

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region

**Tissue, Sediment and Benthic Infauna Data
McGrath Lake Ag Drain**

Summary of Proposed Action

New Proposed Listings

- “Not Supporting” (Impaired) for sediment toxicity due to exceedances in toxicity tests.
- “Not Supporting” (Impaired) for degraded benthic infaunal community due to community assessments.
- “Not Supporting” (Impaired) for DDT in sediment due to exceedances of Effects Range-Median (ERM) and/or Probable Effects Level (PEL).
- “Not Supporting” (Impaired) for chlordane in sediment due to exceedances of ERM and/or PEL.
- “Not Supporting” (Impaired) for dieldrin in sediment due to exceedances of ERM and/or PEL.

These actions all affect the aquatic life beneficial uses.

Table 1. 303(d) Listing/TMDL Information

Waterbody Name	McGrath Lake Ag Drain	Pollutants/Stressors	See Above
Hydrologic Unit	403.11	Source(s)	Historical use of pesticides and lubricants, stormwater runoff and aerial deposition from agricultural fields.
Total Waterbody Size	0.5	TMDL Priority	25
Size Affected		TMDL Start Date (Mo/Yr)	2004
Extent of Impairment		TMDL End Date (Mo/Yr)	2007

Watershed Characteristics

McGrath Lake: McGrath Lake is a small brackish waterbody located just south of the Santa Clara River. The lake is located partially on State Parks land and partially on privately-owned oilfields in current production. A number of agricultural ditches drain into the lake. A state beach is located off the coastal side of the lake. The habitat around the lake is considered to be quite unique and it is utilized by a large number of overwintering migratory birds.

Water Quality Objectives Not Attained

Sediment toxicity
Benthic infaunal community
ERM/PEL sediment guidelines

Beneficial Uses Affected

Aquatic Life

Data Assessment

Sed Tox (98)

Sed (98): chlordane, DDT

Degraded benthic infaunal community

Table 2. Summary of Sediment Data for McGrath Lake Ag Drain (Misc. Ventura Coastal WMA)

Dates of Sampling	October 1998
Number of Samples (n)	1 (sediment)
Minimum Data Value	
Maximum Data Value	Total chlordane: 19 ppb Total DDT: 726 ppb Dieldrin: 5.9 ppb
Median Data Value	
Arithmetic Mean Value	
Standard Deviation	
Number (Percent) above Objective	Sediment toxicity: 1 (100 %) Benthic infauna: 1 (100 %) Chlordane: 1 (100 %) DDT: 1 (100 %) Dieldrin: 1 (100 %)

This table may summarize additional data not relevant to this factsheet that supports a continued listing for this waterbody.

Potential Sources

Historical use of pesticides and lubricants, stormwater runoff and aerial deposition from agricultural fields.

References

McGrath Lake characterization study conducted by California Department of Fish and Game on behalf of the LA Regional Board (1998).