Water Quality Report Card	
Regional Water Board:	**Los Angeles, Region 4**
Beneficial Uses Affected:	WILD and WARM
Implemented Through:	MS4 Permit
Effective Date:	October 29, 2008
Attainment Date:	2021

Copper in Ballona Creek

STATUS

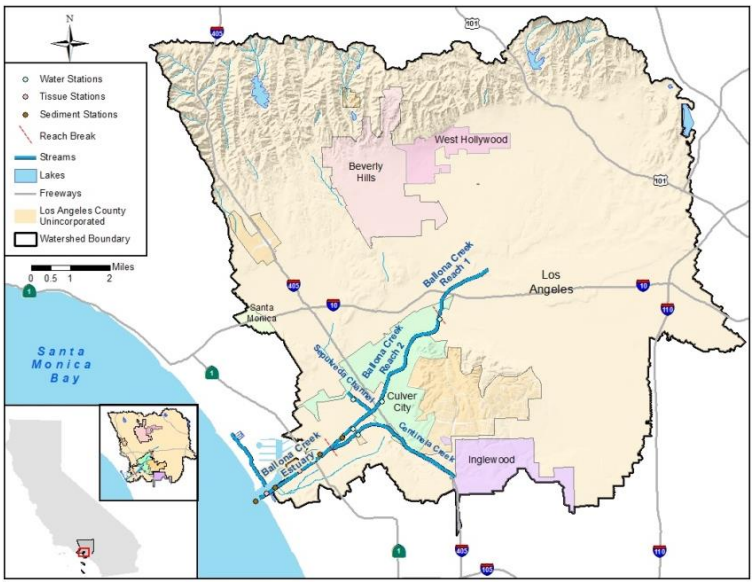
- ☐ Conditions Improving
- ☐ Data Inconclusive
- ☑ **Improvement Needed**
- ☐ Targets Achieved/Waterbody Delisted

Pollutant Type: ☑ Point Source ☑ Nonpoint Source ☐ Legacy

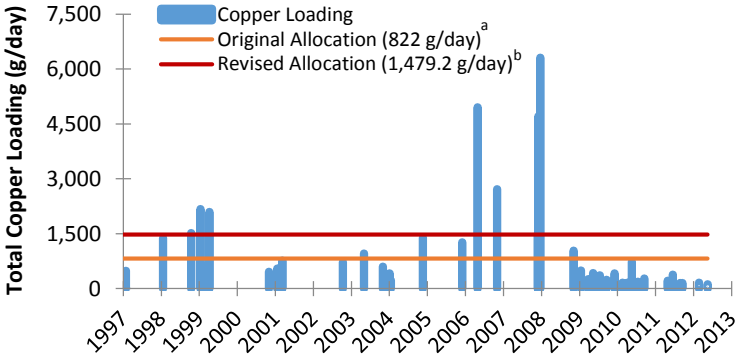
Water Quality Improvement Summary

The Ballona Creek Watershed, located on the eastern edge of Los Angeles County, is a subwatershed of the Greater Santa Monica Bay Watershed. Ballona Creek, and its tributary, Sepulveda Canyon Channel, are impaired due to elevated levels of metals (including copper, lead, and zinc) in the water column. Pollutant loadings are derived from urban run-off conveyed via municipal storm drains in both dry- and wet-weather conditions. The high degree of hardscaping in the urbanized watershed increases the challenge of reducing metal loading during wet-weather conditions. To address the impairments, Region 4 adopted the Ballona Creek Metals TMDL, which established numeric targets and phased schedules for loading reductions under both dry- and wet-weather conditions. A revised TMDL, adopted in December 2013, adjusted loading capacity, allocations, and numeric targets, based on new data. Implemented through storm water permits (L.A. County MS4, Caltrans, and general construction and industrial permits), permittees within the watershed are required to achieve loading allocations by 2021 to attain water quality standards.

Ballona Creek Watershed



Dry-Weather Copper Loading Capacity



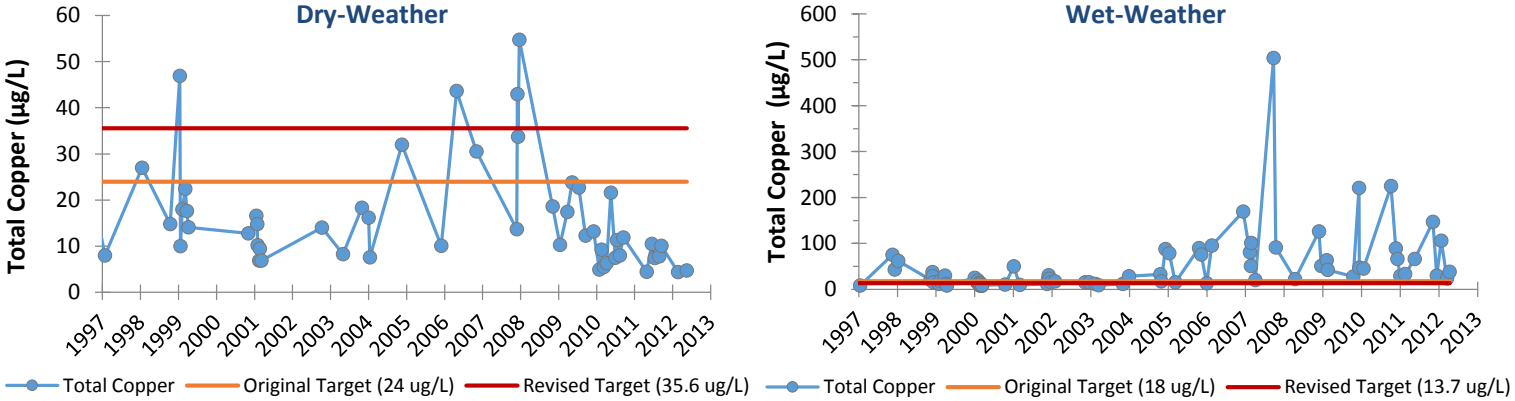
[a] Original Allocations based on reference flow rate of 14 cfs.

[b] Revised Allocations are based on reference flow rate of 17 cfs.

Water Quality Outcomes

- *Water quality data demonstrate that exceedances of dry-weather copper targets have been infrequent; Ballona Creek has consistently met dry-weather targets since 2009.*
- *Water quality data demonstrate that water quality continues to exceed wet-weather copper targets. Achieving water quality standards during wet-weather will continue to be a challenge.*
- *Improvements in dry-weather condition water quality are due to lower storm water volumes and newly-installed storm water BMPs.*
- *Continued implementation of the TMDL projects and provisions within the recently updated MS4 permit, and other permits, will help to attain water quality standards.*

Ballona Creek Copper Concentrations



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