



Definitions for Bio- objectives

Why Do We Need Definitions?

- Terms have implications for data analysis and interpretation
- Clarity intent during policy development
- Compatibility with other programs
- Avoid ambiguity and confusion

Two Type of Terms

- Affect regulatory scope
 - Stream
 - Wadeable stream
 - Perennial stream
- Affect technical analysis
 - Stressor
 - Controllable stressor
 - Index period
 - Reference condition

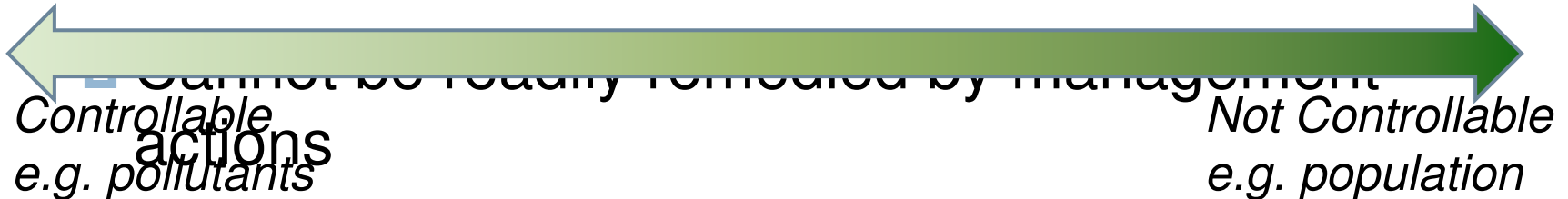
Example: Stressors

Implications for how reference conditions are established and how waterbodies may be classified

- Controllable

- ▣ Those that can be influenced by CalEPA regulations

- Not controllable



Example: Reference Condition

- **Historical Condition (HC)** ~ stream condition at a specific point in time
- **Minimally Disturbed Condition (MDC)** ~ stream condition in the absence of “significant” human disturbance
- **Least Disturbed Condition (LDC)** ~ the best physical, chemical and biological conditions currently available within a specific region (“the best of what’s left”)
- **Best Attainable Condition (BAC)** ~ the expected ecological condition of least disturbed sites given use of best management practices for an extended period of time

Next Steps



- May continue to add to list of definitions as needed throughout the process
- Ongoing review by science steering and stakeholder committees