

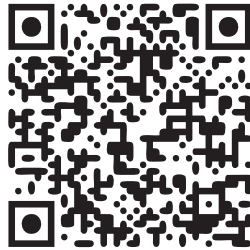
Why Two Projects?

Though the projects share overlapping goals, the Colma Creek Watershed Plan is focused on a larger geographic area – the entire watershed – while the Lower Colma Creek Resilience Projects focuses on a high priority section along the creek.

Both projects will study Colma Creek hydrology and inform one another. Lower Colma Creek Resilience Projects will make recommendations for priority construction which will be incorporated into the long-term planning vision for the holistic Colma Creek Watershed Plan.

Stay Involved

Learn more and sign up for our mailing list for engagement opportunities.



About OneShoreline

The San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District—known as OneShoreline—is an independent government agency dedicated to strengthening community resilience to sea level rise, flooding, coastal erosion, and drought. OneShoreline works across jurisdictional boundaries to inform local policies and to plan and implement solutions to these climate change-related impacts.

Contact us at projects@onshoreline.org



Colma Creek Resilience Projects

OneShoreline is in the planning stages of the Colma Creek Watershed Plan and the Lower Colma Creek Resilience Projects. The overarching vision is to ensure greater resilience through improved flood, stormwater, and sea level rise management while transforming Colma Creek into an environmental and recreational asset for local communities.

About the Project Area

The Colma Creek Watershed spans approximately 16.6 square miles across San Bruno Mountain to Daly City, South San Francisco, Colma, Pacifica, and San Bruno down to the San Francisco Bay estuary.

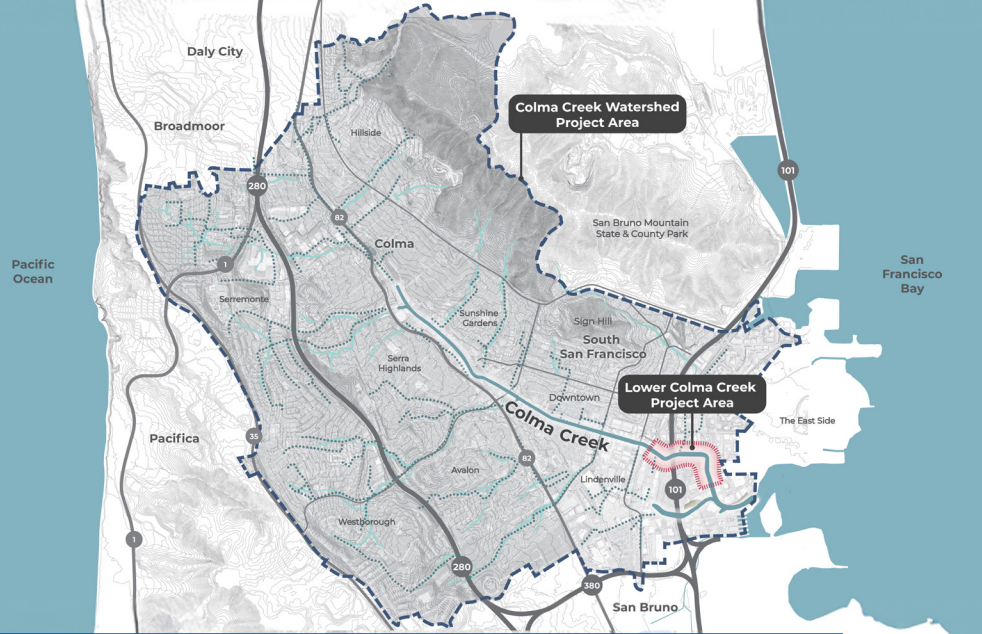
Historically the Colma Creek Watershed supported many marshes, mudflats, and other habitats. Between 1960 and 1977, concrete channel walls and bridges were constructed around Colma Creek to help manage flooding in surrounding areas. This infrastructure was designed for past conditions and did not leave space for natural systems. With climate-driven storms growing more intense and regional development expanding, major upgrades that incorporate nature-based solutions are now essential.

What is a Watershed and why do they matter?

A watershed is an area of land that drains rain to a common body of water. This relationship is connected with the shape of land and the wellbeing of the natural and human communities that live there.



When watersheds are mostly paved over with concrete, water moves faster, can't be absorbed, and flooding can increase.



Colma Creek Watershed Plan

The Colma Creek Watershed Plan will serve as a blueprint to transform Colma Creek into a vital community asset nourished by a healthy watershed. The Watershed Plan will build on local plans and studies, while advancing new strategies to address the pressing challenges of flooding and sea level rise. The Watershed Plan will advance ideas and priorities expressed by community members that result in actions that reflect regional needs and local aspirations.

The plan will identify and prioritize projects, programs, and policies that:



Reduce flood risk through multi-benefit watershed solutions

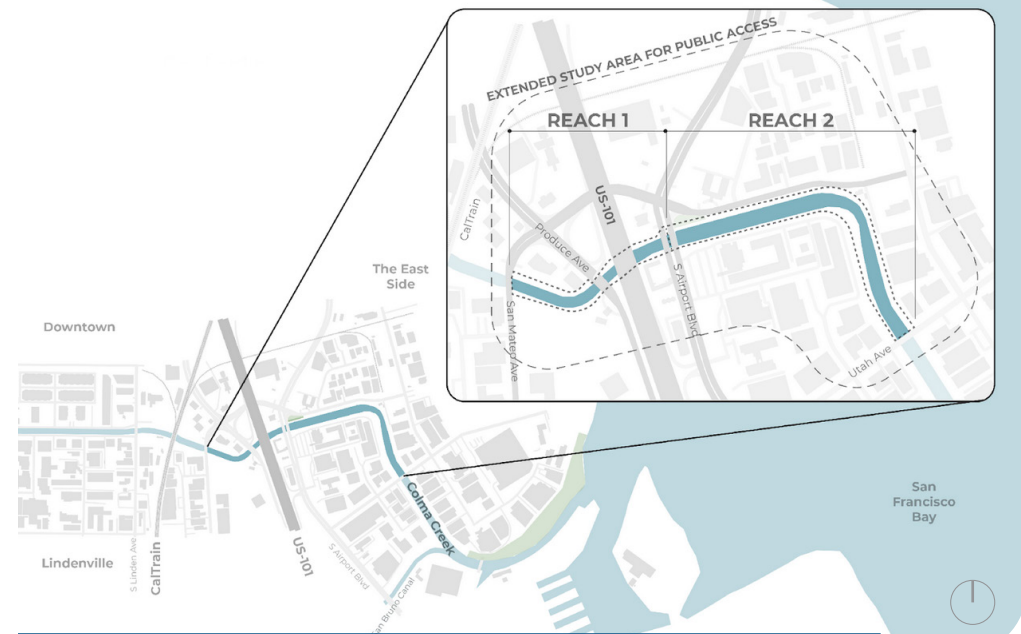


Create long-term resilience to climate change and improve water quality



Connect Colma Creek to surrounding communities

This effort is expected to result in an endorsed Watershed Plan by the summer of 2027.



Lower Colma Creek Resilience Projects

The Lower Colma Creek Resilience Projects will reduce sea level rise and flooding risks, improve public safety, and expand public access along Colma Creek from San Mateo Avenue to Utah Avenue in South San Francisco. This area was identified as a high priority area due to the condition of the infrastructure and opportunities informed by previous plans and studies.

The projects will:



Manage flood risk and build adaptability to sea level rise



Protect and enhance native species habitat



Connect Colma Creek to surrounding communities



Leverage investments to transform Colma Creek into a regional amenity

Project concepts will be developed by summer 2026.