

# Gualala Roads Assessment Order

## Third Quarter 2026 Update

### RECENT PUBLIC WORKSHOP

On July 23, 2026, the North Coast Water Board hosted a public workshop for the Gualala Roads Assessment Order at its office in Santa Rosa. The workshop was well attended and many landowners and members of the community shared comments with the Board. A recording of the workshop can be found at [https://cal-span.org/meeting/rwqcb-nc\\_20260723/](https://cal-span.org/meeting/rwqcb-nc_20260723/).

Comments received included concerns about the cost of compliance with the draft Order and potential cost of future implementation, a need for property-specific information, the association of the draft Order with past studies, and more.

A summary of public comments and staff responses will be available when the proposed Gualala Roads Assessment Order is circulated in advance of a December 2026 adoption hearing.

### CONTRACT-FUNDED ASSESSMENTS

The North Coast Water Board has been allocated \$5 million in contract funds in part to evaluate the current status of sediment issues in the Gualala River Watershed and to conduct on-the-ground assessments of road-related sources of sediment. Contract-funded on-the-ground assessments provide support to landowners subject to draft Order requirements and may also be available to those whose ownership in the watershed is less than 1,000 acres, as available resources allow.

Landowners interested in receiving contract-funded assessments are strongly encouraged to contact North Coast Water Board staff at [RB1-Gualala@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:RB1-Gualala@waterboards.ca.gov) to be considered for inclusion in the early rounds of assessments.

### PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

#### Public Review of Draft Order

The draft Gualala Roads Assessment Order was made available for public review on July 8, 2026.

**The comment period closes at 5:00 PM tomorrow, August 21, 2026.** The North Coast Water Board will consider order adoption at the December 3-4, 2026 board meeting.

#### Staff Office Hours

North Coast Water Board staff continue to hold recurring staff office hours that serve as unstructured meetings during which members of the community are invited to share any questions or comments they may have about Gualala Roads Assessment Order.

The next staff office hour is scheduled for Thursday, September 3, 2026. It will be held at the Guerneville Regional Library<sup>1</sup> (14107 Armstrong Woods Rd., Guerneville, CA 95446) from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

### **FUTURE QUARTERLY UPDATES**

North Coast Water Board staff will continue to provide quarterly updates throughout the development of the Gualala Roads Assessment Order. Please forward this email and/or direct interested individuals or groups to subscribe at the following link for timely project information:

[https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAWRCB/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=r1\\_tmdl\\_gualala\\_river\\_watershed](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAWRCB/subscriber/new?topic_id=r1_tmdl_gualala_river_watershed)

You are receiving this email because you have signed up on the North Coast Water Board's email distribution list to receive regular updates on the Gualala River Watershed Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Action Plan and Roads Assessment Order development projects. These projects are separate but related efforts to improve stream health and water quality in the Gualala River Watershed.

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<sup>1</sup> This program is neither sponsored by nor affiliated with the Sonoma County Library.