

# SWAMP Program



**Funding Fair**  
**January 11, 2008**



Decisions need data.

Good decisions need good data.

Readily available.

The background of the slide is a solid blue color. In the lower right quadrant, there are several decorative elements consisting of concentric circles, resembling ripples in water. These circles are light blue and vary in size and opacity, creating a subtle pattern.

# SWAMP

- Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program was developed to meet those three needs: good data in an accessible format

# Tiered Quality Assurance

- ◆ But different projects have different definitions of good, so after creating the initial Quality Assurance/Quality Control framework, we are moving forward to develop a tiered QA structure and usable data management tools, to allow for a broader set of data to be available.

# Senate Bill 1070

- ◆ Finally, as Senate Bill 1070 intended, we are moving forward on a functioning statewide Monitoring Council, and a more transparent public face.

# SWAMP: Required by AB 982

- 💧 Comprehensive (surface water)
- 💧 Coordinate all Board ambient water quality monitoring
- 💧 High Quality Data (Quality Assurance)
- 💧 Comparable data
- 💧 Accessible

# Comprehensive Monitoring and Assessment Strategy to Protect and Restore California's Water Quality



October 2005



State Water Resources Control Board  
and Regional Water Quality Control Boards



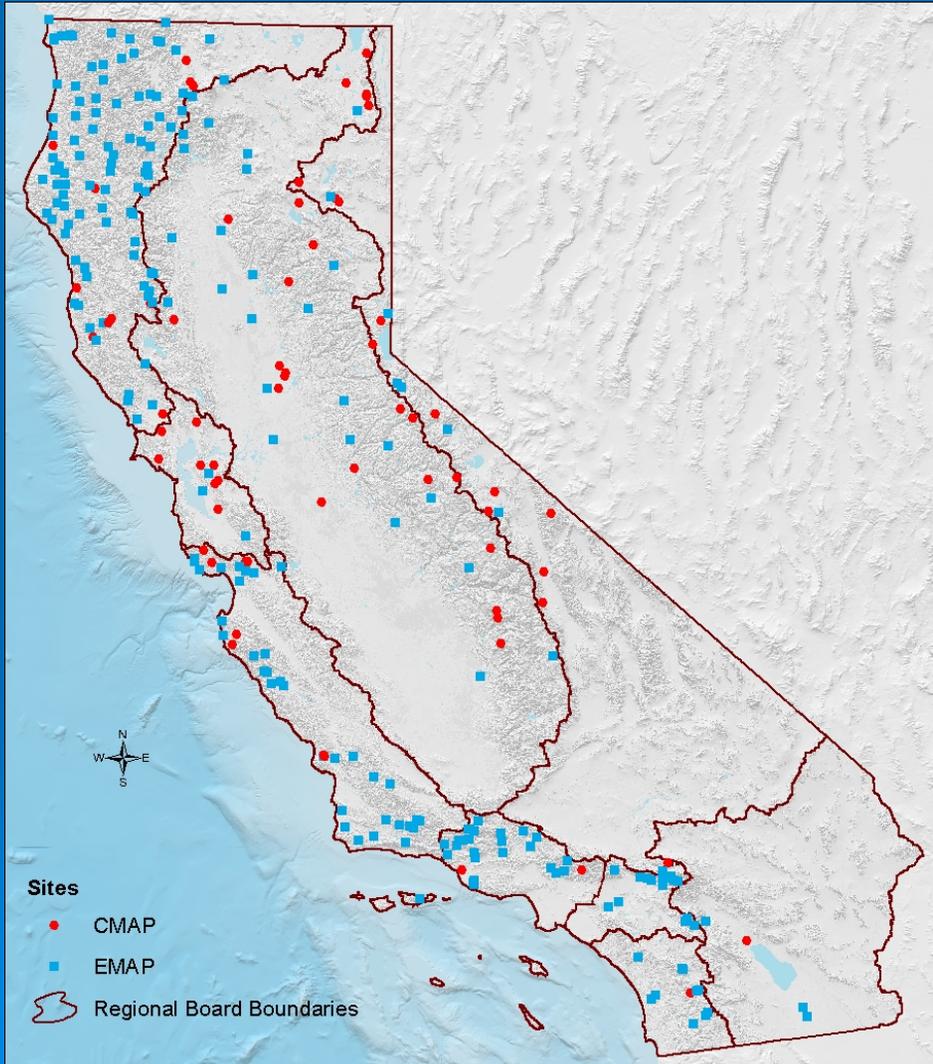
# Implementation Strategy

- Monitoring Program Strategy
- Monitoring Objectives
- Monitoring Design
- Core Indicators of Water Quality
- Quality Assurance
- Data Management
- Data Analysis/Assessment (CALM)
- Reporting
- Programmatic Evaluation
- General Support and Infrastructure

# State & Regional Monitoring Components

- ◆ Vary in scale of questions, objectives and design
- ◆ State program:
  - ◆ Asks broad questions:
    - ◆ What % of state's waterbodies are healthy ?
  - ◆ Uses of program
    - ◆ EPIC
    - ◆ 305b report
    - ◆ Legislative reports
- ◆ Regional program's objectives and design are more specific
  - ◆ Are specific waterbodies meeting WQ standards?
    - ◆ 303d list
  - ◆ Are specific management/restoration efforts successful ?

# W-EMAP and CMAP Sites Sampled



Inland surface waters  
Probability-based  
sampling

## W-EMAP

2000-2003

Base statewide study  
50 sites/year

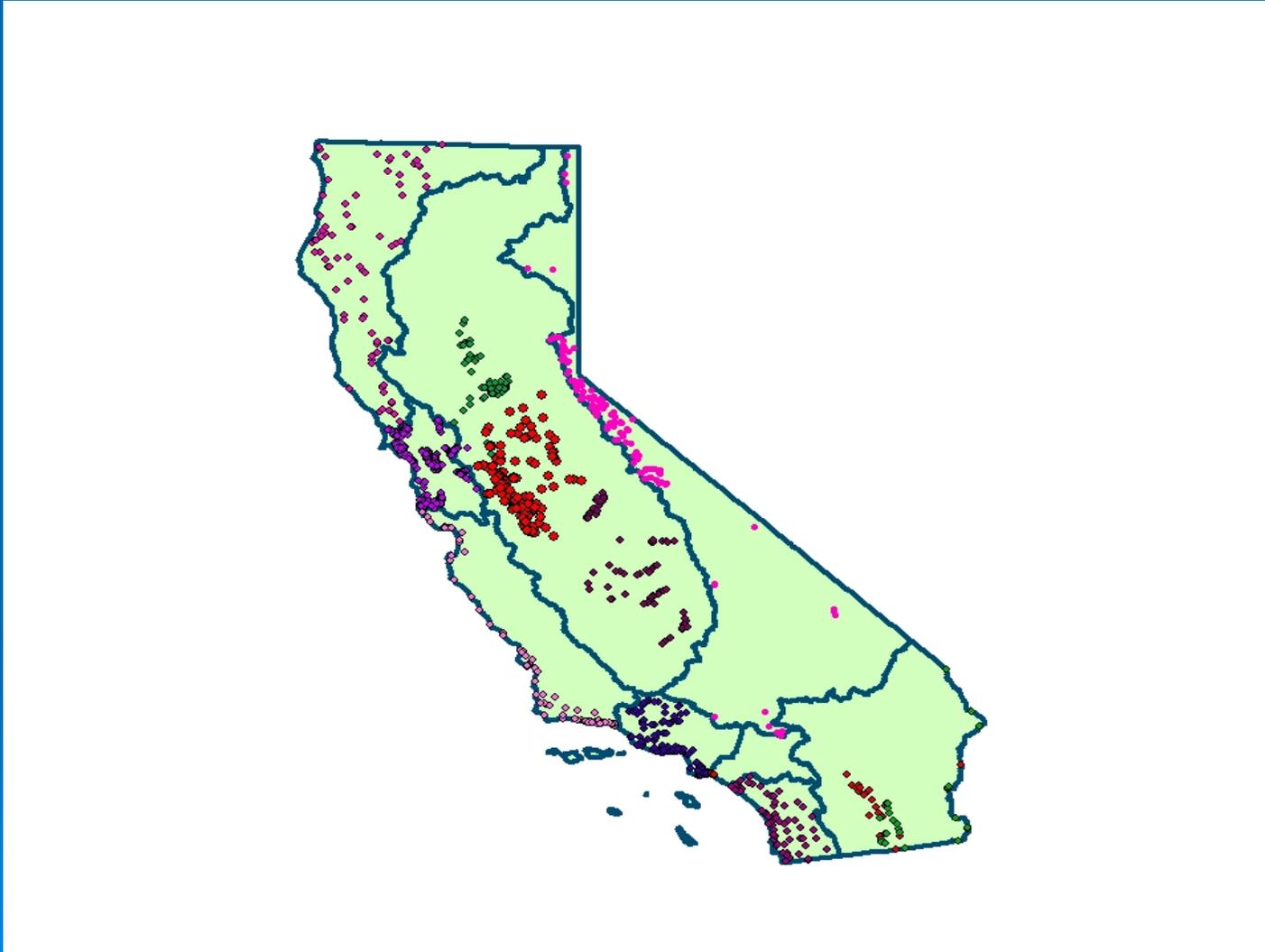
3 special study areas  
CA

## CMAP

Sampling initiated 2004

50 sites/year statewide

# Regional Monitoring 2001-04



# Building “Comparability”

- ◆ SWAMP is a state framework to coordinate consistent and scientifically defensible methods and strategies for improving water quality monitoring, assessment, and reporting.
- ◆ Common Indicators
- ◆ Comparable Methods
- ◆ Quality Assurance Program
- ◆ Database w/ metadata
- ◆ Information Exchange Network
- ◆ Tool Box and Training

# Next 12 Months

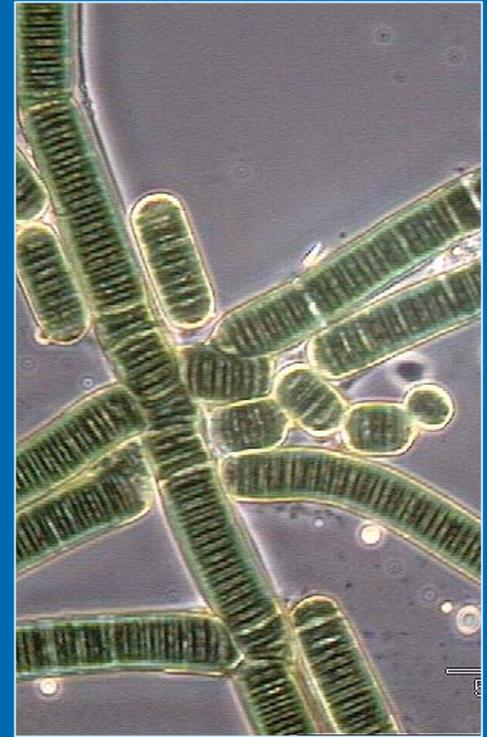
- ◆ **Continue monitoring**
- ◆ **Continue assessment**
- ◆ **Continue Training**
- ◆ **Improve Reporting**
- ◆ **Implement recommendations of external scientific review**

<b>Water Body Type</b>	<b>Beneficial Use</b>			
	<b>“Fishable”</b>	<b>“Swimmable”</b>	<b>“Drinkable”</b>	<b>Aquatic Life</b>
<b>Wadeable Streams</b>		<i>SWAMP-funded monit summary (2007-08)</i>		<i>SWAMP Bioassessment (2005 – ongoing)</i>
<b>Large Rivers</b>		<i>SWAMP-funded monit summary (2007-08)</i>		<i>EPA Flowing Waters Study (2008-2010)</i>
<b>Lakes</b>	<i>SWAMP Bioaccumulation Study (2007-09)</i>	<i>SWAMP-funded monit summary (2007-08)</i>		<i>USEPA Lakes Survey (2007-2009)</i>
<b>Coastal Waters</b>		<i>Clean Beach Program</i>	<b>NA</b>	<b>ASBS / SQOs</b>
<b>Bays/ Estuaries</b>		<i>Clean Beach Program</i>	<b>NA</b>	<b>SQOs</b>
<b>Wetlands</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>CRAM</b>

# Bioassessment

- direct measure of integrity of aquatic life uses
- integrates water quality over time

- WDPF
- NGOs



# Tiered QA

- Many programs use a “tiered” approach to collecting information:
  - Risk Assessment
  - Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)
  - Other EPA programs

# Tiered QA

- ◆ A second concern is measurement continuity:
  - ◆ Historical (forward and backward)
  - ◆ Volume, length, money system
  - ◆ Terminology

# Tiered QA

- Two parts:
  - Quality assurance – what are we doing and why?
  - Quality control – what “yardstick” will we use

# Tiered QA

Then:

- Write it down
- create agreement and framework to follow it
- Store the agreement with the data

# Senate Bill 1070

- Memorandum of Understanding to establish the California Monitoring Council
- Public information program on water quality matters

# SB 1070

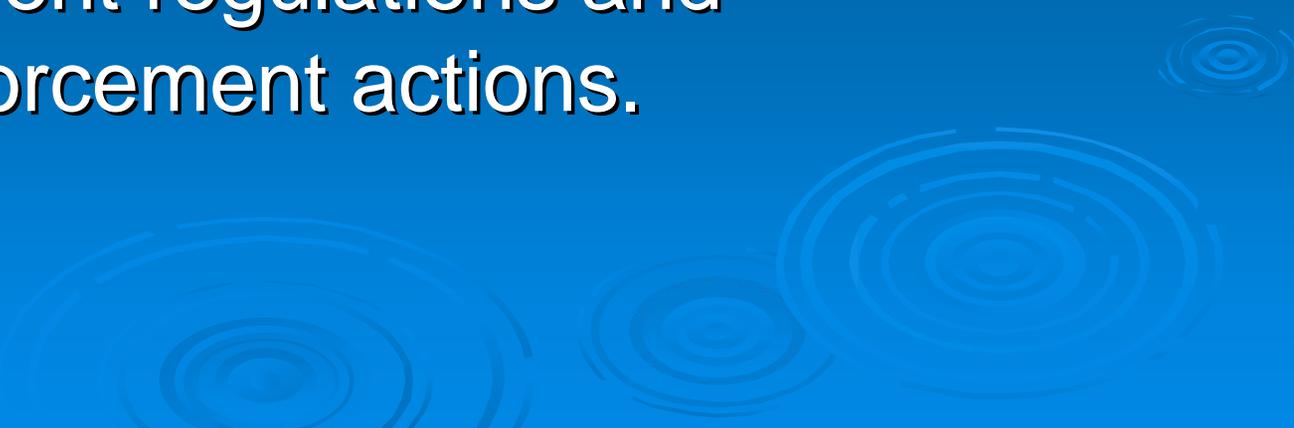
- California Senate Bill 1070 was enacted to better orchestrate the many monitoring efforts already in progress within the state:

# Senate Bill 1070

- to make that process more visible to that population and to the entities committed to the protection, monitoring and supply of that fresh water to all its users.

# Senate Bill 1070

It provides for the creation of a structure to allow:

- Easy public access and water quality data when it's known,
  - current methods and research,
  - current regulations and enforcement actions.
- 

# Senate Bill 1070

The bill also creates a California Water Quality Monitoring Council:

- to connect the myriad activities throughout the state in a more cohesive and sensible manner,
- with the ability to provide direction to reduce redundancies
- prioritize actions and
- to recommend funding necessary to give the critical information necessary to protect California's water.

# Accomplishments to Date

- ◆ Workgroup
- ◆ \$\$ for Contract support
- ◆ Preliminary Inventory
- ◆ Public Information Strategy
- ◆ Ftp site for Council
- ◆ Timetable
- ◆ MOU

# Next Steps

- 🔹 Formation of Council
- 🔹 First Council Meeting
  - 🔹 Mission, Goals, Objectives
  - 🔹 Functions, Roles, Governance
  - 🔹 Funding?
- 🔹 Completion of Initial Inventory
- 🔹 Public Information
- 🔹 Framework for coordination