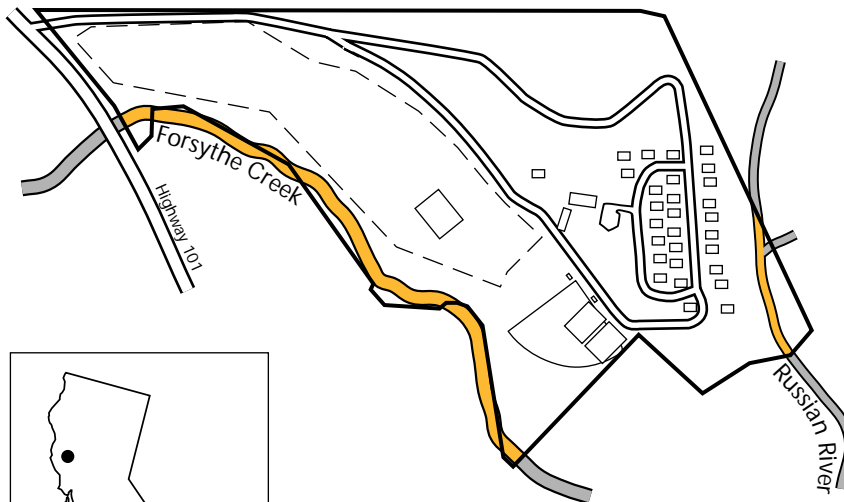


US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

# Coyote Valley Reservation



Location of Reservation

Currently, the Tribe is concerned about bacteria contamination in the Russian River, potential contamination of Forsythe Creek from a malfunctioning septic system leachfield, and habitat modifications in both streams that impact aquatic life. Past gravel mining operations removed gravel spawning beds, altered flow, and created very steep banks. In the past, upstream mining also elevated turbidity in Forsythe Creek. The Tribe is also concerned about a potential trend of increasing pH values and high water temperatures in Forsythe Creek during the summer.

## Ground Water Quality

The Coyote Valley Reservation contains three known wells, but only two wells are operable, and only one well is in use. The old shallow irrigation well (Well A) was abandoned because it went dry after the gravel mining operation on Forsythe Creek lowered the water table. Well B, located adjacent to Forsythe Creek, is used to irrigate a walnut orchard. Well C, located on a ridge next to the Reservation's housing units, is not in use due to severe iron and taste problems. Sampling also detected high levels of barium, total dissolved solids, manganese, and conductivity in Wells B and C. However, samples from Well B did not contain organic chemicals, pesticides, or nitrate in detectable

## Surface Water Quality

The Coyote Valley Band of the Pomo Indians is a federally recognized Indian Tribe, living on a 57-acre parcel of land in Mendocino County, California. Segments of the Russian River and Forsythe Creek flow past the Reservation, although flow diminishes in the summer and fall. Fishing, recreation, and religion are important uses for surface waters within the Reservation.

For a copy of the Coyote Valley Reservation 1994 305(b) report, contact:

**Jean Hunt or Eddie Knight**  
The Coyote Valley Reservation  
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amounts. Human waste contamination from septic systems may pose the greatest threat to ground water quality.

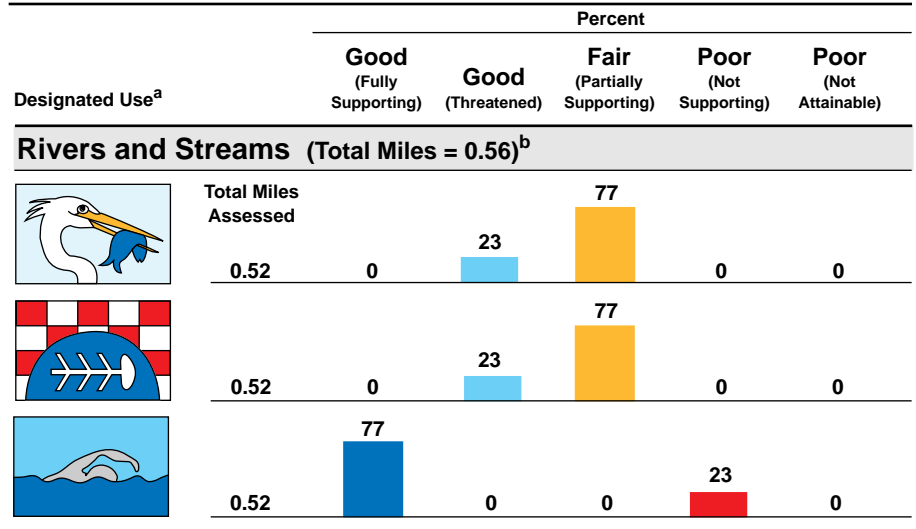
### Programs to Restore Water Quality

Codes and ordinances for the Reservation will be established to create a Water Quality and Management Program for the Reservation. With codes in place, the Coyote Valley Tribal Council will gain the authority to restrain the discharge of pollutants that could endanger the Reservation water supply and affect the health and welfare of its people, as well as people in the adjacent communities.

### Programs to Assess Water Quality

The Tribal Water Quality Manager will design a monitoring system with assistance from environmental consultants. The Water Quality Manager will sample a temporary monitoring station on Forsythe Creek and a proposed sampling station on the Russian River every month. A fisheries biologist will survey habitat on the rivers every other year, as funding permits.

## Individual Use Support in Coyote Valley Reservation



<sup>a</sup> A subset of Coyote Valley Reservation's designated uses appear in this figure. Refer to the Tribe's 305(b) report for a full description of the Tribe's uses.  
<sup>b</sup> Includes nonperennial streams that dry up and do not flow all year.