



## IMPROVING WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

Since 2000, Association members have discussed issues of common interest, explored ways to collaborate on regional water priorities, and shared information on projects, regulations, and technical issues.

### NBWA ACTIVITIES

#### RESEARCH

- Creating a consistent approach to measuring watershed health across the diverse North Bay.

#### RESTORATION

- Enhancing instream, riparian, and upland habitats in all watersheds.
- Reducing runoff from developed areas.
- Achieving regulatory water quality targets.

#### POLICY

- Helping water agencies design projects that achieve multiple benefits, such as water supply and habitat, or groundwater recharge and stormwater management.

#### COORDINATION

- Coordinating multi-agency water planning in the North Bay and in the Bay Area.
- Forging agreements among agencies on priorities for watershed management.
- Mobilizing for regional approaches to water conservation, recycling and drought management.

#### EDUCATION

- Hosting regular conferences to promote collaboration and information sharing.
- Involving youth in restoration and monitoring of local creeks.
- Supporting climate adaptation programs.

# JOIN THE NORTH BAY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

### BENEFITS TO NBWA MEMBERS

- Respond to new policy and regulation with a unified strong voice
- Share information and resources
- Reach a broader audience

### BENEFITS TO THE NORTH BAY

- Better water quality
- More reliable water supply
- Better educated citizens
- Improved habitat in streams and watersheds

### BENEFITS TO WATERSHED COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Access to decision-makers
- Financial support for projects
- Network and partner with like-minded organizations

### JOIN US!

**MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES.**

### CONTACT US

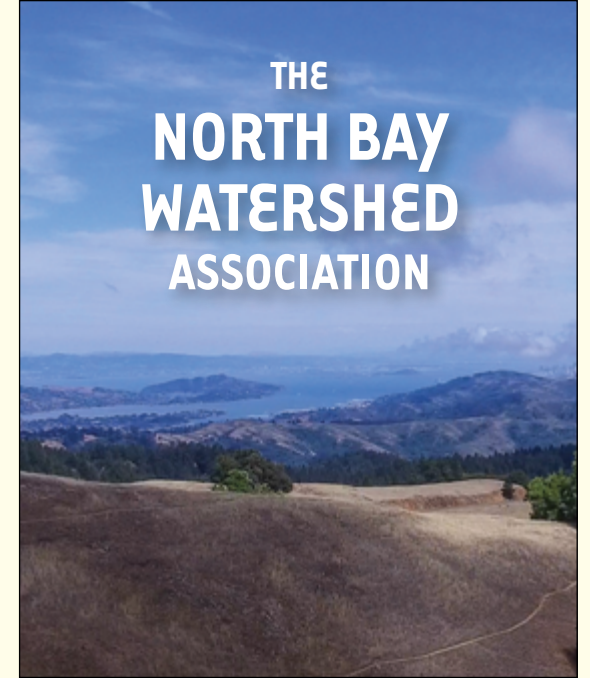
[www.nbwatershed.org](http://www.nbwatershed.org)

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*Cover photo: Bird's Eye View  
Editor: Ariel Rubissow-Okamoto  
Design: Darren Campeau  
Print run 500, Version 2, April 2016*

# THE NORTH BAY WATERSHED ASSOCIATION



**FOSTERING STEWARDSHIP  
OF WATER RESOURCES**

**WORKING ACROSS CITY, COUNTY  
AND AGENCY BOUNDARIES**

**INFLUENCING PUBLIC POLICY  
AND REGULATION**

**INCREASING LOCAL FUNDING  
FOR WATERSHED PROJECTS**

**PROMOTING INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT  
AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION**



# The North Bay

where the quality of life for both people and wildlife is high...

The North Bay Watershed Association represents 16 diverse entities concerned with managing water, watersheds, and shorelines surrounding the northern part of San Francisco Bay. The North Bay's watersheds drain 850 square miles and encompass eastern Marin County, southern Sonoma County, southern Napa County, and portions of Solano County.



Association members have helped local, state and federal partners protect nearly 50,000 acres of wetlands on the North Bay shore, and restore or enhance 30,000 more. These natural landscapes buffer local communities, farmlands and wildlife from the effects of coastal flooding and sea level rise. Photo: Bird's Eye View

The North Bay is the most rural part of the San Francisco Bay Area, with expansive open spaces and a relaxed pace of life. The region beyond the Highway 101 corridor along the west side of the North Bay hosts large public parks, vineyards and ranches, and small towns rich in history. Some of the region's creeks and rivers sustain steelhead trout, now rare throughout California, while wetlands and floodplains harbor migrating waterfowl, shorebirds, and a number of endangered plants, birds and mammals. Their survival continues to depend on the safekeeping of natural places.

A recent census shows more than 873,000 people live in the three North Bay counties, 500,000 of whom live in NBWA watersheds. Their water supply includes local reservoirs, private wells, and imports from outside the North Bay. Most water source areas and lands around streams are privately owned. The North Bay relies on local water supply more than any other sub-region of the Bay Area.



Photo: Sonoma County Water Agency

The 2065 miles of streams that flow through North Bay watersheds include Marin County's small, urbanized creeks, the Petaluma River, Sonoma Creek, and the Napa River. Water quality in most streams is adequate to support steelhead, but erosion and turbidity due to land uses such as farming, ranching and urbanization have compromised riparian habitats.

The North Bay Watershed Association's efforts to improve watershed health focus on interagency coordination, community education, and obtaining voluntary buy-in for collaborative projects from private landowners. With the Association's leadership, the North Bay offers great opportunities for environmental restoration and sustainable water management.

The Association also sponsors the North Bay Watershed Council, a roundtable of nonprofits, regulatory agencies, community groups, and landowner assistance groups. The Council provides input to the Association, benefits from the Association's support, and helps translate the Association's objectives into actions in communities and watersheds across the North Bay.



# WATERSHEDS OF THE NORTH BAY



Cortez Madera Creek, one of myriad small urbanized creeks on the Marin shore.

Photo: Charles Kennard



Petaluma River, meandering gateway to upland migration space for North Bay wetlands.

Photo: Bird's Eye View



Sonoma Creek, water supply at the heart of the Valley of the Moon's vineyards.

Photo: Bird's Eye View



Napa River, state of the art floodplain restoration in Northern California.

Photo courtesy: Napa County Flood Control District

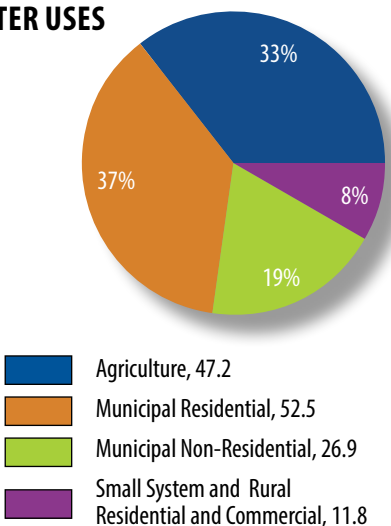


## TAKE HOMES

- The cities, towns and three public water districts (the "municipal" providers) supply the water needs of over 90% of the 500,000 NBWA residents. About 38,000 residents, nearly all in the Sonoma and Napa County watersheds, are self-supplied or with small private (mutual) water systems, primarily with groundwater.
- In 2013, 84% of the potable water supplied to municipal users was imported from watersheds outside of the NBWA.
- Groundwater supplies nearly all of the small system commercial users such as wineries, golf courses, and parks in the Sonoma and Napa County watersheds; it supplies about 78% of the agricultural uses. Groundwater supplies 2% of the municipal demand.
- Surface runoff in the Napa River watershed is an important supply for both agricultural and municipal users. Novato Creek is also used for a municipal supply.
- About 4% of the surface and groundwater supply is replaced or offset with recycled water, which is used for municipal landscapes and vineyard irrigation. Recycled water is also used for wetland restoration and for pasture irrigation but is not a replacement for potable supplies.
- About 2/3 of the municipal demand is for residential uses. Region-wide, a little less than half of the total municipal demand is used outdoors.
- Per capita residential use in the towns and cities averaged about 94 gallons per day in 2013. Continued dry conditions through 2015 and mandatory conservation resulted in significant reductions in water use. 2015 water use was 20% to 30% less than in 2013, and the NBWA region collectively exceeded the state-imposed reduction targets.

Data is for calendar year 2013 for most of the non-agriculture uses and 2010 for most agricultural supply estimates; 2010 is the last year region-wide estimates for agricultural use were made; Source data are from reports filed with SWRCB, RWQCB Region 2, or from SCWA, CADWR, and City and County of Napa, and wastewater plant operators.

## WATER USES

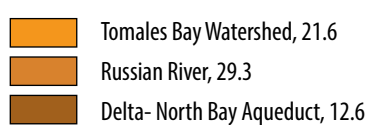


Non-potable agriculture and wetlands 3%.

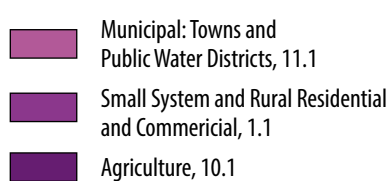
In thousands of acre-feet per year (taf/yr).  
Total use = 142 taf/yr.

## WATER SUPPLY

### IMPORTED

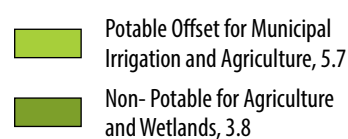


### LOCAL SURFACE



In thousands of acre-feet per year (taf/yr).  
Total supply = 142 taf/yr.

### RECYCLED



### GROUNDWATER

