

Total Maximum Daily Load Progress Report		Gualala River Sediment TMDL	
Regional Water Board:	North Coast, Region 1	STATUS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conditions Improving
Beneficial uses affected:	COLD, COMM, EST, MIGR, RARE, SPWN		<input type="checkbox"/> Data Inconclusive
Pollutant(s) addressed:	Sediment		<input type="checkbox"/> Improvement Needed
Implemented through:	NPS Permits, Stakeholder Efforts		<input type="checkbox"/> TMDL Achieved/Waterbody Delisted
Approval date:	December 20, 2001		

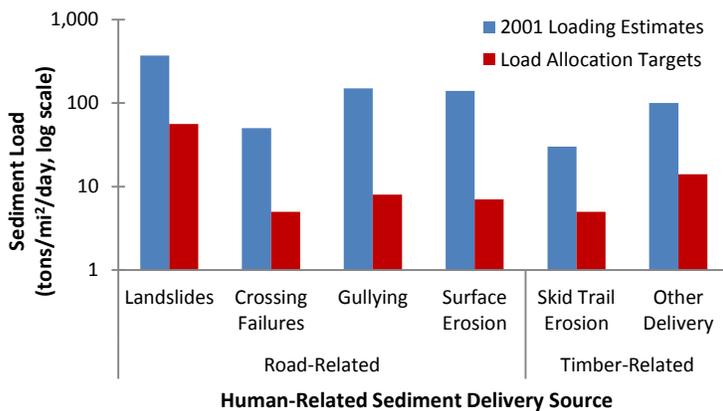
TMDL Summary

Located along the San Andreas Fault, the Gualala River watershed is comprised of a highly dissected stream network. Unstable geology, steep slopes, and large amounts of precipitation make for high rates of natural erosion and landslides and a sensitivity of the land to practices that promote erosion. The primary sediment delivery sources are road-related processes, timber harvesting, agricultural activities, and rural residential development. Excessive sediment delivery from these sources has impaired instream beneficial uses, specifically those associated with salmonids. To address sediment impairment, U.S. EPA Region 9 developed a [TMDL for sediment in Gualala River](#) based on the North Coast Regional Water Board's [technical support document](#). The TMDL was approved by the U.S. EPA in December 2001. The TMDL established load allocations based on inventory information for six human-related sediment delivery sources. The TMDL calls for sediment discharge reductions from road-related sources by 95% and timber harvest-related sources by 86%. Landscape and instream targets were established to gauge the progress of implementing actions in addressing the sediment delivery categories and to measure stream response.

Gualala River Watershed



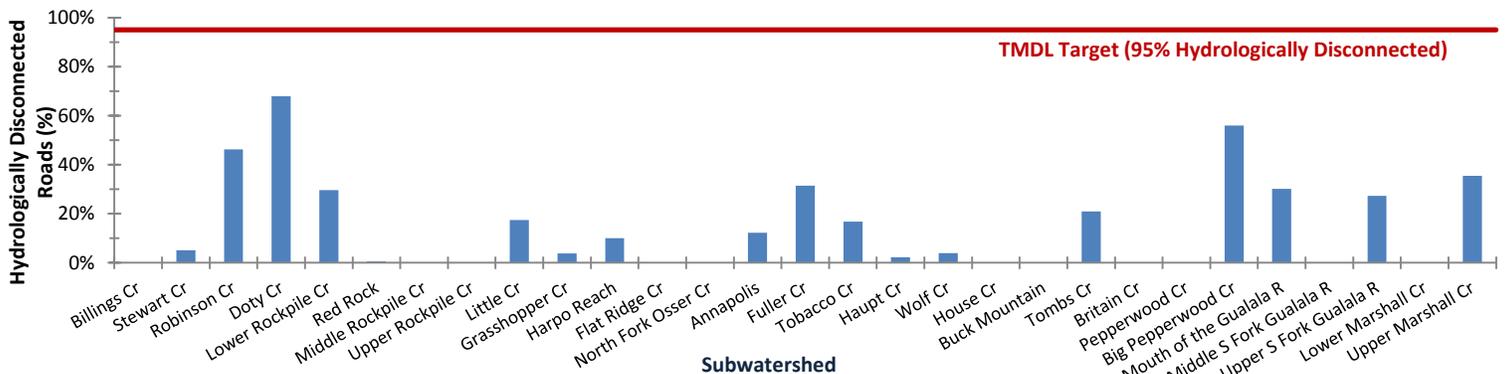
TMDL Load Allocations for Gualala Watershed



Water Quality Monitoring

- The percent of hydrologically disconnected roads has increased; however it is still well below the TMDL target.
- Implementation actions have reduced sediment delivery and improved instream conditions and salmonid habitat.
- Streambed conditions are improving; 82% of monitoring sites show reduced sediment deposition and 85% of resurveyed monitoring reaches show streambed deepening.
- GRWC's "Large Wood in the Stream" program has improved fish habitat by controlling sediment movement and increasing size, depth, and frequency of pools.
- Road projects on over 263 miles have reduced sediment input by an estimated 500,000 tons.

Percentage of Roads in the Gualala River Subwatersheds that are Hydrologically Disconnected



Hydrologically disconnected roads do not drain directly into stream channels. When the TMDL was adopted in 2001, almost all the roads were hydrologically connected to streams.

Updated September 2013