

# California Inland Beaches Workgroup

## Accomplishments in 2016 and Aspirations for 2017

**Facilitators:** Carly Nilson, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Alisha Wenzel, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Rich Fadness, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

### Workgroup Accomplishments in 2016

1. **A New Workgroup:** Recognizing that there has been no coordinated statewide program to monitor inland beaches for swimming safety, Water Board staff formed a new Inland Beaches Workgroup. This workgroup was formed to oversee actions of the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) to monitor, assess, and report on swimming safety of inland waters and to facilitate coordination and data sharing with monitoring groups throughout the state.
2. **New Workgroup Webpage:** A new [webpage](#) was created for the California Inland Beaches Workgroup with initial workgroup goals and meeting information.
3. **CEDEN Training For Citizen Groups:** A pilot training on how to format and submit chemistry data to the California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN) was presented in November 2016. This initial training was given to four citizen monitoring groups in the Sacramento River watershed to encourage groups to submit indicator bacteria and other monitoring data to CEDEN.

### Workgroup Aspirations for 2017

1. Update the [Safe to Swim Portal](#) with information on swimming safety and bacteria trends for California's inland beaches and recreational water bodies. Currently the portal only presents monitoring data for coastal beaches. The Inland Beaches Workgroup is working with GIS and CEDEN staff at the Water Boards.
2. Conduct outreach to promote the new Inland Beaches Workgroup and invite groups that are actively monitoring or interested in swimming safety to participate in the workgroup. Broader participation is necessary to facilitate coordination and data sharing throughout the state.
3. Work towards standardized methods for monitoring and assessing inland beaches. Initial efforts will focus on standard operating procedures for indicator bacteria sample collection.
4. Continue efforts to encourage all bacterial indicator data to be captured by CEDEN. These efforts will include continued outreach, as well as exploring opportunities to develop training materials and guidance.
5. Support and promote the California Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network's webinars. In 2017, the Collaboration Network will feature a series of webinars on safe to swim topics.
6. Pursue opportunities to collaborate with the California Cyanobacteria and Harmful Algal Bloom (CCHAB) Network where our goals and objectives overlap.

### Challenges

1. Efforts to update the Safe to Swim Portal have been delayed due to the lack of dedicated GIS and web support staff.