

Watershed Management Study

for the
Russian River



Russian River Watershed Council
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Russian River Watershed Council

www.rrwc.net

Watershed Management of the Russian River

The Russian River is one of our most precious resources. The river offers many important functions to both our society and environment, but without careful management this critical resource can quickly become ruined.

In 1998, the Russian River ranked in the highest category of impairment in the California Unified Watershed Assessment, which triggered the Army Corps of Engineers to take action to prevent further degradation. The Russian River Watershed Council was established as a community advisory group and worked with the Army Corps to develop a Plan of Action and Scope of Work for a Russian River Watershed Management Study.

The Watershed Management Study will provide essential tools to assist local decision makers and managers minimize impacts and implement watershed improvement projects. The study will develop a set of indicators for watershed health to evaluate the effectiveness of management actions and also produce a management plan outlining measurable goals and recommendations for necessary watershed restoration, protection, and management.

This study is a collaborative project bringing together agencies, local water managers, and stakeholders to ensure the success of this study and the improved management of our watershed.



Project Details

This project consists of two components: the development of a watershed management plan and an extensive study of the health of the watershed.

Watershed Management Plan Components:

- 1) Baseline Watershed Assessment
- 2) Draft Watershed Management Plan
- 3) Implementation Plan
- 4) Monitoring Plan
- 5) Final Plan

Estimated Date of Completion: 2009

Research Components:

- 1) Identify Representative Sub-Watersheds
- 2) Hydrologic Regime
- 3) Floodplain Hydraulics
- 4) Sediment Regime
- 5) Surface and Subsurface Water Quality
- 6) Riparian and Upland Habitat
- 7) Human Impact Evaluation
- 8) Synthesize Research Results

Estimated Date of Completion: 2014

Technical Advisory Committee:

The Technical Advisory Committee is a 15 member multi-disciplinary team representing resource agencies, RRWC members, and other organizations. Committee members provide technical expertise in appropriate disciplines including but not limited to forestry, geology, biology, land use planning, hydrology and fisheries.

Russian River Interactive Information System:

Visit RRIIS a publicly accessible interactive digital library housing a wealth of watershed information for the Russian River for more information on the Watershed Management Study and to view future study findings.

www.RussianRiverWatershed.net

Project Partners:

US Army Corps of Engineers
State Resources Agency
Russian River Watershed Council
Sonoma County Water Agency
Mendocino County Water Agency



Russian River Watershed Council (RRWC) is a community-based stakeholder group focused on promoting public participation in the Russian River Watershed Management Study. For more information, please contact us.

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