

# Water Quality Report Card

## Elevated Chloride and Sodium in Jalama Creek

**Regional Water Board:** Central Coast, Region 3

**Beneficial Uses Affected:** AGR

**Implemented Through:** Development of site-specific water quality objectives or other water quality standards action.

**Effective Date:** 4 September 2013

**Attainment Date:** Not applicable (see following narrative)

**STATUS** Not Applicable  
- Impairment due to natural conditions and must be addressed by a water quality standards action.

**Pollutant Type:** Nonpoint Source (Natural Sources)

**Pollutant Source:** Naturally Occurring

### Water Quality Improvement Strategy

The Jalama Creek sub-watershed drains a 24-square-mile, sparsely populated, rural area of coastal Santa Barbara County. There are no point-source discharges and no irrigated cropland. Exceedances of chloride and sodium water quality objectives are likely due to natural geologic conditions such as geothermal waters, connate waters, marine sediments. Jalama Creek is on the federal Clean Water Act section 303(d) List for chloride and sodium. In accordance with [California's Impaired Waters Policy](#), the [Jalama Creek TMDL Project](#) recommends development of site-specific water quality objectives, or other appropriate water quality standards action, for this watershed within 10 years of TMDL adoption (by 2023). Watershed management includes an anti-degradation expectation: existing water quality and currently supported beneficial uses need to be maintained, consistent with anti-degradation policies.

### Jalama Creek Subwatershed Map



### TMDL Load Allocations

Load Allocations	Sources
<b>Chloride:</b> 303 pounds per day and not to exceed 106 mg/L in receiving waters.	Natural sources
<b>Sodium:</b> 197 pounds per day and not to exceed 69 mg/L in receiving waters	Natural sources

### Water Quality Outcomes

- Exceedances of chloride and sodium 303(d) assessment guidelines are due to non-controllable, natural geologic conditions.
- Development of site specific water quality objectives for Jalama Creek, representative of the natural conditions and protective of local aquatic life, is the appropriate action to address this "water quality impairment", as described in California's Impaired Waters Policy.

### Water Quality

