



Welcome!



Your Instructors
The Water Quality Standards Academy
May 12-16, 2008
Rohnert Park, CA

Academy Goals

- 
- Provide instruction and guidance in the requirements of the water quality standards regulations (40 CFR 131) and the applicable portions of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the California Water Code
 - Clarify confusing topics and answer your questions
 - Share our perspectives and stories, and hear yours
 - Help us learn from each other
 - Have Fun

What We'll Cover...

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- Broad overview of CWA and the WQS Regulations, and how California and other states and tribes develop, adopt, implement water quality standards.
 - Roles of the various parties in Water Quality Protection-
 - States and Tribes
 - EPA Regions and Headquarters
 - The regulated community and other stakeholders
 - How standards relate to water quality monitoring and attainment decisions, TMDL development and NPDES permits

Our Charge to You...

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- BE ENGAGED
 - ASK QUESTIONS
 - GET TO KNOW PEOPLE
 - HAVE FUN!!

This Academy DOES...

Disclaimer

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- Provide a basic overview of the Water Quality Standards (WQS) Program
 - Provide instruction in the Water Quality Standards Program (this course is designed for students with <6 months experience with WQS)
 - Describe the statutory provisions and regulations that provide the legally binding requirements

This Academy Does NOT...

Disclaimer

- 
- Impose any binding requirements
 - Determine the obligations of the regulated community
 - Change or substitute for any statutory provision or regulation
 - Represent, change or substitute for any Agency policy or guidance
 - Control in any case of conflict between this discussion and statute, regulation, policy or guidance



Participant Expectations and Questions



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What are YOUR Expectations and Questions ?

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- ...a knowledge of how water quality standards are derived, what is the regulatory authority that drives decisions, and how can I apply this knowledge
 - How are standards developed? What is the science behind them? What are the assumptions? How does it all fit together?

What are YOUR Expectations and Questions? (2)

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- Gain a better understanding of the *nuances* of the WQS program
 - What are the programmatic requirements for EPA approval (of standards)? When are they legally enforceable?
 - I hope there will be time to talk about specific cases

What are YOUR Expectations and Questions? (3)

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- Clarification on antidegradation; antibacksliding
 - More in-depth information on permit writing techniques; using economic considerations in permits and determining compliance
 - ...please, no cheese or mayo
 - ...it's going to be a long week...

What are YOUR Questions? (4)

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- WHAT ELSE ?