

# San Gabriel River Regional Monitoring Program

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## Los Angeles River Watershed Monitoring Program



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**Council for  
Watershed Health**



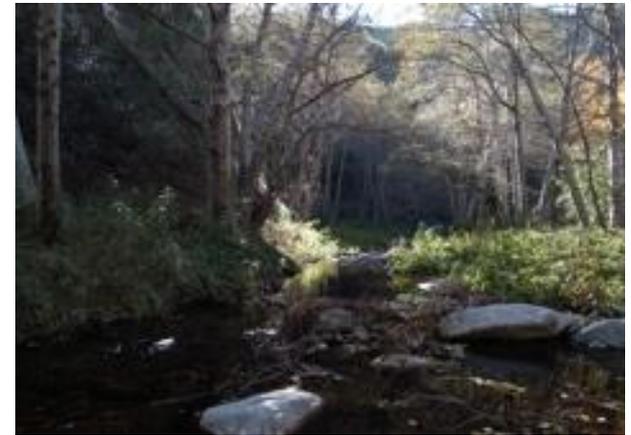
The region's hub for watershed research and analysis

- Working at the intersection of research and policy
- Driving applied research to improve policy and practice
- Connecting diverse perspectives to address timely issues

# Sustainable Greater Los Angeles

Managing at the watershed scale for economic vitality, social and environmental health

- \* Clean waters
- \* Reliable local water supplies
- \* Restored native habitats
- \* Ample parks & open spaces
- \* Integrated flood protection
- \* Revitalized rivers & communities



# **Integrated Regional Monitoring**

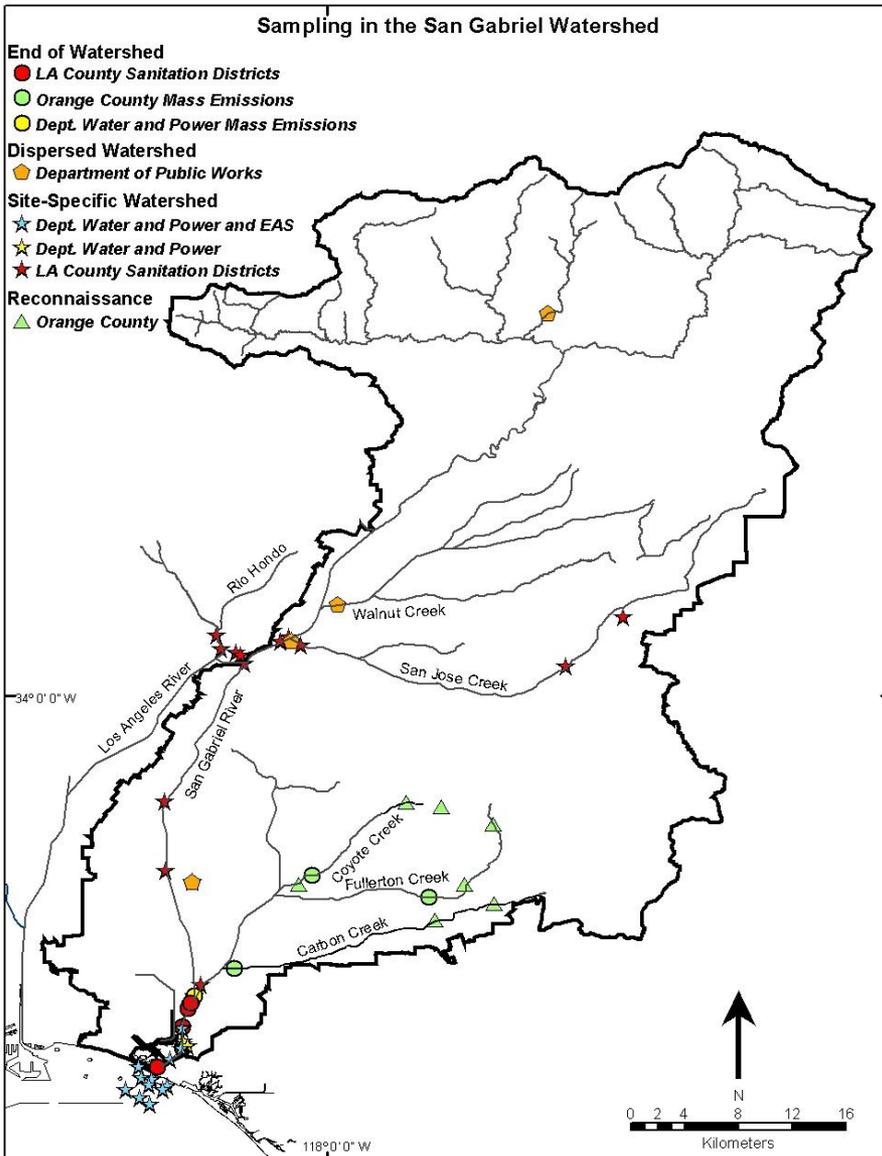
- **San Gabriel River**
- **Los Angeles River**

## *Questions posed by the Monitoring Council*

### **A. What caused the coordination to occur?**

- B. Why has it been successful?
- C. Has the coordination resulted in tools that would benefit coordination efforts by others?
- D. Would a tool like the Central Valley Monitoring Directory have been helpful in getting the coordination going?
- E. How are the data being managed and made available?
- F. What are measures of success?
- G. How are portals fitting into your programs?
- H. What agency data are being integrated?
- I. What do you need from the Monitoring Council?

# San Gabriel Watershed Example: Pre 2005



## A lot of existing monitoring

- 6 agencies
- 3 citizen groups

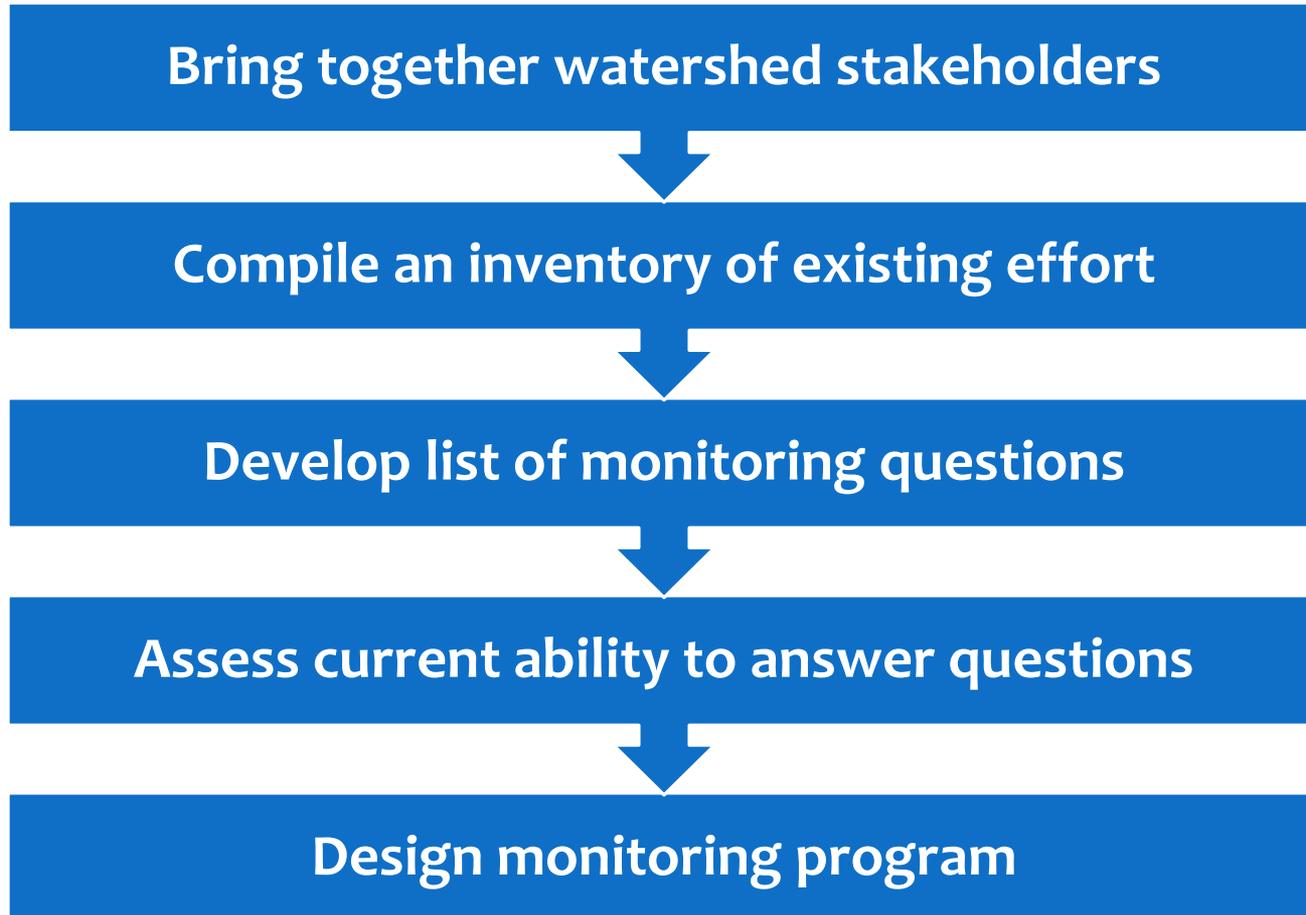
## Programs not coordinated

- Limited data comparability
- Lack of coordination on constituents sampled
- No coordinated QA, IM, etc.

## Inefficiencies

- Redundancies between monitoring programs
- Majority of the watershed not monitored

# Watershed Monitoring Program Approach



**2005: San Gabriel River Regional Monitoring Program (SGRRMP)**  
**2007: Los Angeles River watershed-wide Monitoring Program (LARWMP)**

## Questions

A. What caused the coordination to occur?

**B. Why has it been successful?**

C. Has the coordination resulted in tools that would benefit coordination efforts by others?

D. Would a tool like the Central Valley Monitoring Directory have been helpful in getting the coordination going?

E. How are the data being managed and made available?

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H. What agency data are being integrated?

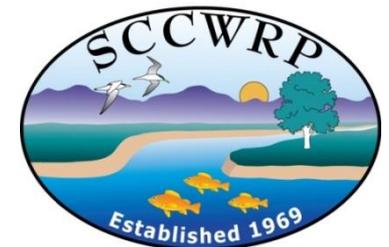
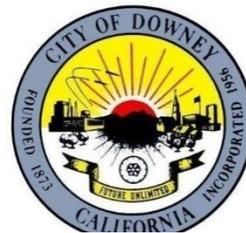
I. What do you need from the Monitoring Council?

# SGR Stakeholder Participation

Stakeholder Groups	Program Design Phase	Current (Previous 12 months)
AES (generating station)	ACTIVE	
City of Downey	ACTIVE	ACTIVE
Council for Watershed Health	ACTIVE	ACTIVE
Friends of the San Gabriel River	-	-
Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts	ACTIVE	ACTIVE
Los Angeles County Department of Public Works- Flood Control District	ACTIVE	ACTIVE
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power	ACTIVE	-
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board	ACTIVE	ACTIVE
Orange County Stormwater Program	ACTIVE	ACTIVE
US Army Corps of Engineers	-	-
Rivers and Mountains Conservancy	ACTIVE	-
San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservancy	ACTIVE	ACTIVE
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board	ACTIVE	-
Southern California Coastal Water Research Project	ACTIVE	ACTIVE
US Forest Service		ACTIVE
US EPA	ACTIVE	ACTIVE

# Program Partners

## San Gabriel & Los Angeles Monitoring Programs



# Monitoring Questions



1.

What is the health of streams ?



2.

Conditions at areas of unique importance ?



3.

Are regulated discharges meeting WQ objectives ?



4.

Is it safe to swim?



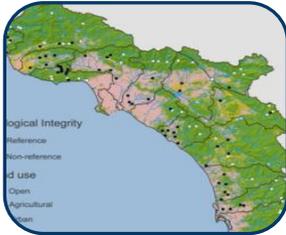
5.

Is it safe to eat fish ?



State of the Watershed

# Program Integration



LA and SG  
Watershed Monitoring  
Programs



SMC  
Regional Monitoring Program



SWAMP  
CA Perennial Streams  
Assessment



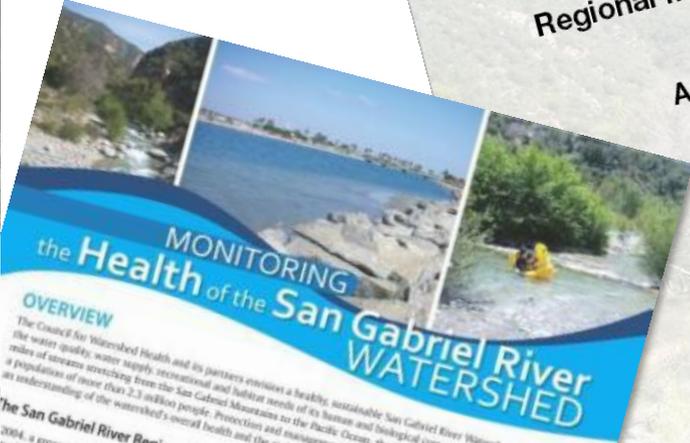
USEPA  
Western Environmental  
Monitoring and Assessment  
Program

# Outreach & Reporting





**SAN GABRIEL RIVER 2010**  
STATE OF THE WATERSHED REPORT



**MONITORING the Health of the San Gabriel River WATERSHED**

**OVERVIEW**

The Council for Watershed Health and its partners envision a healthy, sustainable San Gabriel River Watershed that meets the water quality, water supply, recreational and habitat needs of its human and biological constituents. With over 1,236 miles of streams stretching from the San Gabriel Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, the San Gabriel River Watershed supports a population of more than 2.3 million people. Protection and management ensuring sustainability of this resource requires an understanding of the watershed's overall health and the major stresses that affect its condition.

**The San Gabriel River Regional Monitoring Partners**

2004, a group of local, state and federal stakeholders formed the San Gabriel River Regional Monitoring Program (SGRMP) to integrate and expand monitoring efforts in the San Gabriel River watershed.

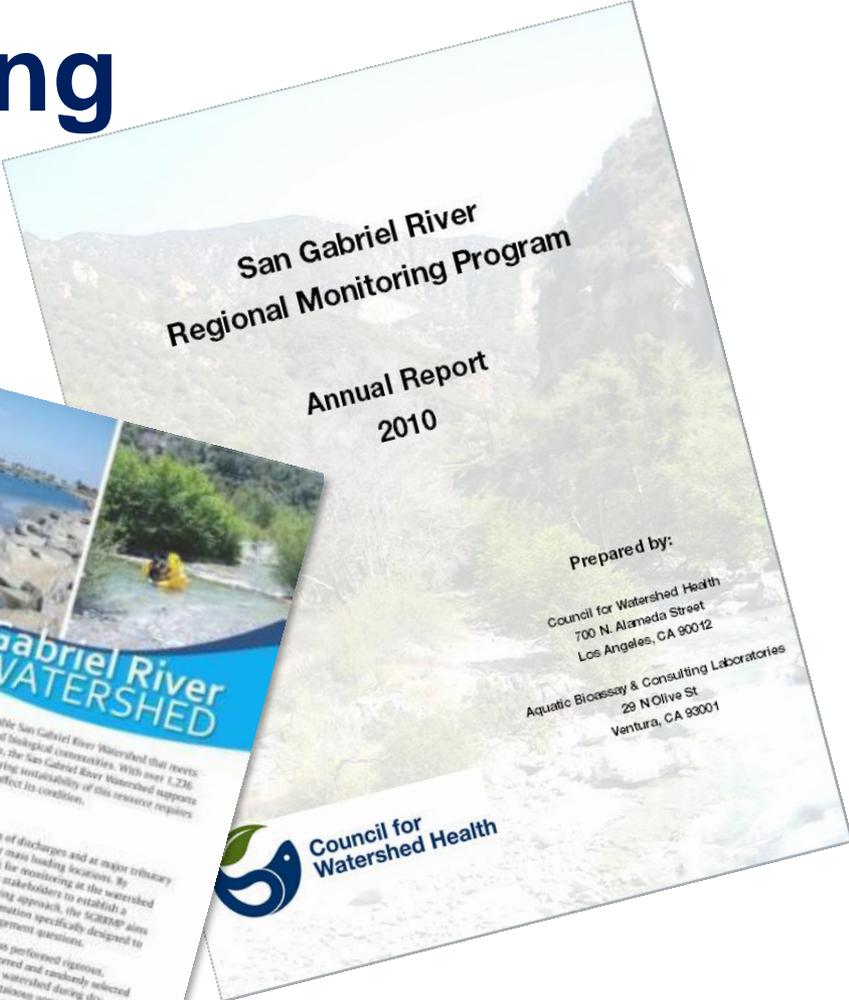
The monitoring framework addresses five key questions:

- 1. Is the condition of streams in the watershed better or worse?
- 2. Are waters of unique interest getting better or worse?
- 3. Are waters near discharges meeting water quality objectives?
- 4. Are locally caught fish safe to eat?
- 5. Have the implementation of this monitoring program, focused on addressing potential impacts associated with point and non-point source loadings with most of the monitoring concentrated in the central-liver maintenance channel, downstream of discharges and at major tributary confluences and other major loading locations. By providing a framework for monitoring at the watershed scale and working with stakeholders to establish a question-based monitoring approach, the SGRMP aims to provide regional information specifically designed to answer the five key management questions.

Since 2005, the SGRMP has performed rigorous, scientific monitoring at targeted and randomly selected sites distributed throughout watershed upper watershed, the highly urbanized lower watershed and the mountains. The SGRMP has successfully shown that an integrated watershed monitoring program can provide context to these essential management questions, while improving monitoring efficiencies.



Council for Watershed Health  
700 N. Alameda Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012  
www.councilforwatershedhealth.org



**San Gabriel River Regional Monitoring Program**

**Annual Report 2010**

Prepared by:

Council for Watershed Health  
700 N. Alameda Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

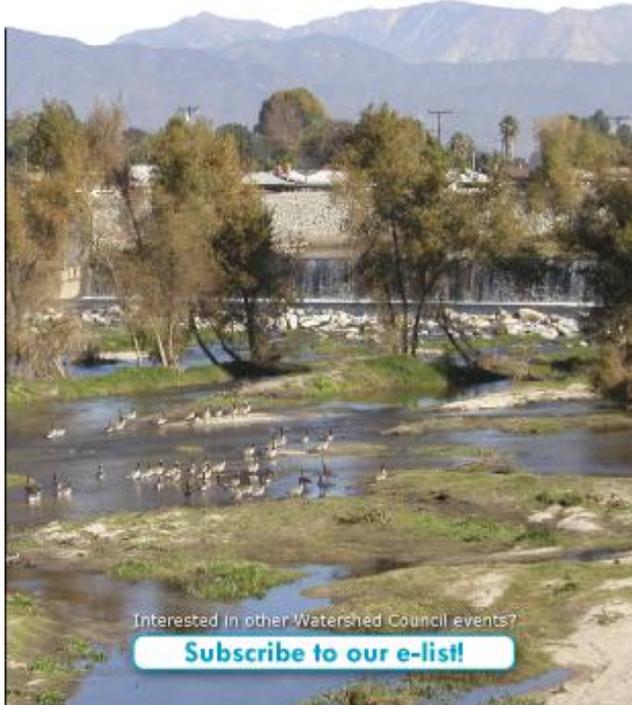
Aquatic Bioassay & Consulting Laboratories  
29 N Olive St  
Ventura, CA 93001



# Outreach & Reporting

## *Building a Healthier* **SAN GABRIEL RIVER WATERSHED**

A Regional Conference presented by the  
Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council  
September 16-17, 2008



Interested in other Watershed Council events?

[Subscribe to our e-list!](#)

**Are Fish Safe to Eat?**  
**Communicating Results**  
**Workshop**  
**10/19/09**

Swiss Park Restaurant & Banquet Center  
1905 Workman Mill Road  
Whittier, CA 90601

**STATE OF  
THE SAN  
GABRIEL RIVER  
WATERSHED  
SYMPOSIUM**

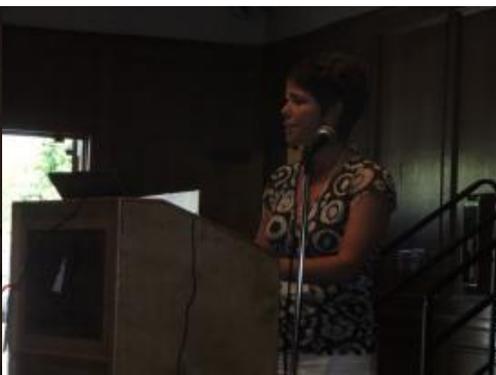
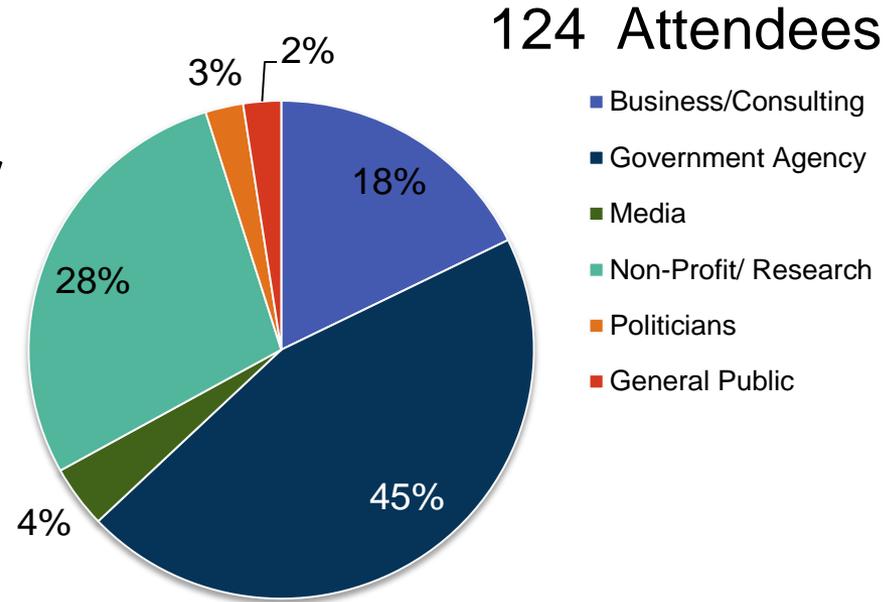
Wednesday, July 20, 2011  
8:30 am - 4pm | Free; RSVP required

Speakers and panelists will include staff from State agencies and the Regional Water Quality Control Board, scientists and representatives from the Counties of Orange and Los Angeles and incorporated Cities. Panelists will discuss questions related to the condition of surface waters in the watershed including regulated discharges, National Forest Service efforts in the upper watershed, lake management and the economics of environmental regulation.

For more information, contact Dr. Kristy Morris (Ph: 213-229-9960 | E: [kristy@watershedhealth.org](mailto:kristy@watershedhealth.org)) or visit [www.watershedhealth.org](http://www.watershedhealth.org).



# State of the San Gabriel River Watershed Symposium



# Keys to Success

- \* Consistent Stakeholder Involvement
- \* Secure Program Funding
  - LACSD, City of LA, City of Burbank
- \* Research-based Program Design
  - Pilot studies for new methods and standards
  - Internal and external funding sources
- \* Regular Public Outreach/ Reporting
- \* Strong and Consistent Program Management



## Questions

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# Program Data Portals

## SGRRMP Example

### San Gabriel Watershed Data Portal

**Base Layers**

- San Gabriel Watershed
- 2006 303d Linear
- 2006 303d Poly
- 2009 303d Linear
- 2009 303d Poly
- SGR Ground Water Basin
- SWQCB Region 4
- SWQCB Region 8
- BU Waterbodies
- BU Tributary Rule
- Beneficial Use

**Data Layers**

- Chemistry
- Bacteria
- IBI
- InSitu
- CRAM Scores
- Habitat
- Densimeter
- Substrate Size Class
- SGRRMP Receiving Water
- LA County Sanitation District
- Metals
- Ammonia

**Quick Start Instructions:**

These instructions will help you get start using the portal right away. For more details, please refer to the User Manual [here](#). Clicking the Home icon above will bring you to this page. For best performance, we recommend using **Fire Fox** or **Chrome** browsers.

- Select data layers:** In left pane, select any water quality data layer under "Data Layers" by clicking the box next to it, e.g., Chemistry.
- Data criteria:** In the Define Search Criteria box that opens, click Go. All sites for the selected layer will appear on the map.
- Labels:** Move your mouse over any site icon to see its Station ID and name.
- View data for single site:** To view data or charts for a single site, click a site icon to open its conversation bubble, and then click View Reports and Charts.
- Select reports:** Select report or chart tabs from the choices that appear (blue highlight) in the top of the right pane. For charts, you must select the desired values from the drop down menus.
- View data for all sites:** To view data or charts for all sites shown on the map, click the Item Reports link below the map. Then select the report or chart from the right pane.
- Find a site:** Click the Preview link to see the list of all sites displayed on the map. Click any icon in this list to open its conversation bubble for links to reports and charts for that site.

<http://watershedhealth.org/programsandprojects/sgrmp.aspx>

# Program Data Portals

## San Gabriel Watershed Data Portal

Layers Feature Count: 16/16 Item Report

Logout

**Base Layers**

- San Gabriel Watershed
- 2006 303d Linear
- 2006 303d Poly
- 2009 303d Linear
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- SGR Ground Water Basins
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**Data Layers**

- Chemistry
- Bacteria
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- Habitat
- Densimeter
- Substrate Size Class
- SGRAMP Receiving Water

**LA County Sanitation District**

- Metals
- Ammonia

My Folder

**Columns** Groups Histo

**Item Reports**

- \* [Site Table](#)
- \* [Bacteria](#)

Select Layer: Bacteria [# Rows: 16] [Preview Item Report](#)

Station Code	Segment
College Park Dr	San Gabriel River Estuary



# Program Data Portals

## San Gabriel Watershed Data Portal

The screenshot displays the San Gabriel Watershed Data Portal interface. On the left, a 'Layers' panel lists various data layers under 'Base Layers' and 'Data Layers'. The 'Data Layers' section includes 'Chemistry', 'Bacteria' (checked), 'IBI', 'InSitu', 'CRAM Scores', 'Habitat', 'Densimeter', 'Substrate Size Class', 'SGRRMP Receiving Water', 'LA County Sanitation District', 'Metals', and 'Ammonia'. The main map area shows a topographic view of the San Gabriel Watershed with a search dialog box overlaid. The dialog box is titled 'Define search criteria [Bacteria]' and contains fields for 'Station Code', 'Sample date' (with a 'Get Range' link), and 'Parameter'. A 'go' button is visible in the dialog. The top navigation bar includes a 'Logout' link, a 'Feature Count: 16/16' indicator, and a 'Home Page' link. On the right side, 'Quick Start Instructions' are provided, detailing steps for selecting data layers, defining search criteria, and viewing data for single sites or all sites.

**Quick Start Instructions:**  
 These instructions will help you away. For more details, please Clicking the Home icon above w best performance, we recomme browsers.

1. **Select data layers:** In left pa layer under "Data Layers" by cl Chemistry.
2. **Data criteria:** In the Define S click Go. All sites for the selecte
3. **Labels:** Move your mouse ov ID and name.
4. **View data for single site:** To site, click a site icon to open its click View Reports and Charts.
5. **Select reports:** Select report that appear (blue highlight) in th charts, you must select the des menu.
6. **View data for all sites:** To vie shown on the map, click the It. Then select the report or chart
7. **Find a site:** Click the Preview displayed on the map. Click any conversation bubble for links to To refresh the map, click the

# Program Data Portals

## San Gabriel Watershed Data Portal

The screenshot displays the San Gabriel Watershed Data Portal interface. On the left, there are two panels: 'Base Layers' and 'Data Layers'. The 'Base Layers' panel includes 'San Gabriel Watershed' (checked), '2006 303d Linear', '2006 303d Poly', '2009 303d Linear', '2009 303d Poly', 'SGR Ground Water Basins', 'SWQCB Region 4', 'SWQCB Region 8', 'BU Waterbodies', 'BU Tributary Rule', and 'Beneficial Use'. The 'Data Layers' panel includes 'Chemistry', 'Bacteria' (checked), 'IBI', 'InSitu', 'CRAM Scores', 'Habitat', 'Denominator', 'Substrate Size Class', 'SGRRMP Receiving Water', 'LA County Sanitation District', 'Metals', and 'Ammonia'. The main map area shows a topographic view of the Los Angeles basin with a red line representing the watershed boundary. A popup window is open over the map, displaying the following information:

Station Code: SJC C1  
 Segment: San Jose Creek  
[View Reports & Charts](#)  
[Add to selection](#)

At the bottom of the map, there is a 'Select Layer' dropdown menu set to 'Bacteria' and a '# Rows: 16' indicator. Below this is a table with the following data:

Station Code	Segment
College Park Dr	San Gabriel River Estuary
Coyote Crk @ ValView	Coyote Creek (Region 4)

On the right side of the interface, there is an 'Item Report' panel with tabs for 'Columns', 'Groups', and 'Histo'. Under 'Item Reports', there are two entries: '\* Site Table' and '\* Bacteria'.

# Program Data Portals

## San Gabriel Watershed Data Portal

[Back](#)
[Download Report](#)
 [Number of Rows: 45]
 [Print](#)

Station Code	Sample Date	Segment	Station Type	Matrix Name	Method Name	Group	Analyte Name	Fraction
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 200.8	Metals	Aluminum	Dissolve
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 200.8	Metals	Aluminum	Total
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 350.3	General Chemistry	Ammonia as N	None
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 200.8	Metals	Arsenic	Dissolve
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 200.8	Metals	Arsenic	Total
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 200.8	Metals	Cadmium	Dissolve
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 200.8	Metals	Cadmium	Total
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 507	Organophosphorus	Chlorpyrifos	None
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 200.8	Metals	Chromium	Dissolve
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 200.8	Metals	Chromium	Total
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 200.8	Metals	Copper	Dissolve
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 200.8	Metals	Copper	Total
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 507	Organophosphorus	Diazinon	None
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 451.1	General Chemistry	Dissolved Organic Carbon	None
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 236.1	Metals	Iron	Total
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 200.8	Metals	Lead	Dissolve
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 200.8	Metals	Lead	Total
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 200.8	Metals	Nickel	Dissolve
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 200.8	Metals	Nickel	Total
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	SM 4110B	General Chemistry	Nitrate as N	None
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	SM 4110B	General Chemistry	Nitrite as N	None
SGLR043	07/13/2005	San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary	Random	samplewater	EPA 351.4	General Chemistry	Nitrogen - Total Kjeldahl	None



# Program Data Portals

## San Gabriel Watershed Data Portal

The screenshot displays the San Gabriel Watershed Data Portal interface. On the left is a legend with two main sections: "Base Layers" and "Data Layers". The "Base Layers" section includes items like "San Gabriel Watershed", "2006 303d Linear", "2006 303d Poly", "2009 303d Linear", "2009 303d Poly", "SGR Ground Water Basins", "SWQCB Region 4", "SWQCB Region 8", "BU Waterbodies", "BU Tributary Rule", and "Beneficial Use". The "Data Layers" section includes "Chemistry Station = SGLR043", "Bacteria", "IBI", "InSitu", "CRAM Scores", "Habitat", "Densimeter", "Substrate Size Class", "SGRRMP Receiving Water", "LA County Sanitation District", "Metals", and "Ammonia".

The central map shows a topographic view of the San Gabriel Watershed area, with a red line indicating the Firestone Blvd. to Estuary segment. A tooltip is visible over the map with the following text:

Station Code: SGLR043  
Segment: San Gabriel River: Firestone Blvd. to Estuary  
[View Reports & Charts](#)  
[Add to selection](#)

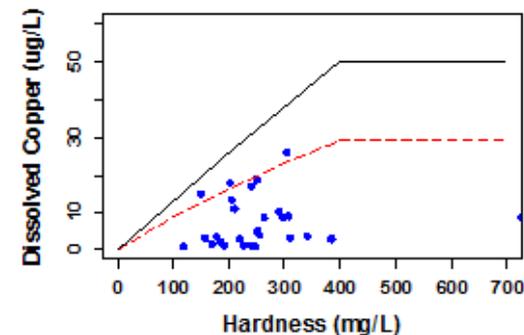
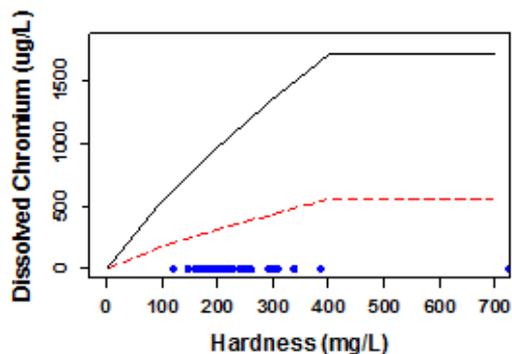
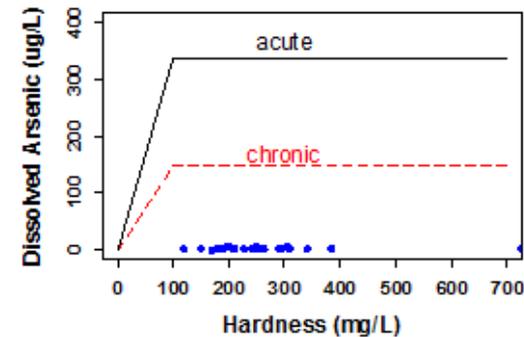
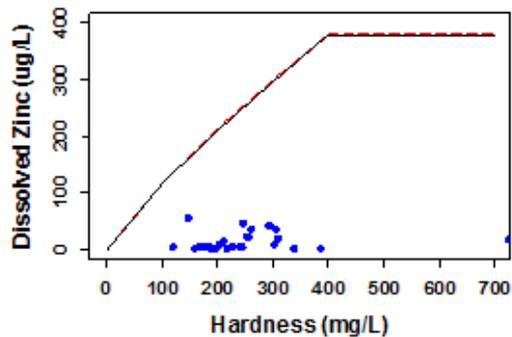
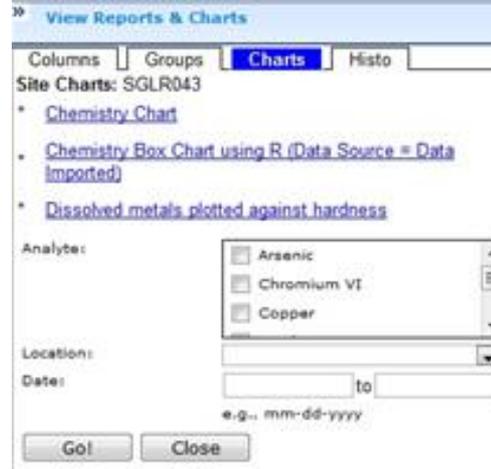
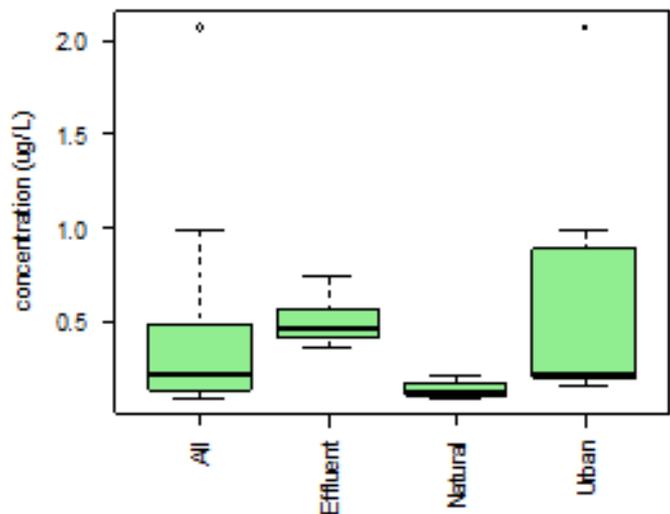
On the right side, there is a "View Reports & Charts" panel. It has tabs for "Columns", "Groups", "Charts", and "Histo". Under "Site Charts: SGLR043", there are three chart options:

- \* [Chemistry Chart](#)
- \* [Chemistry Box Chart using R \(Data Source = Data Imported\)](#)
- \* [Dissolved metals plotted against hardness](#)

Below the chart options, there are input fields for "Analyte:" (with a list including Arsenic, Chromium VI, and Copper), "Location:", and "Date:". There are "Go!" and "Close" buttons at the bottom of the panel.

# Program Data Portals

### Lead



## Questions

- A. What caused the coordination to occur?
- B. Why has it been successful?
- C. Has the coordination resulted in tools that would benefit coordination efforts by others?
- D. Would a tool like the Central Valley Monitoring Directory have been helpful in getting the coordination going?
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# Data Management

SGRRMP  
LARWMP

Data Preparation

Data QA/QC

Data Analysis using  
the appropriate  
statistical analysis

Temporal or spatial  
trends

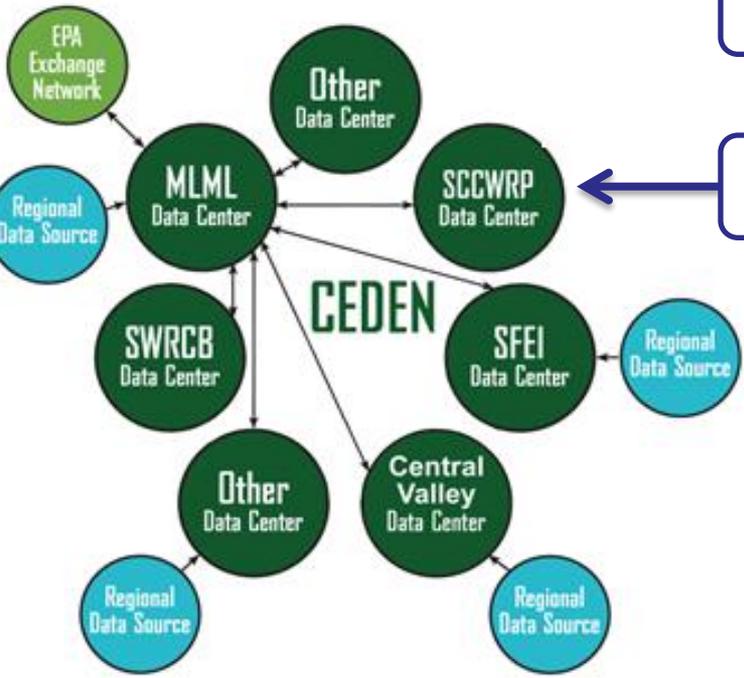
Relationships  
between  
measurement  
parameters

Compare site  
statistics to water  
quality guidelines

Interpret data in  
relation to study  
objectives

Report on Findings

California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN)



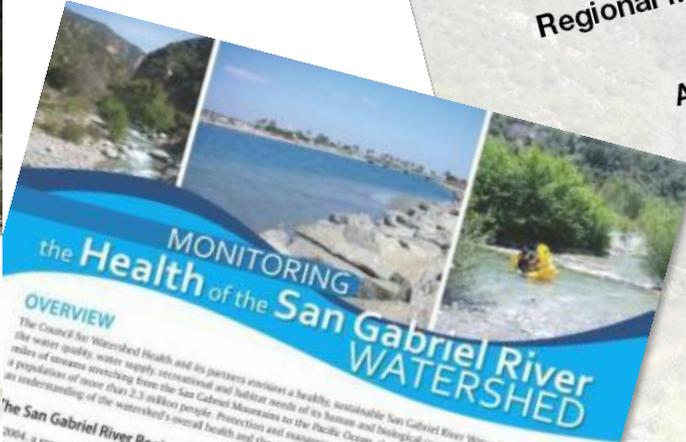
- Storage
- Retrieval

# Reporting



## SAN GABRIEL RIVER 2010

### STATE OF THE WATERSHED REPORT



### MONITORING the Health of the San Gabriel River WATERSHED

#### OVERVIEW

The Council for Watershed Health and its partners envision a healthy, sustainable San Gabriel River Watershed that meets the water quality, water supply, recreational and habitat needs of its human and biological constituents. With over 1,236 miles of streams stretching from the San Gabriel Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, the San Gabriel River Watershed supports a population of more than 2.3 million people. Protection and management ensuring sustainability of this resource requires an understanding of the watershed's overall health and the major stresses that affect its condition.

#### The San Gabriel River Regional Monitoring Partners

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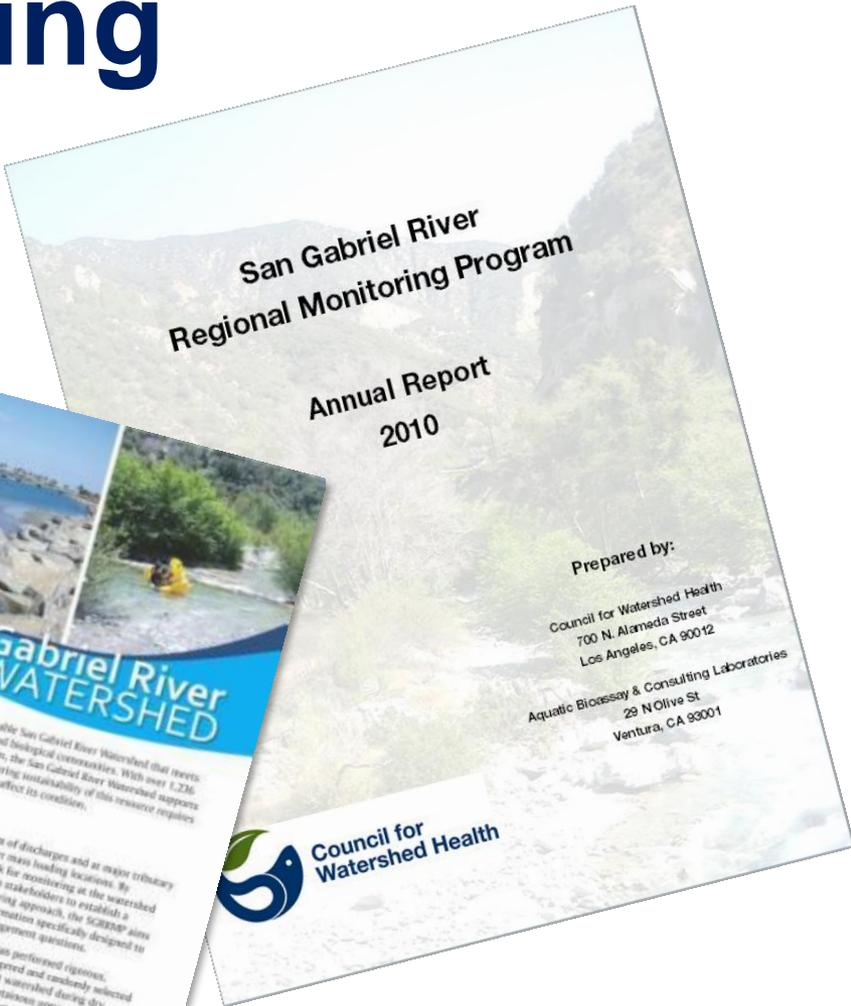
Monitoring framework addresses five key questions:

- 1. Is the condition of streams in the watershed better or worse?
- 2. Are waters of unique interest getting better or worse?
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www.councilforwatershedhealth.org



## San Gabriel River Regional Monitoring Program

### Annual Report 2010

Prepared by:

Council for Watershed Health  
700 N. Alameda Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Aquatic Bioassay & Consulting Laboratories  
29 N Olive St  
Ventura, CA 93001



# Reporting

## SCIENTIFIC / TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

### 2011-2012

- K. Morris, S. Johnson, 2012, The State of the San Gabriel River Watershed: Using Multiple Indicators To Assess Watershed Health, Watershed Science Bulletin: Volume 3, Issue 1
- WatershedWise: The State of the San Gabriel River Watershed, Spring 2012| Vol. 14, No 2
- National Monitoring Council Newsletter- State of the San Gabriel River Watershed Article

# Reporting

## PRESENTATIONS AT SCIENTIFIC / TECHNICAL CONFERENCES

### 2011-2012

- 9th Annual H2O Conference, San Diego, CA
- State of the San Gabriel River Watershed Symposium, Whittier, CA
- California Bioassessment Workshop, Davis CA
- Earth Day Keynote: Industry Advisory Council Meeting, LACSD Whittier
- 8<sup>th</sup> National Monitoring Conference, Portland OR
- Southern California Regional Chapter of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, 2012 Annual Meeting, Costa Mesa, CA
- Southern California Academy of Sciences 2012 Annual Meeting



# Next Steps: Online Analysis and Reporting

## Advantages:

- Rapid and reliable analysis and reporting
- Incorporate mapping capabilities
  - e.g. Google Maps/ Earth
- Internet-accessible

## Questions

- A. What caused the coordination to occur?
- B. Why has it been successful?
- C. Has the coordination resulted in tools that would benefit coordination efforts by others?
- D. Would a tool like the Central Valley Monitoring Directory have been helpful in getting the coordination going?
- E. How are the data being managed and made available?
- F. What are measures of success?
- G. How are portals fitting into your programs?
- H. What agency data are being integrated?
- I. What do you need from the Monitoring Council?**

# Needs from Monitoring Council

- Assistance with transfer and access of data across programs
- Web service output:
  - Email updates
  - Direct data feeds to portal