

# Earthquake 1989 - City of Santa Cruz

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## Slides dam Corralitos Creek

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CORRALITOS — Three landslides blocking Corralitos Creek and threatening some 322 families in the Eureka Canyon Road area are being cleared.

The landslides, caused by last week's 7.1-earthquake, backed up water 1,000 feet upstream on the creek, creating ponds 35 feet deep, said District Conservationist Rich Casale of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation

Service office in Aptos.

Casale said residents of 12 homes in the area were directly threatened when debris from the landslides blocked water flow in the creek. A total of 312 families could be affected should Eureka Canyon Road have to be closed.

Work, which began Saturday, is expected to take at least until Wednesday to complete, Casale said.

He estimated some 7,500 cubic yards of debris — enough to fill

1,250 six-cubic-yard dump trucks — is being removed. Equipment being used include a large excavator, a bulldozer, loader and skidder, to skid large logs off the slides. Some of the logs are being salvaged.

While Casale does not see any "long-term detrimental effects" to the watershed and fish habitat of Corralitos Creek, he added, "Certainly in the short-term there is some effect. You can't help but muddy the stream as you remove that amount of material."