Pajaro River Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for Sediment and Land Disturbance Prohibition

Agenda Item #10

Presented by Michael Buckman

Intro

• 2002 303(d) listing: Sedimentation

Impairing:
Cold Fresh Water Habitat (COLD)
Migration of Aquatic Organisms (MIGR)
Spawning, Reproduction, and/or Early Development of Fish (SPWN)

• Narrative Water Quality Objective





Sources: RWQCB EPA's BASINS Map Projection: Albers Equal Area

TMDL Targets

• Streambed characteristics

 Suspended sediment concentration and duration

Streambed Numeric Targets

• Sediment accumulation (pool volume)

Sediment distribution in spawning gravels

Suspended Sediment Numeric Targets

	Exposure	e Category [®]	Exceedanc	e Event Criteria	Numeric Targets ^c		
Major Subwatershed ^a	Duration (consecutive days)	Suspended Sediment Concentration Range (mg/L) ^d	Duration (consecutive days)	Suspended Sediment Concentration (mg/L)	Maximum Number of Exceedance Events	Maximum Duration of any given Exceedance Event (consecutive days)	
Upper Pajaro	1	666 - 1808	2	>1808	0	. 1	
	2	245 - 665	3	>665	3	3	
	6	91 - 244	7	>244	2	9	
	14	91 – 244	15	>244	0	9	
	49	33 – 90	50	>90	0	33	

Source Analysis

Primarily Nonpoint Sources

- Agricultural Operations
- Silviculture
- Urban/Residential Land Use
- Rangeland & Grazing Activities
- Sand & Gravel Mining Operations
- Streambank Erosion
- Roads
- Natural Erosion

Agriculture



Urban

HEFELTER CTTR

Natural Erosion

Source Analysis (cont.)

Point Sources
Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s)
Watsonville
Hollister
Gilroy
Morgan Hill

Allocations

				Source	Category				
Major Subwatershed	Allocations (LA/WLA)	Crop, Fallow, and Orchard	Forest	Pasture and Range	Urban Lands	Roads	Barren	Sand and Gravel Mining	Total Load
San Benito	LA	1971	2083	19863	327	1180	14128	27	39,679
	WLA				100				

Implementation

Agricultural and Timber lands:
Conditional Waivers for Irrigated Agriculture and Timber Harvesting
Urban:

Stormwater permits (urban lands)
 Sand and Gravel Mining:

• Waste discharge requirements

Implementation (cont.)

Pasture and Range Lands, Roads, Rural Properties, and Hydromodification:
Land Disturbance Prohibition
Prohibits discharge of sediment

- Requires dischargers to develop control programs or eliminate discharge

Consistent with NPS Policy





Extra Slides Below



		Land Use Source Category								
Major Subwatershed (Subbasin numbers)	Allocations ¹ (LA/WLA)	Crop, Fallow, and Orchard	Forest ²	Pasture and Range	Urban Lands ³	Roads	Barren ²	Sand and Gravel Mining	Total Load	
Tres Pinos	LA	477	352	41085	312		11551		52 770	
(16, 18, 19)	WLA				1				55,776	
San Benito	LA	1971	2083	19863	327	1180	14128	27	39,679	
(15, 17, 20, 21)	WLA				100					
Llagas	LA	596	326	6978	354		144		9,185	
(5, 23)	WLA				787					
Uvas	LA	946	989	12454	280		369			
(11, 22)	WLA				139				15,177	
Upper Pajaro	LA	4114	1228	37664	356		425	3		
(1, 2, 9, 10)	WLA				161				43,951	
Corralitos (3,4) (including Rider Creek)	LA	3544	4536	2427	443	79	73	2	11 3894	
	WLA				284				11,565	
Mouth of Pajaro	LA	3047	58	3055	383		500	35	7 2684	
(6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 24)	WLA				191				7,200	

Notes:

¹ Annual load allocations (LA) and waste load allocations (WLA) expressed in metric tones (1 metric ton equals 1,000 kilograms). Allocations are the portion of a receiving water's loading capacity attributed to one of its existing or future pollution sources. Load allocations are assigned to nonpoint sources or to natural background levels and wasteload allocations are assigned to point sources.

² Forest includes loads from natural sources and from timber harvesting operations; Barren includes loads from natural sources only.

³ Load allocations for urban lands outside of NPDES Phase 2 urban boundaries. Waste load allocations for urban lands within NPDES Phase 2 urban boundaries.

⁴Number rounded.

Streambed Characteristics

Parameter	Numeric Target ¹
Residual Pool Volume ²	$V^* =$ Mean values ≤ 0.21 Max values ≤ 0.45
Median Diameter (D ₅₀) of Sediment Particles in Spawning Gravels	$D_{50} =$ Mean values $\geq 69 \text{ mm}$ Minimum values $\geq 37 \text{ mm}$
Percent of Fine Fines (< 0.85 mm) in Spawning Gravels	Percent fine fines $\leq 21\%$
Percent of Coarse Fines (< 6.0 mm) in Spawning Gravels	Percent coarse fines $\leq 30\%$

Implementation

Nonpoint Source Policy
dischargers must be regulated
this TMDL proposes a prohibition
discharges must implement control programs



Severity of Ill Effects (SEV) Scale

SE	EV	Description of Effect					
Nil effect	0	No behavioral effect					
Deberievel	1	Alarm reaction					
Benaviorai effects	2	Abandonment of cover					
	3	Avoidance response					
	4	Short-term reduction in feeding rates; short-term reduction in feeding success					
Sublethal	5	Minor physiological stress; increase in rate of coughing; increased respiration rate					
effects	6	Moderate physiological stress					
	7	Moderate habitat degradation; impaired homing					
	8	Indications of major physiological stress; long-term reduction in feeding rate; long-term reduction in feeding					
	9	Reduced growth rate; delayed hatching; reduced fish density					
Lethal and paralethal	10	0-20% mortality; increased predation; moderate to severe habitat degradation					
	11	>20%-40% mortality					
effects	12	>40%-60% mortality					
	13	>60%-80% mortality					
	14	>80%-100% mortality					

SEV Dose Response Matrix

	<u> </u>	1	2	2	1	2	4 6	2	7	4	/	30	0	
	3	2	2	3	4	4	5		6	7	7	8	1	
	7	3	3	4	4	5	6	6	7	7			2	
ပိ	20	3	4	4	5	6	6	7					3	
nce	55	4	5	5	6	6	7		8	9		10	4	jo J
entr	148	5	5	6	7	7	8	8		10	10	11	5	ge L
atio	403	5	6	7	7	8	9		10	10	11	12	6	bu
i) u	1097	6	7	7	8		9	10	10	11	12	12	7	SS/
шg	2981	7					10	11	11	12	12	13	8	Ĺ)
SS	8103	8		9	10	10	11	11	12	13	13	14	9	
L)	22026	8		10	10	11	11	12	13	13	14	-	10	
	59874	9	10	10	11	12	12	13	13	14	-	-	11	
	162755	10	11	11	<u> 12 </u>	12	13	14	<u></u> 14	- 1	-	-	12	
				Avera	ige sev	erity of i	Il effect	s score	s (calcı	ulated)				
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
				Durat	Duration of exposure to SS (log _e hours)									

SEV-8 Thresholds

	SEV-8 Thre	shold		_	
Exposure Category	Maximum Concentration Duration (SS mg/L) (days)		Concentration Range (SS mg/L)	log e Concentration (SS mg/L)	
Α	1808	1	665.141807.86	7	
В	665	2	244.69665.07	6	
С	244	6	90.01244.66	5	
D	244	14	90.01244.66	5	
E	90	49	33.1190.01	4	
F	33	120	12.1833.11	3	
G	12	330	4.4812.18	2	

Background

- In 1998 Pajaro River, Llagas Creek, Rider Creek and San Benito River were listed as impaired due to sedimentation/siltation
- In 2000 Staff initiated a contract to study impairment, but this later "fell through"
- In 2001 and 2002 two contracts were established (one each for Upper and Lower Pajaro River)
- In 2003 and 2004 the two qualitative studies were completed
- In 2003 EPA funded a quantitative study



Basin Plan WQ Objective

General Water Quality Objective:

"The suspended sediment load and suspended sediment discharge rate of surface waters shall not be altered in such a manner as to cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses."



Timber Harvesting



Agriculture

Rural Properties



Grazing



Sand and Gravel Mining



Hydromod

Sediment Sources

timber harvesting activities
sand and gravel mining
natural erosion and landslides
municipal stormwater

