

Val Connor & Karen Larsen

State Water Board

Karen Worcester

Central Coast Regional Water Board

Tom Suk

Lahontan Regional Water Board





Water Boards

Overview

- Statewide Programs
- Regional Programs
- Infrastructure & Tools
- Institutional Constraints



Waterbody Type	Beneficial Uses			
	Aquatic Life	Fishable	Swimmable	Drinkable
Streams				
Large Rivers	SWAMP		CALIFORNIA	California Department of Public Health
Lakes	ON THE OFFICE OF		WATER	
Coastal Waters		2MAMP >	QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL	TATE OF CALFORN
Bays & Estuaries	Water Boards			
Wetlands	WATER QUALITY MONTHS COUNCE.			

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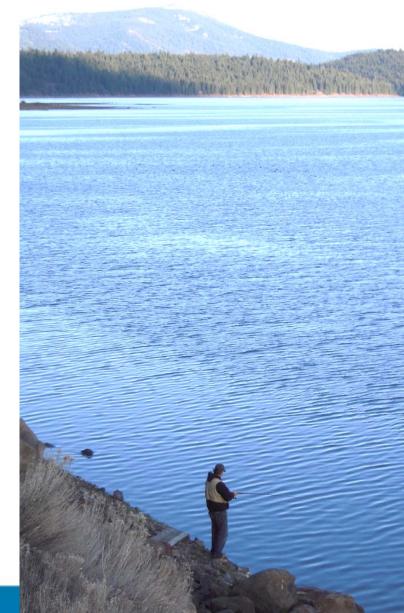
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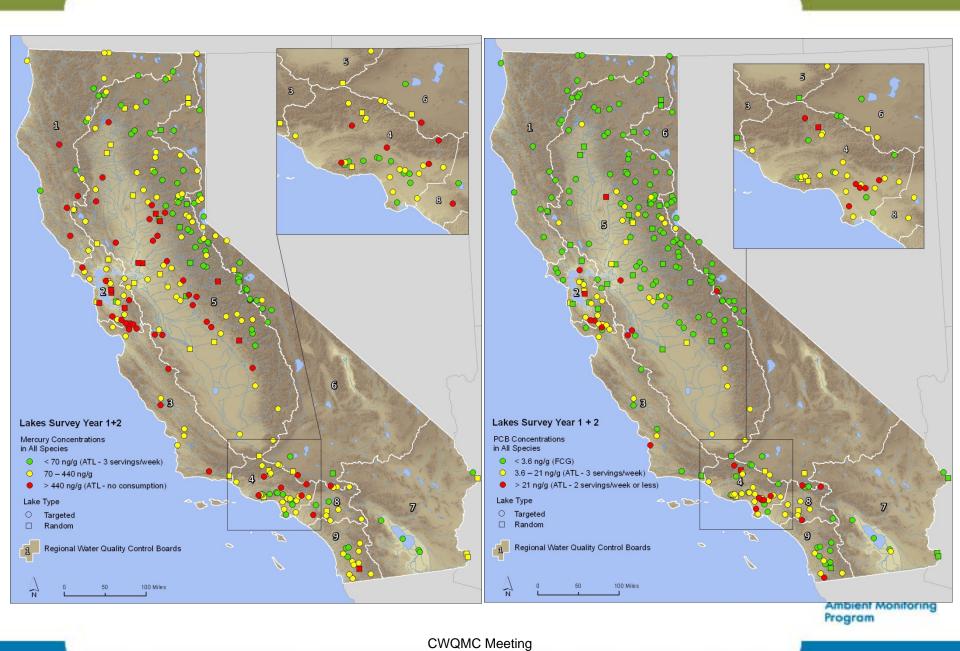
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Fishable – Large Rivers, Lakes, Coastal Waters

Bioaccumulation Monitoring Program

What is the status of contamination in sportfish from lakes, coastal waters, and large rivers?





GOVERNOR SCHWARZENEGGER

Visit his Website

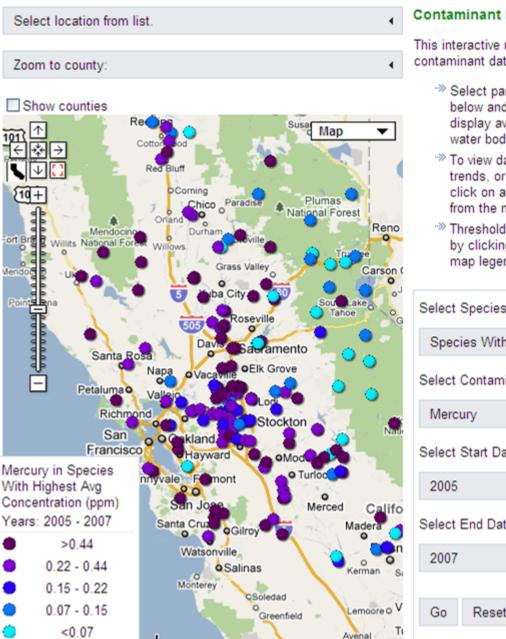
→ State & Regional Water Boards

SAFE TO EAT FISH LINKS

- → Pollution Sources & Health Risks
- · > Laws, Regulations, Standards & Guidelines
- Assessment Thresholds
- → Regulatory Activities
- → Enforcement Actions
- → Research
- ->> Monitoring Programs, Data Sources & Reports
- Statewide Perspective
- → National Perspective

What are the Levels and Long-Term Trends in My Lake, Stream, or Ocean Location?





Contaminant Data

This interactive map allows you to explore fish contaminant data for your fishing locations.

- Select parameters of interest from the menus below and click on the "Go" button. The map will display average concentrations for the selected water bodies.
- To view data for all species at your water body. trends, or comparisons with nearby water bodies, click on a map location or select a water body from the menu above the map.
- Thresholds displayed on the map can be modified by clicking the Change Thresholds link in the map legend.



Waterbody	Beneficial Uses			
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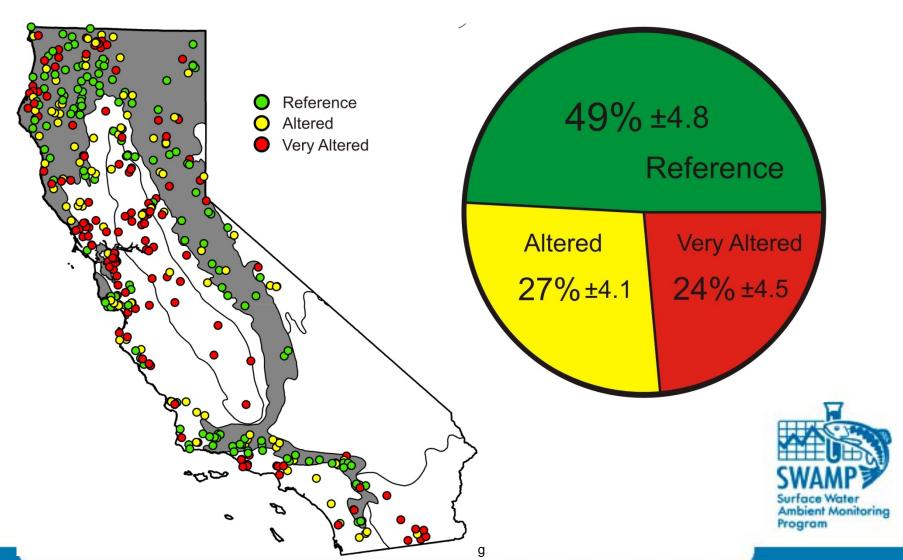
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Bioassessment Monitoring Program

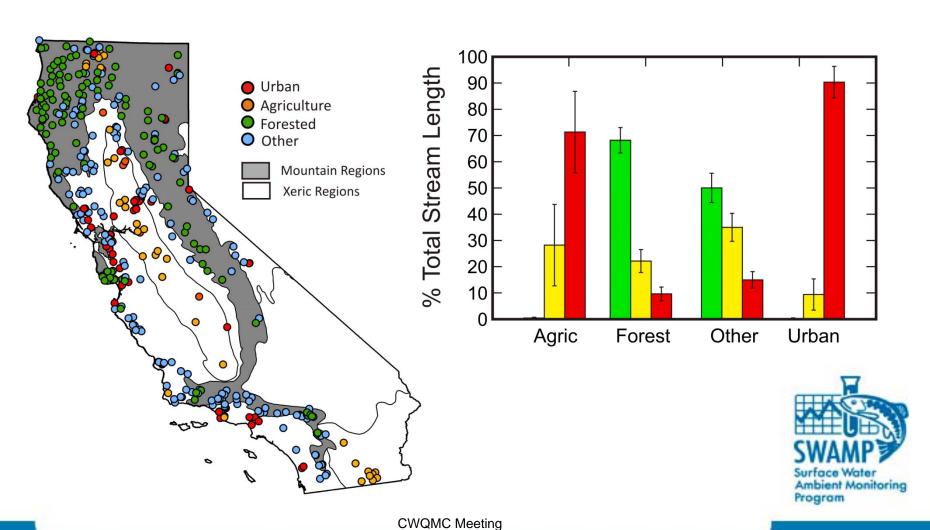
- Perennial Streams Assessment
- Reference Condition Management Plan
- Biological Objectives



Bioassessment Monitoring Program – Perennial Streams Assessment



Bioassessment Monitoring Program – Perennial Streams Assessment



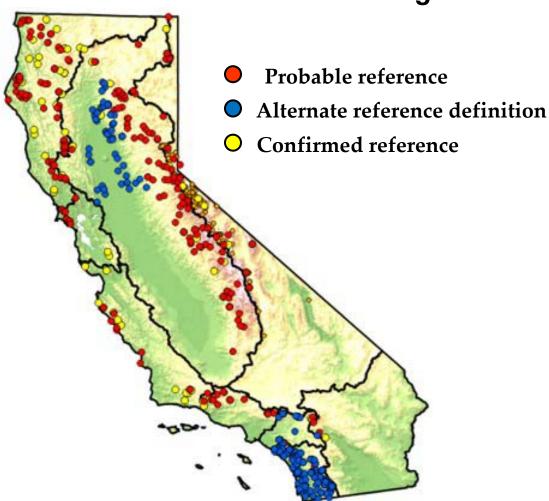
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Bioassessment Monitoring Program – Perennial Streams Assessment

Chemistry	Habitat	Land Use
Nutrients	Percent Fines/Sands	Urban
Salinity	Embeddedness	Agriculture
Turbidity	Bed Stability	Impervious Surface
Suspended Solids	Instream Habitat	Forested
	Riparian Habitat	



Bioassessment Monitoring Program – Reference Condition Management Plan





Aquatic Life in Streams – Biological Objectives

Data

Management

Technical Infrastructure

Interpretation Indicators Assemblages Physical Habitat

Methods Field & Lab

<u>Assurance</u>

Reference Condition

Regulatory Framework

> arrative Objectives

Implementation Numeric Endpoints

Regulatory **Programs**

Permitting

303(d)/TMDL

05(b) Assmt

401 Cert

BMP Efficacy

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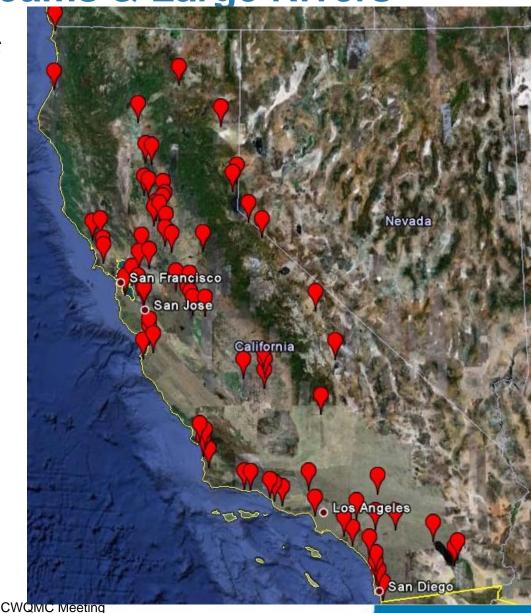
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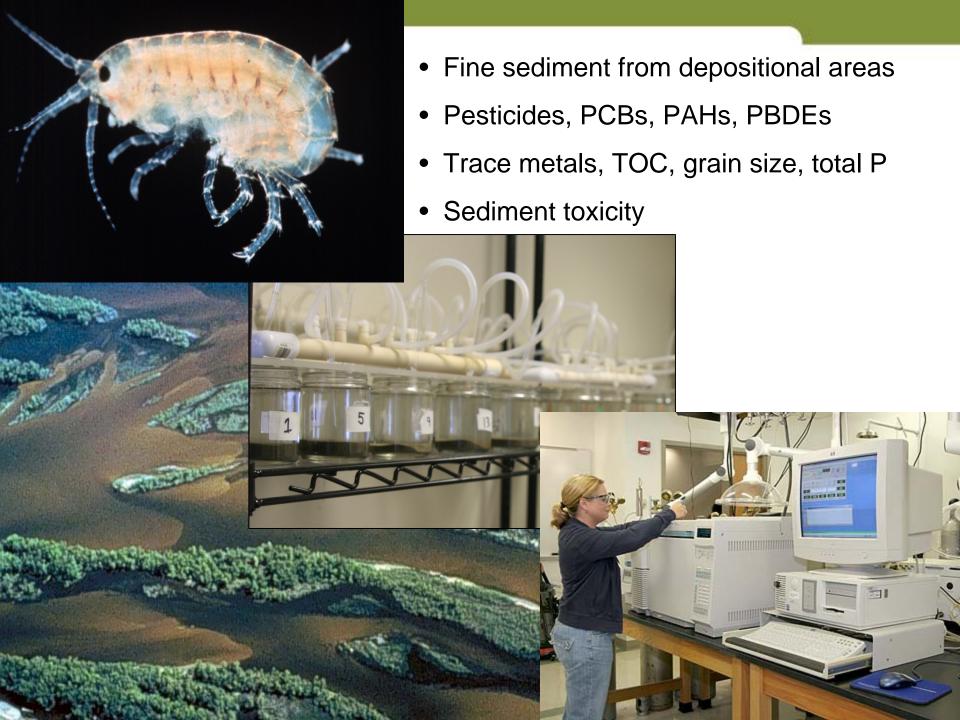
June 2010

Aquatic Life in Streams & Large Rivers

Stream Pollution Trends Monitoring Program

- What is the status of stream contamination and is it getting better or worse?
- What effect does land use and management actions have on stream contamination?







Bioassessment Program Stream
Pollution
Trends
Monitoring

Healthy Streams Partnership



Our Nine Regions are Diverse



20 June 2010

CVVQIVIC IVICELITY

What are Regions doing?

- Routine watershed monitoring
- Collaborative regional programs
- Special studies
- Source identification
- **Emerging contaminants**

and more....





Why is Regional Monitoring Critical?

- Targeting information gaps
- Responsive to regional and local concerns
- Higher spatial and temporal scale
- Scale matches management needs
- Measuring success and long-term trends
- Integrating/Coordinating/Partnering/Leveraging
- Monitoring resources for "unleveraged" areas
- Piloting innovations



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Regions can target information gaps

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Coastal Waters				
Bays & Estuaries	SWA	MP		
Wetlands				Julie 2010

Responsiveness to local and regional problems



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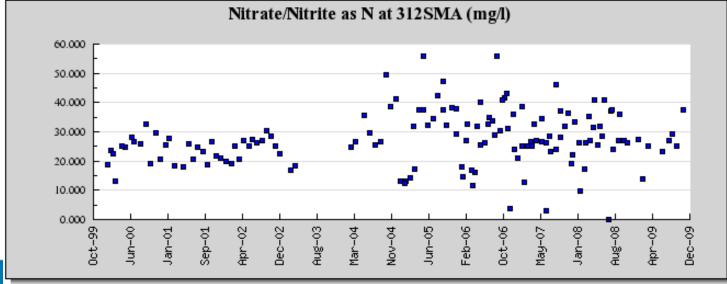
Examples:

- Follow-up on statewide findings
- Lake follow-up with OEHHA for posting in several Regions
- Ammonia studies in the Bay Delta
- Emerging contaminant studies

Higher spatial and temporal resolution

- Long term trend monitoring, as frequently as monthly
- Deployment of sampling probes
- Spatial sampling framework at the level of a single watershed or sub-watershed







Scale matches Regional management needs

Regional Data supports:

303(d) listing decisions (thousands)

of them!)

Grant funding decisions

Identify and fix

Enforcement actions

Regulatory monitoring and

decision-making

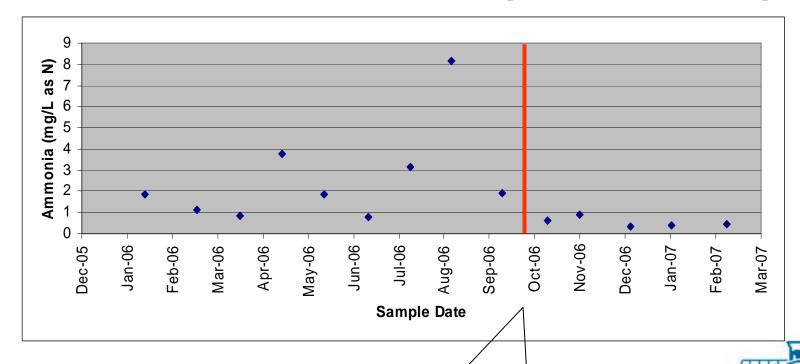
Basin Planning



SWAMP Surface Water Ambient Monitoring

Measuring success and long-term trends

Reduction in ammonia concentrations following elimination of discharge



Discharge eliminated Sept 28, 2006

Program

Ambient Monitoring

Integrating/Coordinating/Partnering/Leveraging

Examples:

- Regions support Regional Monitoring Program development with equipment loans, funding, staffing (e.g. Klamath River and Delta programs)
- Bay area and southern California Regions partner with storm water programs to assess watershed health
- Regions partner with other major monitoring organizations in their areas (SCCWRP, RMP)
- Regions leverage regulatory program data (such as Ag waiver monitoring programs)



Monitoring in more pristine areas

- Some Regions have few opportunities for leveraging
 - Few or no Phase 1 stormwater permits, ag regulatory programs, or major discharges
- SWAMP Regional funds provide primary (or only) funding source for questions of regional concern

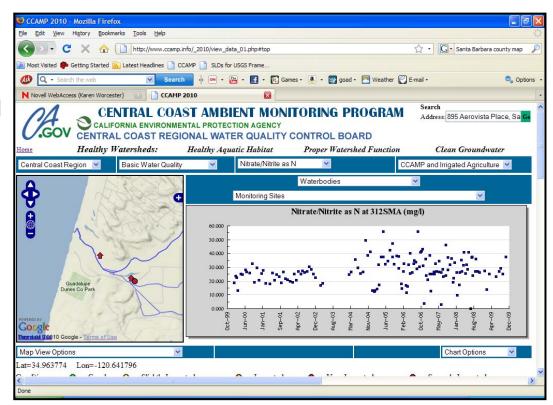




Piloting Innovations

Examples:

- New bioassay methods for evaluating endocrine disruption
- Use of bioassessment in Water Board programs
- Regional web tools being adapted for statewide use





In summary:

- Regional monitoring provides information that statewide monitoring cannot
- It is responsive, adaptive, informative and necessary.
- It helps us do our jobs better



- Quality assurance
- Standard operating procedures
- Data management
- Comparability



Quality Assurance Program

- QA Program Plan
- QA Project Plan Template
- QA Advisor
- Help Desk





Final Technical Report 2

Quality Assurance Program Plan

Version 1.0

September 1, 2008

Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program



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June 2010

Standard Operating Procedures









WAMP Bioassessment Procedures 2007

Standard Operating Procedures for Collecting Benthic Macroinvertebrate Samples and Associated Physical and Chemical Data for Ambient Binassessments in California

February 2007



Standard Operating Procedures for Collecting Stream Algae Samples and Associated Physical Habitat and Chemical Data for Ambient Bioassessments in California

June 2009

A. Elizabeth Fetscher Southern California Coastal Water Research Project 3535 Harbor Blvd, Suite 110

Costa Mesa, CA 92626

San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board State Water Resources Control Board 9174 Sky Park Court San Diego, CA 92123

Aquatic Bioassessment Laboratory/Water Pollution Control Laboratory California Department of Fish and Game 2006 Nimbus Road





Ambient Monitoring Program

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Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

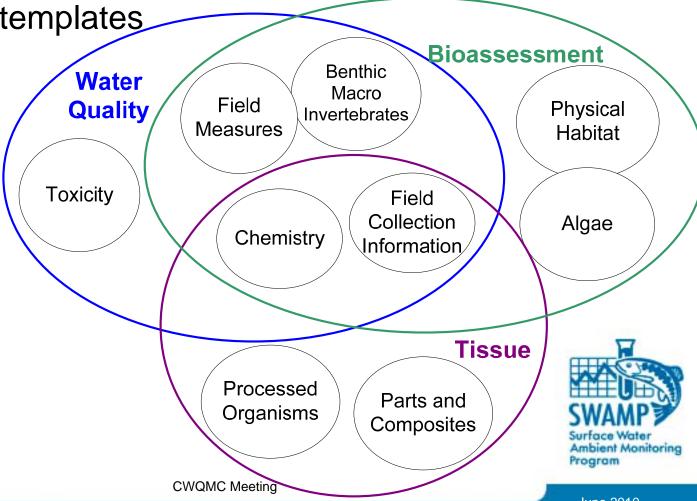
Data management

SWAMP Database

Data format templates

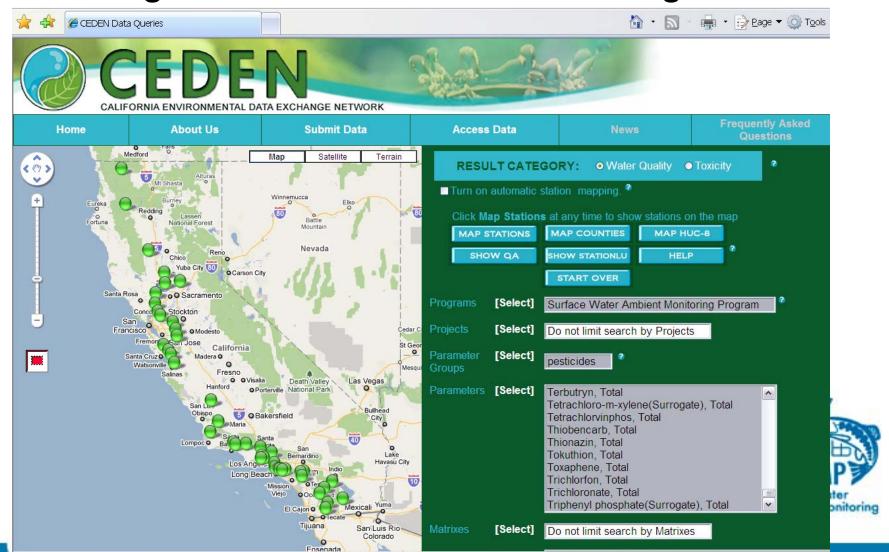
Online data checkers

Help desk



Infrastructure & Tools

Data Management – California Data Exchange Network



Infrastructure & Tools

Comparability

SWAMPMQOs

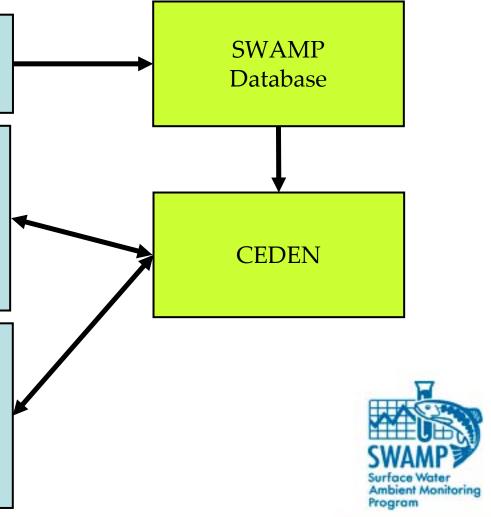
Data Formats

Non-SWAMP Water Board Programs

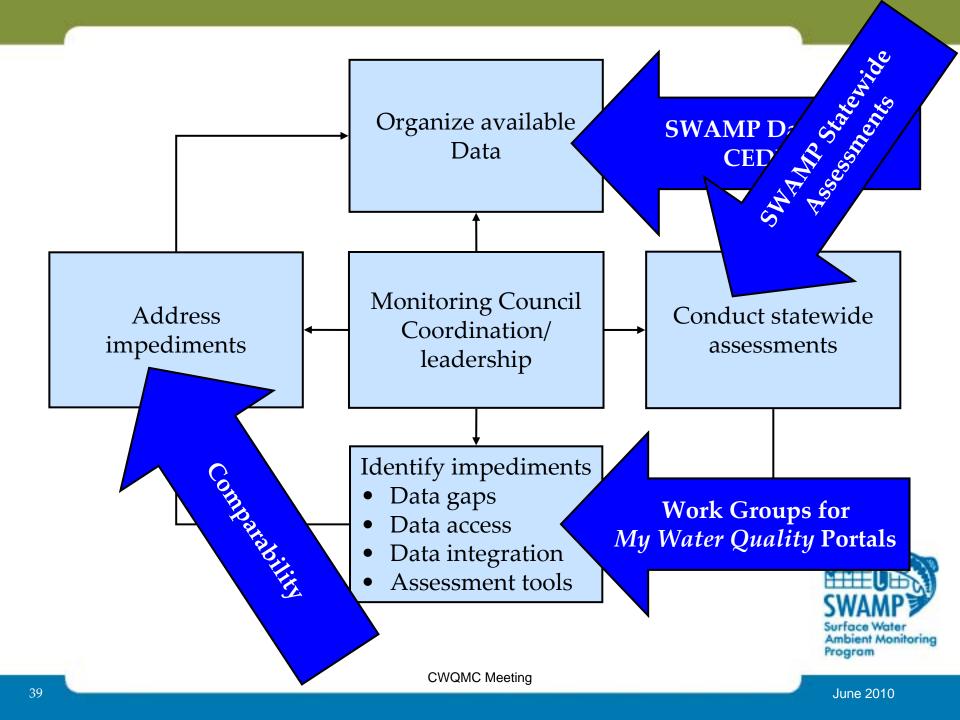
- •NPDES: Stormwater, POTWs
- •Irrigated Lands
- •TMDL
- Water Quality Certification (401)
- Grant Projects

Other State/Federal Agencies

- DWR
- DPR
- DFG
- USBR
- •USGS



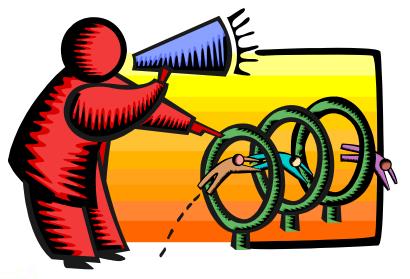
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Institutional Constraints

Several institutional constraints severely inhibit the SWAMP's ability to succeed...

- SPARC Final Report (May 2006)



Tom Suk Senior Scientist Chair, SWAMP Bioassessment Committee



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SPARC (2006)

- Scientific Planning & Review Committee (SPARC)
 Final Report, May 2006
- Final Recommendation #4:

 Reduce institutional constraints
- Final Recommendation #5:
 Ensure adequate & consistent program funding year-to-year



Out-of-State Travel



"SWAMP needs more outside input, and more flexibility to travel to relevant national conferences. In many respects, this is the only way to gain access to current information that is directly useful to the program."

—SPARC Final Report (May 2006)





Contracting issues

—SPARC Final Report (May 2006)

Problems include:

- ➤ 1-yr limit on "service" contracts; 3-yr limit on others
- > Time delay to execute contracts
- dollar limit "sole source" contracts: \$5,000
- limits on sub-contracting
- "low-bid" largely ignores specialization / quality
- unpredictable / increasing overhead costs



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Contract relief / reform

con•tract \'k \ddot{a} n-trakt\ n a binding agreement between two or more persons or parties



agency – agency

agency – university



California Performance Review (RES-17)

- State should develop "Contract Simplification Plan"
- DGS should <u>not</u> require formal contracts between agencies
- DGS should <u>not</u> review individual inter-agency work agreements
- DGS should develop guidelines to replace interagency contract process with a simple model MOU to be used by state agencies for inter-agency work
- DGS should identify any/all statutes/regs that may need to be amended & develop proposal



Elements of interagency MOUs

- Scope of Work
- Budget
- Deliverables / timelines
- Standard / model language



Beyond CPR RES-17

- Include streamlined process for agency – university agreements
- Establish standardized overhead rate for state – UC/CSU (15% ??)



Ensure sufficient & consistent funding

SWAMP needs \$40 million/year for a state of California's size and diversity

—SPARC Final Report (May 2006)



Current budget = approx \$9M/yr ~\$7M contracts

~17 PYs



Unfunded Needs

SWAMP Monitoring – scratching the surface

- BOG tissue studies indicate urgent need for follow-up
- Statewide assessments only a handful of waterbody–BU combos
- Regional monitoring many watersheds not monitored at all; many monitored for limited suite of analytes
- <u>emerging issues</u>: CECs, continuous monitoring, real-time monitoring

SWAMP Comparability

Planning & Standards

- SWAMP tools/data raise issues that must be resolved through other programs (bio-objectives, modification of SSOs, etc.)
- Currently no single place to access water quality standards



Summary — Institutional Constraints

- Out-of-State Travel agency staff need to attend the National Monitoring Conference
- Contracts
 - CA Performance Review RES-17
 - agency-agency and agency-university
 - establish fixed overhead rate for UC / CSU
- Funding How do we attain sufficient and stable funding (for all member agencies of the Monitoring Council)?

