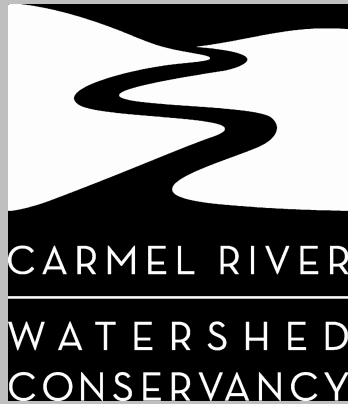


Can't see the photos? Try enabling the external photo display setting on your email server!



Spring 2023 Newsletter

[Visit the CRWC Website](#)

It's been a long winter, and we are thrilled with the arrival of spring. Be sure to get out and enjoy the local parks and open spaces of the Carmel River Watershed!

[A GIFT FOR THE RIVER](#)

CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE DAY DRAWS 1,000+ IN 2023



This year's California Wildlife Day (CWD), held on March 26 at Palo Corona Regional Park in Carmel, returned fully in person after a three-year hiatus due to the pandemic. The event, co-sponsored by the Carmel River Watershed Conservancy (CRWC) and Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (MPRPD), drew over 1,000 attendees throughout the day. The event featured indoor and outdoor activities, remarks by local political leaders, a blessing from Linda Yamane, over 25 exhibitors, activities and nature walks for children and adults, student art

and science projects, and much more.

[Read the full story here](#)



Festivities underway at CWD

CRWC RELEASES NEW WATERSHED HEALTH REPORT CARD INDICATORS AND EXHIBIT

The Carmel River Watershed Conservancy (CRWC) recently launched an interactive digital story map of its Carmel River Watershed Health Report Card at the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District Discovery Center, open Saturday and Sunday 10-4PM. This story map highlights several watershed health indicators and explains how they are calculated, accompanied by photos of our diverse wildlife and watershed. The story map will be updated with new indicators later this year. CRWC in partnership with the CSUMB Watershed Institute recently updated three previous indicators: River to Floodplain Connectivity, Unimpaired Streamflow and Tributary Streamflow.

Overall Carmel River Watershed Grade Table		
EEAs	Overall Condition for Each Category	Total Grade of Carmel River Watershed
Chemical & Physical	80	65
Biotic & Ecological	66	
Landscape	67	
Natural Disturbance	29	

Current grade from the Carmel River Watershed Health Report Card: 65%

[Read the full story here.](#)

CAN WE PROTECT SCENIC ROAD AT CARMEL RIVER BEACH?

This past January high waves severely eroded the bluffs underlying Scenic Road at Carmel River State Beach, exposing a sewer line and causing the busy road to be closed. This had previously happened in 2013, making this a recurring issue. Now, the County needs to identify a long-term protection plan for another 750 feet of bluffs that are also in danger of severe erosion,



and to obtain permits for its chosen project. The Conservancy (CRWC) has been assisting in this endeavor by working with State Senator Laird and his Chief Policy Advisor Kate Daniels to arrange a meeting with all the permitting agencies involved so that the recommended project has an optimal chance of being permitted.

[Read the full story here.](#)

RAINS BRING RELIEF AND REPERCUSSIONS TO MONTEREY AND CARMEL REGION

The Monterey region has experienced an unusually wet winter, with recent heavy rains causing both positive and negative impacts on the region. Abundant rainfall has led to a rebound in fish populations, reduced wildfire risks, with promised benefits to the region's aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) system. However, the rains have also resulted in localized flooding and infrastructure damage. This winter's increased rainfall has led to improvements in anadromous populations. The wet conditions have enabled salmon and trout to migrate upriver to spawn, providing an essential boost to their numbers. Additionally, the heavy rains have positively impacted aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) in the Monterey area.



[Read the full story here](#)

SANTA LUCIA CONSERVANCY WATERSHED EDUCATION UPDATE

Thanks to a grant from the Carmel River Watershed Conservancy, the Santa Lucia Conservancy (SLC) educated 452 students from 24 classes in watershed structure, function, and ecology so far in the 2022-23 school year. Our educators created a brand new course, "watershed structure and function," and developed a former "guided nature walk" into a "habitat exploration" class at our new



Rancho Canada education site along the Carmel River. We also incorporated watershed concepts into existing classes including “redwood ecology” and “owls in Potrero Canyon.”

[Read the full story here](#)

EXPANDING PURE WATER MONTEREY: A KEY TO MONTEREY PENINSULA'S WATER SECURITY

On March 31, 2023, Monterey One Water, the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, and Cal Am signed a Water Purchase Agreement that gives the go-ahead for the Pure Water Monterey (PWM) Expansion project to be built. PWM, an advanced water purification facility, converts wastewater and stormwater into potable water, providing a valuable new source of water supply. The expansion of the PWM project is crucial for securing Monterey Peninsula's water future. In a [recent statement](#), Dave Stoldt, General Manager of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), emphasized the importance of innovative projects like Pure Water Monterey in tackling the region's water security.



Photo from Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

[Read the full story here](#)

Thank you for your interest and your support for all we are doing to restore the Carmel River watershed.

Carmel River Watershed Conservancy | 225 Crossroads Blvd., Suite 322, Carmel, CA 93923

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