

Section B9. Data Acquisition Requirements (Non-direct Measurements)

Water quality monitoring data from sources other than directly from the SWAMP-funded monitoring activities will not be entered into the official SWAMP Information Management System (SIMS) at this time, unless otherwise determined and approved by the SWAMP IMS Data Manager, the SWAMP QA Program, and the SWRCB SWAMP Program Manager. Future programmatic funding and staffing provisions may allow for the inclusion of these non-direct measurement data, but these limitations preclude their inclusion in the official SIMS at this time.

However, the use of data obtained from these sources (non-direct measurements) is highly encouraged in the SWAMP planning efforts to produce annual Work Plans, and for SWAMP data assessment/data interpretation activities, provided that these data were collected in projects which were supported by an approved QAPjP, or at a minimum utilized approved and documented standard methods. RWQCB SWAMP staff must use their professional discretion for the use of such data for these purposes. These data are usually obtained in electronic format and should be inspected in their raw form by automated data editing procedures, where possible, as well as by RWQCB SWAMP water quality staff before data reduction and interpretation is undertaken for the uses described, or other uses as applicable.

Data collected from citizen monitoring efforts throughout California likewise at this time must be deemed non-direct measurements, and not allowed for entry into the official SIMS. The exceptions to this are those data that are collected by citizen monitors in conjunction with official SWRCB and RWQCB Clean Water Team protocols which prescribe similar, equivalent, or more stringent criteria for QA/QC than provided for in this SWAMP QAMP. Many citizen monitoring programs in California are now being coordinated in conjunction with the SWRCB's Clean Water Team's guidance, and in those cases, pending approval of RWQCB SWAMP staff and SWRCB Clean Water Team staff, citizen monitoring data would likely be appropriate for entry into the official SIMS, as a QAPjP would have been followed with requirements similar to, equivalent to, or more stringent than, this QAMP. Those citizen monitoring data which may meet the requirements of the SWAMP SIMS for entry, however, must still be submitted by appropriate RWQCB or SWRCB Clean Water Team staff, in the format as specified by the SIMS.