

Integrated Surface Water Monitoring Strategy for Southern California

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Widespread Bioassessment Is Becoming A Reality

- **NPDES permits**
- **Supplemental Environmental Projects**
- **Environmental Advocacy Groups**
- **Large scale watershed assessment projects**

Status of Regulatory Driven Bioassessment Programs in So Cal

	Bioassessment?	How Long?
Ventura Co WPD	Yes	4 yr
Los Angeles Co DPW	Yes	1 yr
Los Angeles Co SD	Yes	1 yr
Los Angeles City EMD	No	New permit?
Orange County RDMD	Yes	1 yr
Riverside County FCD	No	Next yr?
San Bernardino FCD	No	Next yr?
San Diego Co DEH	Yes	2 yr

Making Regional Assessments is Difficult

- **Most NPDES programs are isolated**
- **Limited spatial extent hinders assessments**
 - Focused on areas of jurisdiction
- **Different procedures**
 - differing levels of experience
 - variable QA
 - cannot share data

Attempt To Build Regional Capacity

- **Stormwater Monitoring Coalition is a consortium of So Cal permittees and regulators**
- **Goal is to work together to address common research and monitoring needs**
- **Established a research agenda comprised of 15 projects**
 - **bioassessment is one of these**
 - **SWRCB and inland POTWs are important collaborators**

Building Regional Bioassessment Infrastructure

- **Training and QA**
 - method development
- **Assessment tool applicability**
- **Regional monitoring workplan**

Training and QA

- **Educate stormwater managers**
 - create a So Cal Standard Operating Procedure
- **Develop Standardized Data Transfer Formats for sharing data**
 - NPDES electronic reporting
 - easy integration into EDAS and SWAMP databases
- **QA audits for field and lab activities**
 - infuse CAMLnet into So Cal
- **Method development for sampling estuaries**
 - compatibility with sediment quality objective development

Assessment Tool

Applicability to So Cal

- **Applicability of the SoCal IBI to large, low-gradient stream channels (Santa Clara, Santa Ana)**
- **Applicability of the SoCal IBI to non-perennial streams**
- **Applicability of the SoCal IBI to highly modified and cement-lined channels**
 - **Effluent dominated streams**
- **Explore fish and/or periphyton IBIs based on EMAP and CalEMAP data**

Regional Monitoring Workplan

- **Integrated and collaborative watershed monitoring**
 - cost effectiveness
 - potential for nested sampling designs
- **Enables ongoing large-scale assessments of watershed condition**
 - how does your site compare?
 - regional reference condition
- **Improves agency quality and comparability**
 - need to compile data sets

Project Status

- **Just beginning now**
- **Educating stormwater managers**
 - training workshops in San Diego and LA
- **Estuary method development to start soon**
 - regional workplan development to start next fall
- **Need to finish by Spring 2006**