

Water Quality Report Card

Regional Water Board:	North Coast, Region 1
Beneficial Uses Affected:	COLD, COMM, MIGR, SPWN, RARE
Implemented Through:	Grants, Permits, Stakeholder Efforts
Effective Date:	December 1998
Attainment Date:	2048 (estimated date)

Sediment in Redwood Creek

STATUS

- Conditions Improving
- Data Inconclusive
- Improvement Needed
- Targets Achieved/Water Body Delisted

Pollutant Type: Point Source Nonpoint Source Legacy

Water Quality Improvement Strategy

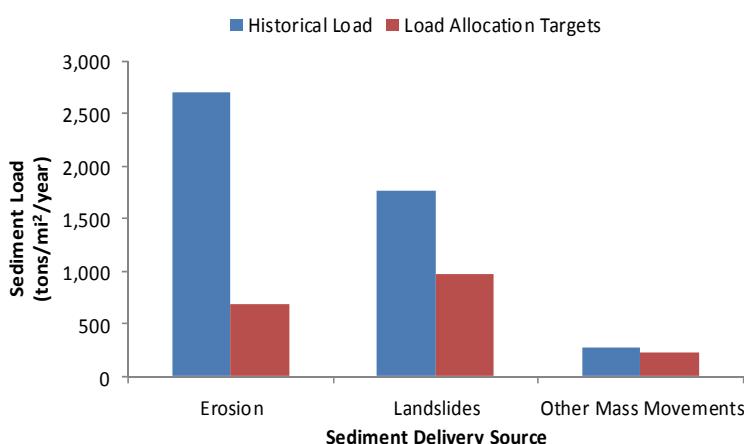
Located in the Northern California Coast Range, Redwood Creek Watershed and its tributaries were added to the 303(d) list in 1992 due to excessive sediment in stream channels. The upstream two thirds of the watershed are mostly private timber lands and ranches. Redwood National and State Parks occupy the lower third of the watershed. The primary sediment sources are erosion from upland hills, roads, gullies, and stream banks; landslides from road and timber harvesting; and debris torrents and other mass movements of sediment. Excess sediment delivery from these sources impairs instream beneficial uses, specifically those associated with salmon and steelhead.

USEPA developed [the Redwood Creek Sediment TMDL](#) in 1998, which calls for a 60% reduction in sediment discharge to the watershed. In 2004, a collaborative partnership of private landowners, non-profit organizations, and agencies with scientific or regulatory interests formed the Redwood Creek Watershed Group. The group developed and implemented the [Redwood Creek Integrated Watershed Strategy](#) as a guideline to restore and protect the beneficial uses of the watershed.

Redwood Creek Watershed

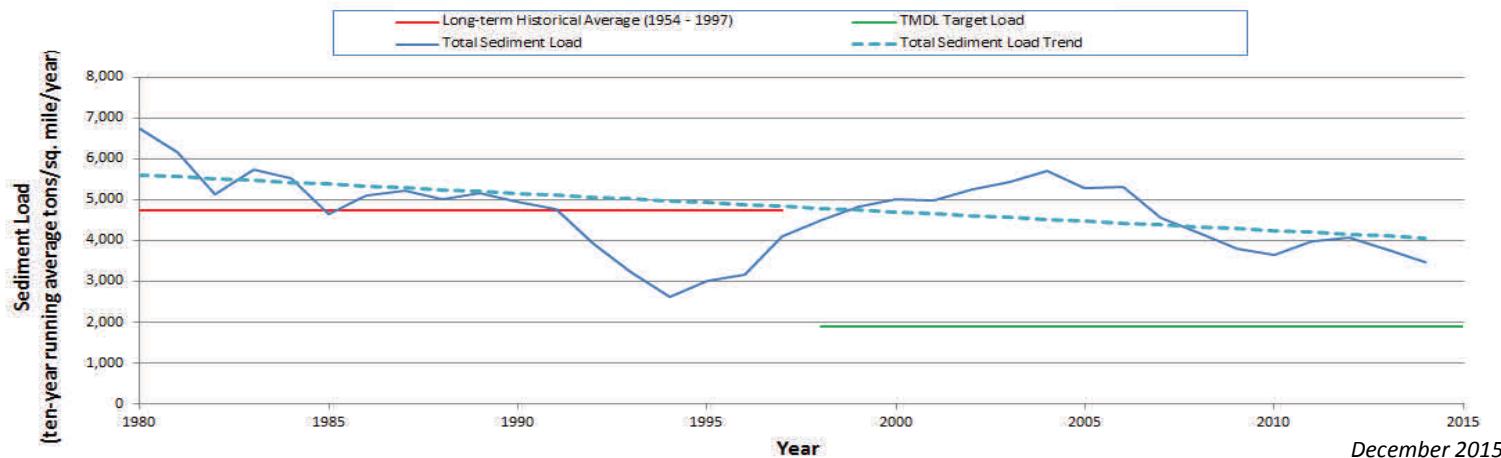


TMDL Load Allocations



- According to a [report](#) prepared by Redwood National and State Parks, since the implementation of the TMDL, 40% of the required sediment load reductions have been attained.
- Watershed sediment loads are decreasing at a rate of approximately 45 tons per square-mile per year.
- Logging road treatments have reduced approximately 531,000 cubic yards of potential sediment from being discharged into the upper watershed.
- As of 2009, 70% (approximately 773 miles) of the roads in the watershed have been assessed.
- About 120 miles of road erosion projects have been completed and 61 miles of roads have been decommissioned.
- Through 2009, approximately \$5.8 million has been spent on erosion control projects. Landowners have contributed about 33% of the funds.
- Next steps include future implementation of erosion control and prevention on private and public lands, and riparian and channel habitat restoration projects.

Sediment Loading in Redwood Creek at Orick



December 2015