

## Total Maximum Daily Load Progress Report

<b>Regional Water Board</b>	<b>Central Coast, Region 3</b>
<b>Beneficial uses affected</b>	REC-1, REC-2
<b>Pollutant(s) addressed:</b>	Fecal Coliform
<b>Implemented through:</b>	Regulatory and non-regulatory Action
<b>Approval date:</b>	November 20, 2006

## Watsonville Slough Pathogens TMDL

### STATUS

- Conditions Improving
- Data Inconclusive**
- Improvement Needed
- TMDL Achieved/Waterbody Delisted

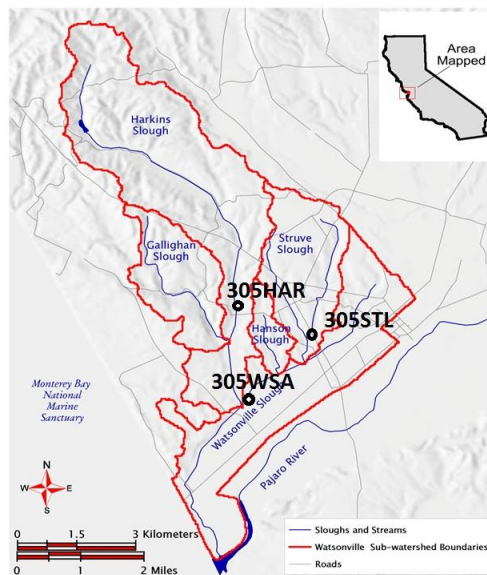
### TMDL summary:

Watsonville Slough is on the 2010 Clean Water Act section 303(d) list of impaired waters for pathogens. Fecal coliform bacteria levels exceed Basin Plan objectives for the protection of water contact recreation (REC-1) and non-contact water recreation (REC-2). Urban stormwater and agriculture were identified as the primary sources of pathogens. The Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board developed a [TMDL for pathogens](#) that was approved by the Office of Administrative Law in November 2006.

The TMDL established an implementation plan, primarily through the use of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits, Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs), and a basin plan prohibition (Watsonville Slough Livestock Waste Discharge Prohibition). The TMDL implementation schedule calls for achieving pathogen levels in the Watsonville Sloughs by 2016.

### Watsonville Slough and Sub-watersheds

(Source: Hagar, et al., 2004)



### TMDL Waste Load Allocations/Load Allocations

WASTE LOAD ALLOCATIONS	Receiving Water Fecal Coliform (MPN/100mL) <sup>1</sup>
Santa Cruz County, City of Watsonville, Santa Cruz Co. Freedom Sanitation District, City of Watsonville	≤200
LOAD ALLOCATIONS	
Operators or owners of irrigated lands who land-apply non-sterile manure and/or operators and owners of livestock facilities and animals	≤200

<sup>1</sup> As geometric mean (geomean) of five (5) samples taken in a 30-day period, nor shall more than ten percent of total samples collected during any 30-day period exceed 400 MPN per 100mL.

### Water Quality Outcomes

- Available water quality data implies that Watsonville Slough conditions have not improved over a period of 8 years.
- Water quality data suggest urban areas (305STL) have lower fecal coliform levels than agriculture areas (305WSA, 305HAR).
- Water quality data show no evidence to suggest that the TMDL target will be achieved by 2016.
- More regulatory effort is required to implement the TMDL implementation plan.

### Water Quality

**2005/2011 Fecal Coliform Seasonal Geomean  
Harkins, Struve, and Watsonville Sloughs**

