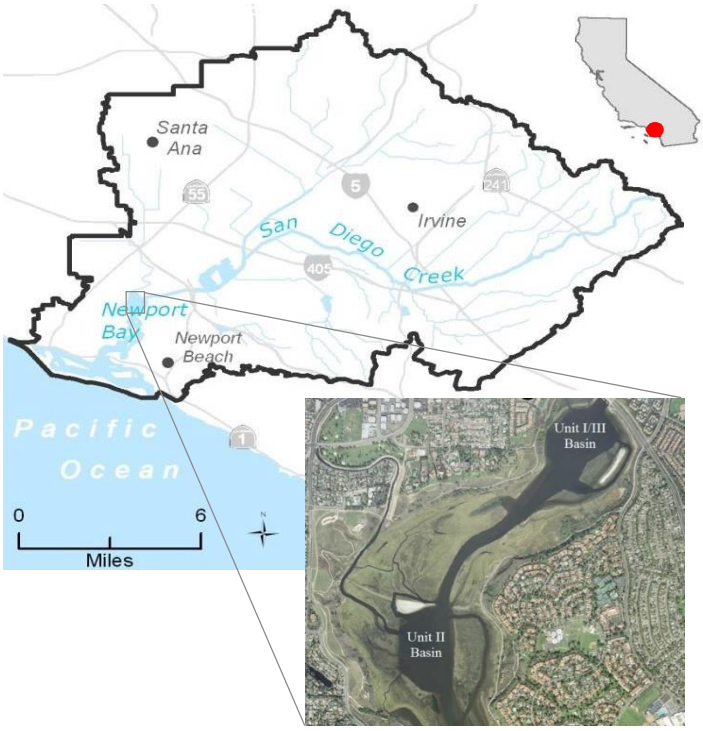
Water Quality Report Card		Sediment in Upper Newport Bay (Ecological Reserve)
Regional Water Board:	**Santa Ana, Region 8**	**STATUS** ☑ **Conditions Improving** ☐ Data Inconclusive ☐ Improvement Needed ☐ Targets Achieved/Waterbody Delisted
Beneficial Uses Affected:	WARM, WILD, NAV, MAR	
Implemented Through:	Stakeholder Action	
Effective Date:	April 4, 1998	
Attainment Date:	2020	**Pollutant Type:** ☑ Point Source ☑ Nonpoint Source ☐ Legacy

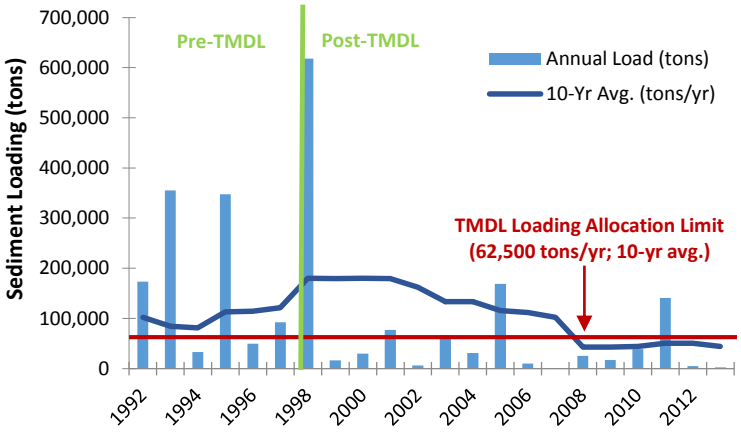
Corrective Action Summary

The 150-square-mile Newport Bay Watershed is located in central Orange County. The upper bay, and Reach 1 and Reach 2 of San Diego Creek, were listed as sediment-impaired in 1986 and 1998, respectively, due to excessive sediment loads from agriculture, construction, and hydromodification. To address the impairment, the Santa Ana Regional Water Board adopted the TMDL for sediment in the Newport Bay/San Diego Creek Watershed in 1998. The TMDL established sediment loading limits from agriculture, construction, open space, and urban land uses. The TMDL required stakeholders to remove accumulated sediment from the bay and maintain minimum depths at the head of the bay. The TMDL also required that sediment trapping basins in San Diego Creek and its tributaries, have, at minimum, 50 percent capacity at the start of the rainy season. The TMDL has been implemented by the Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee (composed of the Regional Water Board, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, county, cities, and landowners). Since the TMDL was adopted, over 400,000 tons of sediment has been removed from the San Diego Creek and foothill sediment basins.

Newport Bay/San Diego Creek Watershed



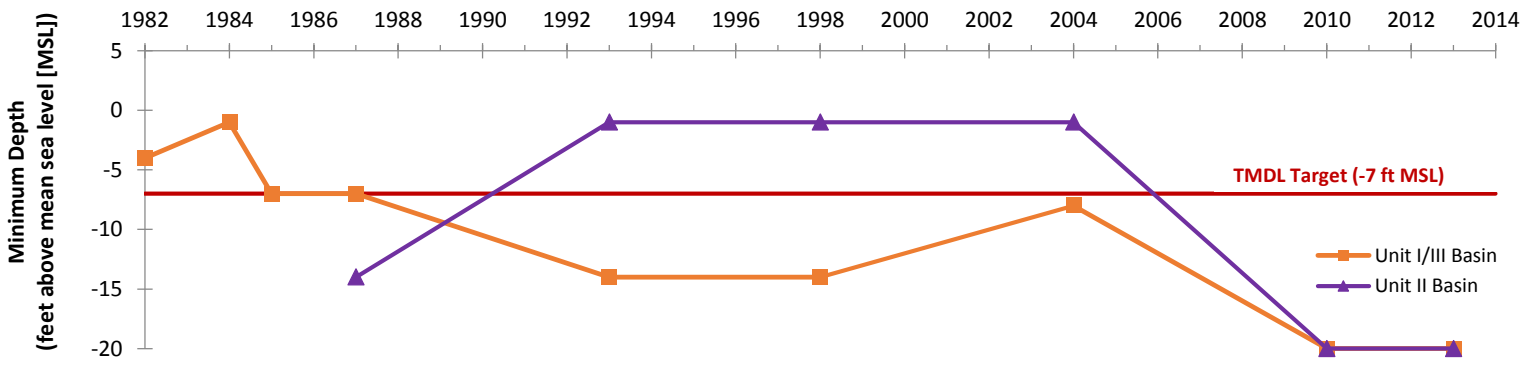
Sediment Loading and TMDL Allocation, Upper Newport Bay



Water Quality Outcomes

- *Monitoring data show sediment loads are decreasing. This is due to a combination of sediment control measures and reduced frequency of large storm events.*
- *Monitoring data show an improvement in minimum depth in all basins and has achieved the TMDL target since 2010. Dredging has restored sufficient depths to the upper bay such that it is able to assimilate a larger sediment load.*
- *Degraded areas in open space foothills remain a significant sediment source. The areas are currently being targeted for restoration through a 319(h) grant (awarded in 2014), and stakeholder funding.*

Minimum Depths in Upper Newport Bay (Ecological Reserve) Sediment Basins



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