



# My Water Quality Internet Portals

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A COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCIES | [www.CaWaterQuality.net](http://www.CaWaterQuality.net)

## Monitoring Council Delivers Three My Water Quality Internet Portals



- ◆ IS IT SAFE TO SWIM IN OUR WATERS?
- ◆ IS IT SAFE TO EAT FISH FROM OUR WATERS?
- ◆ ARE OUR WETLAND ECOSYSTEMS HEALTHY?

These are the first of several water quality themes addressed by a new set of internet portals being developed under the oversight of the California Water Quality Monitoring Council. The new portals bring water quality information together in a single location and in an easy to understand manner for the public, environmental organizations, and water quality professionals. View the new portals at [www.CaWaterQuality.net](http://www.CaWaterQuality.net). Included are interactive maps and monitoring data that focus on these questions from a variety of perspectives.

CA Senate Bill 1070 (Kehoe, 2006) mandated that water quality monitoring, and assessment activities be coordinated among organizations inside and outside California government, and that this information be made available to decision makers and the public via the internet. In November 2007, the California Environmental Protection Agency and the California Natural Resources Agency signed a Memorandum of Understanding that established the Monitoring Council. In December 2008, the Monitoring Council sent its initial recommendations to the agency Secretaries for coordinating water quality monitoring, assessment and reporting efforts throughout the State. These new My Water Quality portals represent the initial implementation of the Monitoring Council's vision, as outlined in those recommendations.

In conjunction with expert stakeholder work groups, the Monitoring Council is bringing together water quality information from a wide variety of organizations with special expertise in swimming safety, fish and shellfish safety, and wetland health, coordinated through the Beach Water Quality Workgroup, the Bioaccumulation Oversight Group, and the California Wetland Monitoring Workgroup, respectively. Local, state and federal agencies and non-governmental organizations have all pitched in to answer your water quality questions.

Office of Governor Jerry Brown  
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Home » Safe To Eat » Consumption Advisories

Can I Eat Fish or Shellfish Caught in My Lake, Stream, or Ocean Location?

County: Yuba Water Body: Feather River, Lower

Show county

**SAFE TO EAT FISH LINKS**

- » Pollution Sources & Health Risks
- » Laws, Regulations, Standards & Guidelines
- » Assessment Thresholds
- » Regulatory Activities
- » Enforcement Actions
- » Research
- » Monitoring Programs, Data Sources & Reports
- » Statewide Perspective
- » National Perspective

### Can I Eat Fish or Shellfish Caught in My Lake, Stream, or Ocean Location?

Lower Feather River

Contaminant of concern: mercury

View Advisory

#### Fish and Shellfish Consumption Advisories by Location

There are health benefits from eating fish and shellfish. But, some fish and shellfish may contain chemical or biotoxin contaminants that could pose health risks. When contaminant levels are unsafe, consumption advisories may recommend that people limit or avoid eating certain species of fish caught in certain places and at certain times.

California Sport Fish Consumption Advisories  
 For a number of California water bodies, the Cal/EPA office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHHA) publishes consumption advisories for chemicals in noncommercial fish which you and your family or friends catch. **These advisories are shown on the map to the left.**

- » Click on a water body (shown in red), or
- » Select (or type) the county in the County box, then select the water body from the Water Body menu, or
- » Select (or type) the water body name directly in the Water Body box.
- » Use the magnifier tool to zoom into an area of interest (more highlighted water bodies will appear).
- » [How does OEHHHA develop fish consumption advisories and safe eating guidelines?](#)
- » [Why do so few water bodies have fish consumption advisories and safe eating guidelines?](#)

Safe Eating Guidelines for the Lower Feather River		
Women 18 – 45 and Children 1 – 17 Years		
American Shad	Carp	Black Bass
	Sucker	Catfish
	Redear or other sunfish	Pikeminnow
		Striped Bass
4 Servings a week	1 Serving a week	Do not eat

Additional My Water Quality internet portals are being developed or are planned to address the following water quality questions:

- ◆ Is Our Water Safe to Drink?  
(initial focus: groundwater)
- ◆ Are Our Stream and River Ecosystems Healthy?
- ◆ Are Our Tidepool Ecosystems Healthy?
- ◆ Are Our Estuary Ecosystems Healthy?  
(initial focus: San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary)
- ◆ Are Our Ocean Ecosystems Healthy?


More information about CA Senate Bill 1070, the Monitoring Council, and the expert stakeholder work groups is on the web at [www.waterboards.ca.gov/mywaterquality/monitoring\\_council/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/mywaterquality/monitoring_council/).



Linda S. Adams  
Secretary for Environmental Protection



John Laird  
Secretary for Natural Resources



**State of California**  
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My Water Quality | Monitoring Council | This site is hosted by the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) |



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## Welcome to My Water Quality


This web portal, supported by a wide variety of public and private organizations, presents California water quality monitoring data and assessment information that may be viewed across space and time. Initial web portal development concentrates on four theme areas, with web portals to be released one at a time. Click the [Contact Us](#) tab for more information.


The Monitoring Council seeks to provide multiple perspectives on water quality information and to highlight existing data gaps and inconsistencies in data collection and interpretation, thereby identifying areas for needed improvement in order to better address the public's questions. Questions and comments should be addressed through the [Contact Us](#) tab.



**IS OUR WATER SAFE TO DRINK?**


Safe drinking water depends on a variety of chemical and biological factors regulated by a number of local, state, and federal agencies.






**IS IT SAFE TO SWIM IN OUR WATERS?**

Swimming safety of our waters is linked to the levels of pathogens that have the potential to cause disease. [More >>](#)




**IS IT SAFE TO EAT FISH AND SHELLFISH FROM OUR WATERS?**

Aquatic organisms are able to accumulate certain pollutants from the water in which they live, sometimes reaching levels that could harm consumers. [More>>](#)



**ARE OUR AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS HEALTHY?**

The health of fish and other aquatic organisms and communities depends on the chemical, physical, and biological quality of the waters in which they live. [More>>](#)



**WHAT STRESSORS AND PROCESSES AFFECT OUR WATER QUALITY?**

Beneficial uses of our waters are affected by emerging contaminants, invasive species, trash, global warming, acidification, pollutant loads, and flow.