroville ⚠ [View Safe Eating Guidelines for this water body.](#)

Select

Show

Data Trends Nearby Locations

How does my location compare to nearby water bodies?

Change Species Parameter
 Highest Lowest

| Nearby Water Body | Distance (mi) | Species With Highest Average Concentration | MERCURY (ppm) | Sample Year | Prep Code |
|----------------------------------|---------------|--|---------------|-------------|-----------|
| Feather River Hatchery | 7 | Steelhead Rainbow Trout | 0.09 | 2006 | Skin off |
| Feather River at Oroville Outlet | 13 | American Shad | 0.05 | 2006 | Skin off |
| Thermalito Afterbay | 14 | Common Carp | 0.24 | 2007 | Skin off |
| Collins Lake | 16 | Largemouth Bass | 0.38 | 2008 | Skin off |
| Bullards Bar Reservoir | 18 | Largemouth Bass | 0.4 | 2008 | Skin off |
| Harry L Englebright Lake | 21 | Sacramento Sucker | 0.62 | 2008 | Skin off |
| Paradise Lake | 23 | Largemouth Bass | 0.16 | 2008 | Skin off |
| Bucks Lake | 26 | Rainbow Trout | 0.02 | 2008 | Skin off |
| Little Grass Valley Reservoir | 26 | Rainbow Trout | 0.02 | 2008 | Skin off |
| Lower Bucks Lake | 26 | Kokanee | 0.1 | 2007 | Skin off |

A result of ND means the concentration was below detection limits.





Which Lakes, Streams, or Ocean Locations Are Listed By The State As Impaired?

- Cal/EPA
- Natural Resources Agency
- About the California Water Quality Monitoring Council

SAFE TO EAT FISH LINKS

- Pollution Sources & Health Risks
- Laws, Regulations, Standards & Guidelines
- Assessment Thresholds
- Regulatory Activities
- Enforcement Actions
- Research
- Monitoring Programs, Data Sources & Reports
- Statewide Perspective
- National Perspective

County: Water Body:

Show county




This interactive map shows which of California's waters are listed as impaired for uses related to fish or shellfish consumption by humans and which pollutants are involved. Also shown are the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) projects to reduce pollutants to acceptable levels.

View 2006 303(d) Listing and current TMDL Information:

- Click on a water body (shown in red), or
- Select (or type) the county in the County box, then select the water body from the Water Body menu, or
- Select (or type) the water body name directly in the Water Body box
- Use the magnifier tool to zoom into an area of interest (more highlighted water bodies will appear)
- Click on the state outline tool to return to a statewide view

Impaired Water Bodies

Listing a water body as impaired in California is governed by the [State Water Board's 303\(d\) Listing Policy](#). 

The State and Regional Water Boards assess water quality data for California's waters every two years to determine if they contain pollutants at levels that exceed protective water quality criteria and standards. This biennial assessment is required under Section 303(d) of the [federal Clean Water Act](#).

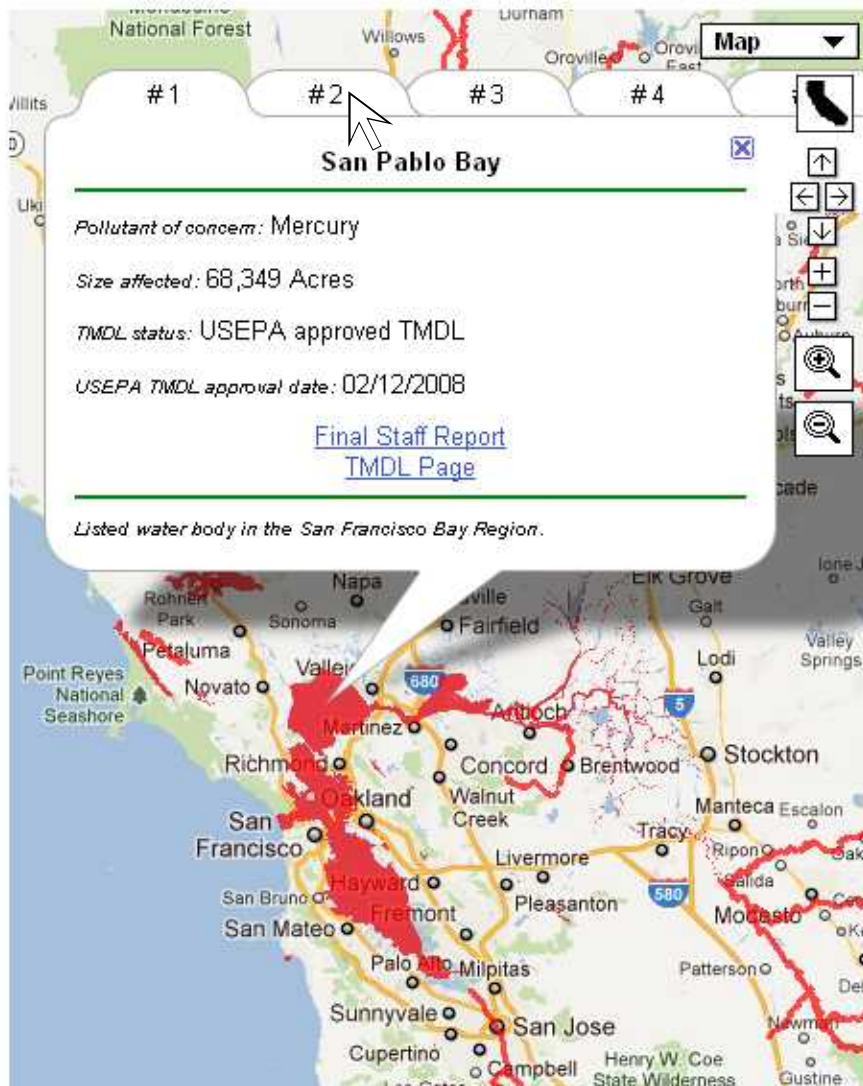
The map shows California waters that were placed on the State's most current (2006) 303(d) list and which pollutants they contain that adversely impact



Which Lakes, Streams, or Ocean Locations Are Listed By The State As Impaired?

County: Water Body:

Show county




This interactive map shows which of California's waters are listed as impaired for uses related to fish or shellfish consumption by humans and which pollutants are involved. Also shown are the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) projects to reduce pollutants to acceptable levels.

View 2006 303(d) Listing and current TMDL Information:

- Click on a water body (shown in red), or
- Select (or type) the county in the County box, then select the water body from the Water Body menu, or
- Select (or type) the water body name directly in the Water Body box
- Use the magnifier tool to zoom into an area of interest (more highlighted water bodies will appear)
- Click on the state outline tool to return to a statewide view

Impaired Water Bodies

Listing a water body as impaired in California is governed by the [State Water Board's 303\(d\) Listing Policy](#). 

The State and Regional Water Boards assess water quality data for California's waters every two years to determine if they contain pollutants at levels that exceed protective water quality criteria and standards. This biennial assessment is required under Section 303(d) of the [federal Clean Water Act](#).

The map shows California waters that were placed on the State's most current (2006) 303(d) list and which pollutants they contain that adversely impact

- Cal/EPA
- Natural Resources Agency
- About the California Water Quality Monitoring Council

SAFE TO EAT FISH LINKS

- Pollution Sources & Health Risks
- Laws, Regulations, Standards & Guidelines
- Assessment Thresholds
- Regulatory Activities
- Enforcement Actions
- Research
- Monitoring Programs, Data Sources & Reports
- Statewide Perspective
- National Perspective



Which Lakes, Streams, or Ocean Locations Are Listed By The State As Impaired?

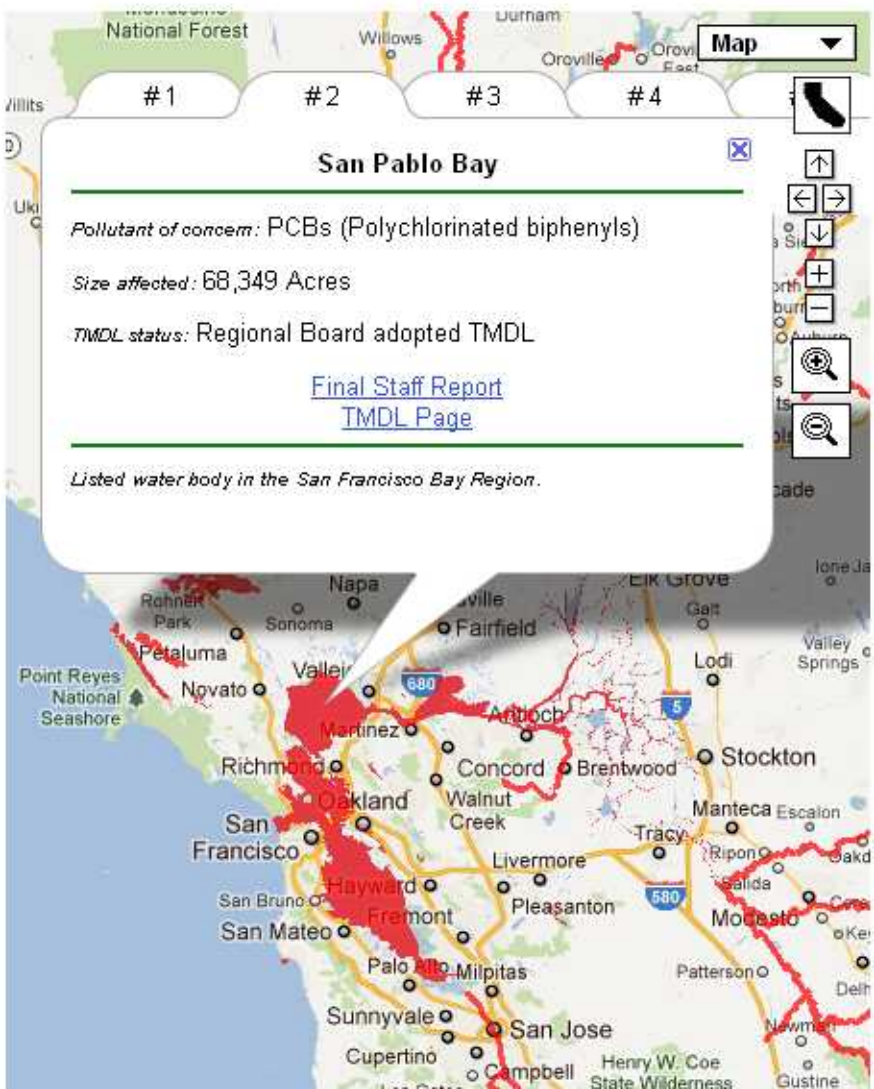
- Cal/EPA
- Natural Resources Agency
- About the California Water Quality Monitoring Council

SAFE TO EAT FISH LINKS

- Pollution Sources & Health Risks
- Laws, Regulations, Standards & Guidelines
- Assessment Thresholds
- Regulatory Activities
- Enforcement Actions
- Research
- Monitoring Programs, Data Sources & Reports
- Statewide Perspective
- National Perspective

County: Water Body:

Show county



This interactive map shows which of California's waters are listed as impaired for uses related to fish or shellfish consumption by humans and which pollutants are involved. Also shown are the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) projects to reduce pollutants to acceptable levels.

View 2006 303(d) Listing and current TMDL Information:

- Click on a water body (shown in red), or
- Select (or type) the county in the County box, then select the water body from the Water Body menu, or
- Select (or type) the water body name directly in the Water Body box
- Use the magnifier tool to zoom into an area of interest (more highlighted water bodies will appear)
- Click on the state outline tool to return to a statewide view

Impaired Water Bodies

Listing a water body as impaired in California is governed by the [State Water Board's 303\(d\) Listing Policy](#).

The State and Regional Water Boards assess water quality data for California's waters every two years to determine if they contain pollutants at levels that exceed protective water quality criteria and standards. This biennial assessment is required under Section 303(d) of the [federal Clean Water Act](#).

The map shows California waters that were placed on the State's most current (2006) 303(d) list and which pollutants they contain that adversely impact



- [Cal/EPA](#)
- [Natural Resources Agency](#)
- [About the California Water Quality Monitoring Council](#)

- [Web Portal Partners](#)
- [Monitoring & Assessment Programs, Data Sources & Reports](#)
- [Water Quality Standards, Plans and Policies](#)
- [Regulatory Activities](#)
- [Enforcement Actions](#)
- [Research](#)

- [State & Regional Water Boards](#)
 - [Performance Report](#)
 - [About SWAMP](#)
 - [SWAMP Tools](#)



[Home](#)

Welcome to My Water Quality

This web portal, supported by a wide variety of public and private organizations, presents California water quality monitoring data and assessment information that may be viewed across space and time. Initial web portal development concentrates on four theme areas, with web portals to be released one at a time. Click the [Contact Us](#) tab for more information.

The Monitoring Council seeks to provide multiple perspectives on water quality information and to highlight existing data gaps and inconsistencies in data collection and interpretation, thereby identifying areas for needed improvement in order to better address the public's questions. Questions and comments should be addressed through the [Contact Us](#) tab.



IS OUR WATER SAFE TO DRINK?

Safe drinking water depends on a variety of chemical and biological factors regulated by a number of local, state, and federal agencies. [\[Future Portal\]](#)



IS IT SAFE TO SWIM IN OUR WATERS?

Swimming safety of our waters is linked to the levels of pathogens that have the potential to cause disease. [More >>](#)



IS IT SAFE TO EAT FISH AND SHELLFISH FROM OUR WATERS?

Aquatic organisms are able to accumulate certain pollutants from the water in which they live, sometimes reaching levels that could harm consumers. [More>>](#)



ARE OUR AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS HEALTHY?

The health of fish and other aquatic organisms and communities depends on the chemical, physical, and biological quality of the waters in which they live. [More>>](#)

Office of Governor
Edmund G. Brown Jr.

[Visit his Website](#)



- [Cal/EPA](#)
- [Natural Resources Agency](#)
- [About the California Water Quality Monitoring Council](#)

AQUATIC HEALTH LINKS

- [Stressors](#)
- [Laws, Regulations & Standards](#)
- [Regulatory Activities](#)
- [Enforcement Actions](#)
- [Research](#)
- [Monitoring Programs, Data Sources & Reports](#)

[Home](#) → [Aquatic Ecosystem Health](#)



Are Our Aquatic Ecosystems Healthy?

California has many types of aquatic habitats. Follow the links below to learn more...



WETLANDS

Wetlands form along the shallow margins of deepwater ecosystems such as lakes, estuaries, and rivers. They also form in upland settings where groundwater or runoff makes the ground too wet for upland vegetation. [More >>](#)



ESTUARIES

Estuaries are unique habitats found where rivers and the ocean mix. They feature a diverse array of plants and animals adapted to life along this mixing zone. [\[Future Portal\]](#)



STREAMS, RIVERS & LAKES

California's streams and rivers flow through diverse habitats, from mountain canyons, valleys, deserts, estuaries and urban areas. Riparian woodlands develop along stream banks and floodplains, linking forest, chaparral, scrubland, grassland, and wetlands. California lakes, supporting deep water, wetlands, riparian woodlands, offer a quiet refuge for plants, animals and humans alike. [\[Future Portal\]](#)



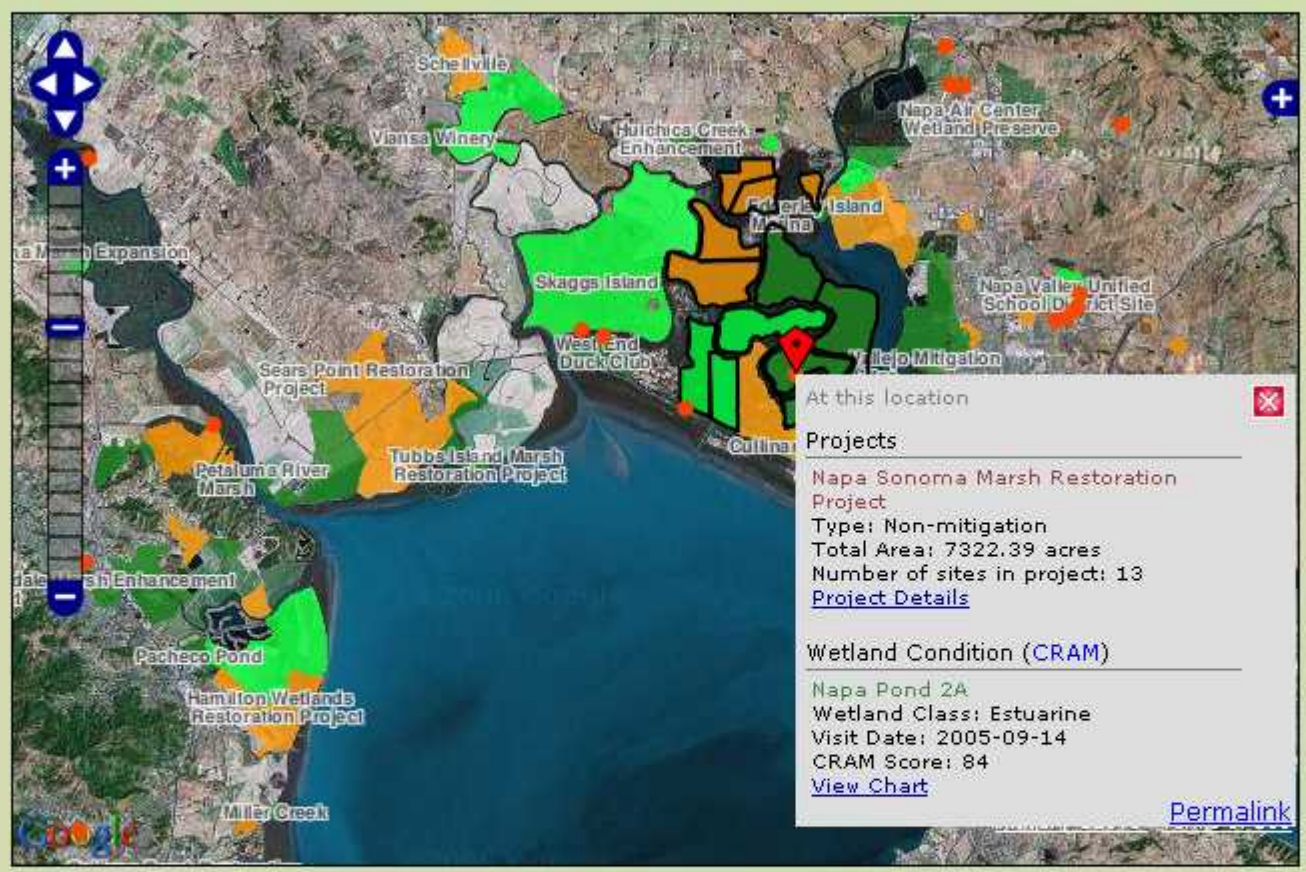
OCEAN

California has 1,100 miles of shoreline and 220,000 square miles of state and federal oceanic habitat, featuring one of the world's most diverse marine ecosystems. [\[Future Portal\]](#)

CALIFORNIA WETLANDS

- California
- Bay Area
- Project List
- Map
- Summaries
- Questions
- Questions Answered
- Background Info on Wetlands
- About Wetlands Portal
- Wetland Condition (CRAM)
- Feedback
- My Water Quality
- Home
- Water Quality Monitoring Council
- California Wetlands Monitoring Workgroup
- Contact Us

Need help using this m



- Layers
- Wetland Projects
 - Condition (CRAM)
 - Modern Habitats
 - Historical Habitats

- Background
- Basic
 - USGS Topo Maps
 - Google Satellite
 - Google Terrain

- Legend
- Projects
- Construction complete
 - Construction in-progress
 - Construction planned
 - Approximate boundary
- Condition
- CRAM Assessment

- Wetland Projects
- Wetland Condition (CRAM)
- Zoom to Location

| CRAM Site Name | Wetland Class | Visit Date | Overall Score |
|---|-----------------------|------------|---------------|
| Above Anderson Dam- Shell Crossing | Riverine Non-confined | 2010-11-12 | 84 |
| Above Coyote Lake | Riverine Non-confined | 2010-11-12 | 92 |
| Adobe Creek at Petaluma Adobe State Park | Riverine | 2005-08-16 | 72 |
| Alamo Creek | Riverine Confined | 2009-01-23 | 77 |
| Alamo Creek | Riverine Non-confined | 2010-10-06 | 63 |
| Alhambra Creek at Martinez AEC - Restored | Riverine Unconfined | 2007-11-18 | 49 |
| Alhambra Creek - Reference | Riverine Unconfined | 2007-11-29 | 43 |

Office of Governor
Edmund G. Brown Jr.
[Visit his Website](#)

California Streams, Rivers and Lakes



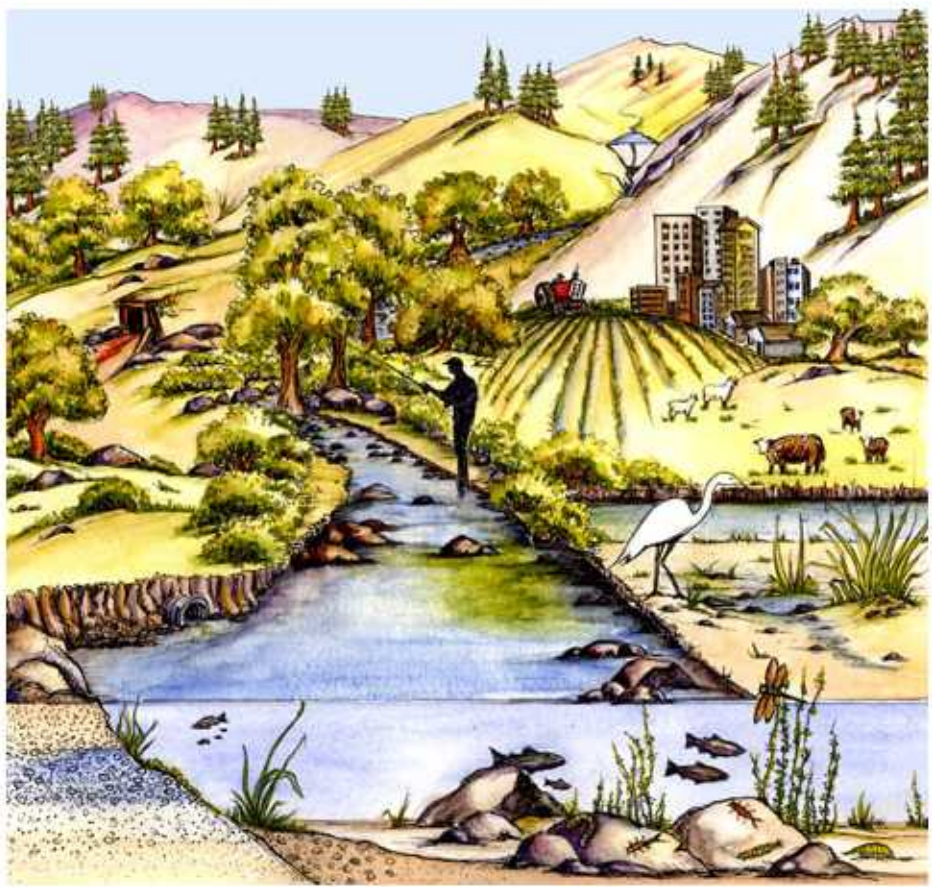
- [Cal/EPA](#)
- [Natural Resources Agency](#)
- [About the California Water Quality Monitoring Council](#)

[Urban](#) | [Agriculture](#) | [Other Uses](#) | [Fines & Sands](#) | [Gravels](#) | [Cobbles & Boulders](#) | [Riffles & Rapids](#) | [Buffer](#) | [Riparian Cover](#) | [Pools](#) | [Groundwater](#) | [Water Quality](#) | [Sediment Quality](#) | [Stream Gradient](#) | [Channel Stability](#) | [Channel Alteration](#) | [Algae](#) | [Bugs](#) | [Fish](#) | [Fish Contaminants](#) |

Also see: [Hydrologic Connectivity](#) | [Hydrologic Sufficiency](#) | [Invasive Species](#) | [Sediment Balance](#)

AQUATIC HEALTH LINKS

- [Stressors](#)
- [Laws, Regulations & Standards](#)
- [Regulatory Activities](#)
- [Enforcement Actions](#)
- [Research](#)
- [Monitoring Programs, Data Sources & Reports](#)



Healthy streams, rivers, and lakes provide safe drinking water, recreational opportunities, and important habitat for species ranging from the red-shouldered hawk to steelhead to crayfish and dragonflies. Maintaining healthy streams, rivers, and lakes can reduce the need for water treatment and water supply costs and make landscapes more resilient to climate change. To determine the health of a waterway and the flora and fauna that live there, investigators can use a combination of chemical, biological, and physical assessments. Among the characteristics that may be considered are habitat quality, aquatic life diversity, water chemistry, stream hydrology, the physical channel form, and sediment transport processes of the stream. [Show](#) | [Hide](#) Navigation Instructions.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED

- [What is the extent of our stream and river resources?](#)
- [What is the condition of our streams and rivers?](#)
- [What is being done to make our waters healthier?](#)

Initial Portals



IS IT SAFE TO SWIM IN OUR WATERS?

- ◆ Coastal beaches, bays & estuaries – July 2009



IS IT SAFE TO EAT FISH AND SHELLFISH?

- ◆ Sport fish – December 2009



ARE OUR AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS HEALTHY?

- ◆ Wetlands – March 2010
- ◆ Streams & Rivers – release soon
- ◆ Marine Rocky Intertidal – under construction
- ◆ Estuaries – workgroup formed



IS OUR WATER SAFE TO DRINK?

- ◆ At the tap, groundwater, surface water – planned

Opportunities and Benefits

- ◆ Delivers answers to the public
 - ◆ Underscore important work of agencies involved
- ◆ Provides framework to motivate and guide improvement
 - ◆ Reveals data gaps, lack of assessment tools, poor data integration, and other problems hamper statewide assessment
- ◆ Allows broader assessments to be made through information sharing

Opportunities and Benefits (cont.)

- ◆ Automates annual reporting of governmental organizations
- ◆ Allows decision makers, legislators, and public understand how their dollars are spent
 - ◆ Beyond bean counting – Are conditions getting better?
 - ◆ Big picture status and trends
 - ◆ Access to information to guide future expenditures
- ◆ Collaboration improves efficiency of monitoring and assessment programs
- ◆ Transparency builds credibility

California's Comprehensive Monitoring Program Strategy



[www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/
programs/monitoring_council](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/monitoring_council)