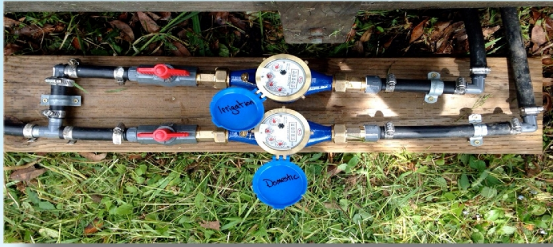


Water Conservation

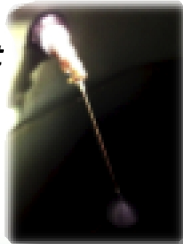


The first step to achieving water security is installing water meters, one for your house and another for your garden. Make sure that you purchase a system with a leak indicator to prevent unneeded loss and water waste.



Add water storage, catching rain-water if possible. Each tank needs a separate shut-off valve for water security

Every water tank should have a float valve to shut off the intake and prevent overflow.



Grey water systems are now legal in California. You can add a lot to your garden productivity using your bath and laundry water for irrigation. The plumbing is often quick and easy.

Improving Forest Health



Post WW II logging removed old growth conifers that were spaced far apart and used little water in summer. Young, crowded forests that replaced them have much greater summer water use due to increased evapotranspiration. By thinning these early seral forests, we can reduce fire risk and increase stream base flows. Native American's burned historically to maintain oak woodlands, but fir is invading and shading out oaks. This also reduces base flow as oaks use much less water than fir. Therefore, restoring oak woodlands can help restore flow.

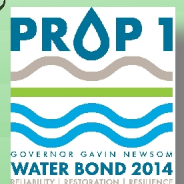
Streeter Creek watershed with fir over-topping oaks.



Working Together to Improve the Flow of Tenmile Creek

- **Water Conservation**
- **Increasing Storage**
- **Restoring Watershed**

Hydrology



707 223-7200

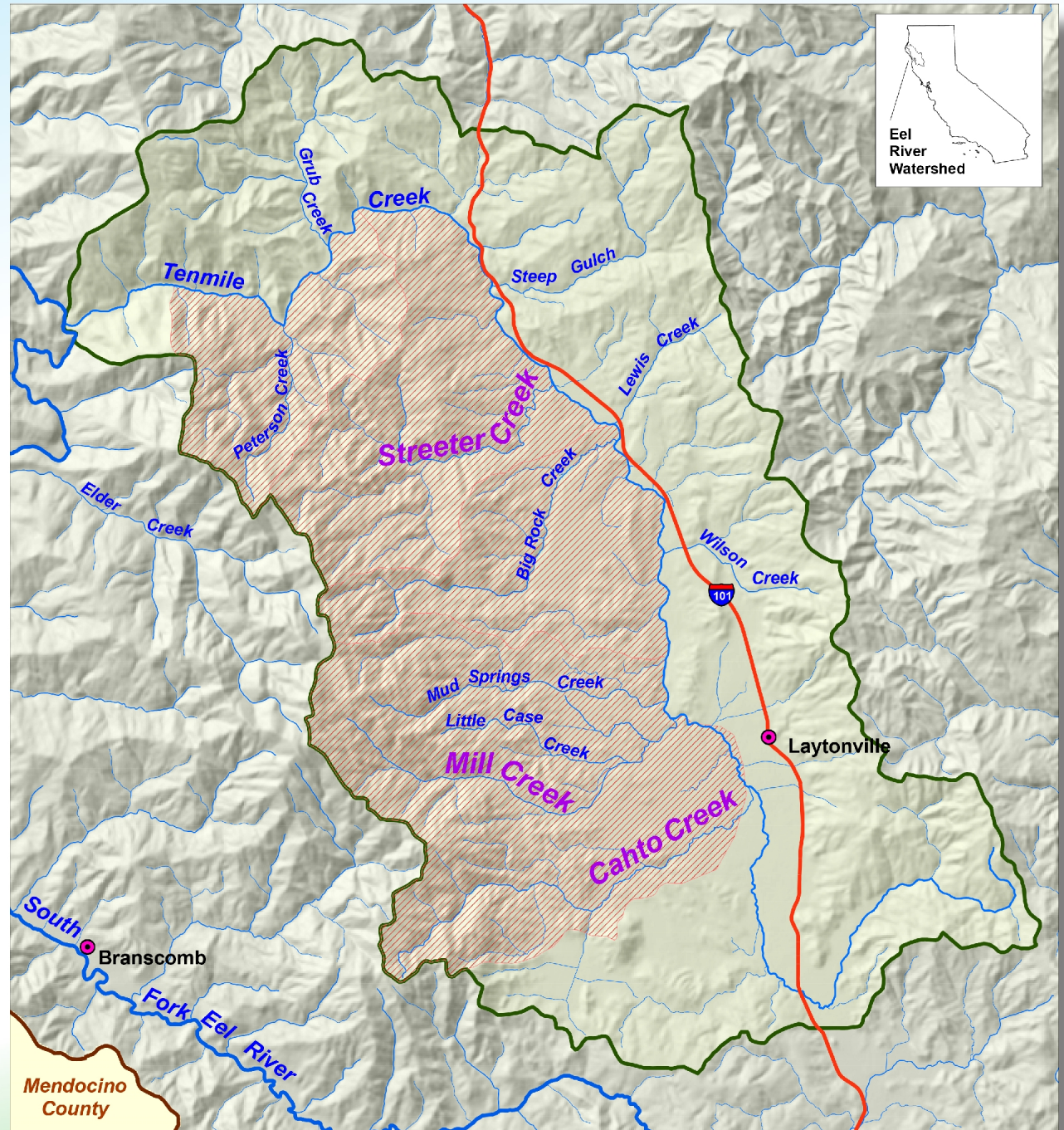
www.EelRiverRecovery.org

Water Conservation Cooperation

The west side of the Tenmile Creek watershed gets the most rainfall as winter storms cross Cahto Peak. That makes the shaded area on the map at right the Priority Water Conservation Area and where we will focus our efforts in winning cooperation of local residents to avoid stream flow depletion. A U.S. Geologic Survey Report indicates that ground water is plentiful on the valley floor of Tenmile Creek, less available in areas of thinner alluvium to the west, and even more scarce as elevation increases. Wells in these areas often do not provide enough water for domestic needs, leaving surface water withdrawal as one of the only options.

In dry years, this further stresses creeks in this area and sometimes contributes to their losing surface flow. If both well water and surface water become unavailable water may have to be purchased and delivered with a water truck, which is very expensive.

We believe that the solution to the water supply and water security problem in the Priority Water Conservation Area is to get cooperating residents additional storage so that they can meet their water needs, but forbear from surface water withdrawal and from use of wells during the dry season that decrease base flows of adjacent creeks.



Tenmile Creek Priority Water Conservation Area