

Water Quality Report Card		Pathogens in Sonoma County Beaches	
Regional Water Board: North Coast, Region 1		STATUS	Conditions Improving
<u>Beneficial Uses</u> Affected: Water Contact Recreation (REC-1)			
Implemented Through: NPS Permits, Stakeholder Action		Pollutant Type:	Nonpoint Source
Effective Date: Not Applicable		Pollutant Source:	Naturally Occurring; Nonpoint Source Runoff
Attainment Date: Not Applicable			

Water Quality Improvement Strategy

Enterococci concentrations at seven Sonoma County ocean beaches from 2019 to 2024 were assessed for exceedance of the Water Contact Recreation (REC-1) Water Quality Objective (WQO) - Black Point Regional Park Beach, Campbell Cove State Beach, Doran Regional Park Beach, Goat Rock State Park Beach, Gualala Regional Park Beach, Salmon Creek State Park Beach, and Stillwater Cove Regional Park Beach. Only Campbell Cove State Beach is currently listed on the Section 303(d) List as REC-1 impaired. Data assessment indicates that only concentrations at Campbell Cove State Beach exceed the REC-1 WQO. Microbial source tracking, land cover and land use data assessment indicates the primary source is dog feces, with a mix of naturally occurring (shorebird) feces. Dog feces, the major controllable source of contamination at these beaches, will be addressed through the Coastal Pathogen Source Reduction Strategy by working with California State Parks to provide and maintain disposal stations, education on the impact of dog waste on water quality, and the benefits of proper dog waste disposal.

TMDL Waste Load Allocations/Load Allocations

Indicator	Magnitude (cfu/100 mL)	
	Geometric Mean ¹ (GM)	Statistical Threshold Value ² (STV)
Enterococci	30	110

¹Six week rolling GM calculated weekly.
²Calendar month STV not to be exceeded by >10% of samples.

Sonoma County Beaches



Water Quality Outcomes

- Enterococci at Campbell Cove State Beach exceeds the REC-1 WQO thresholds of 30 cfu/100 ml (GM) and 110 cfu/100 ml (STV), indicating that improvement is needed.
- Future actions include working with California State Parks to enforce their current pet waste management actions at Campbell Cove State Beach.

Water Quality

