

# AB 411: Coastal Beach Monitoring Program

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Environmental Scientist

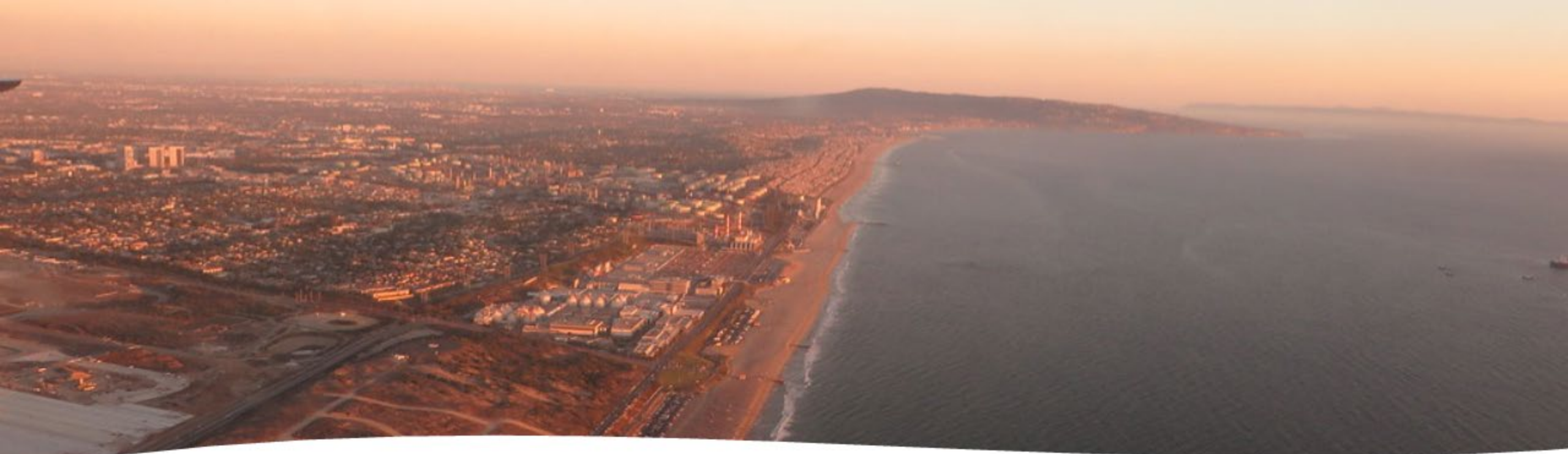
State Water Resources Control Board

September 14, 2022



## Background

The Coastal Beach Monitoring Program (Beach Program) was established in accordance with law passed by California Legislature in 1997 through Assembly Bill 411



## Background

At the state level was administered solely by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) until 2012, when:

- The State Water Board assumed the responsibility for directing monitoring, managing the statewide database, and providing funding to 16 local environmental agencies, and
- CDPH retained the responsibility for establishing and amending minimum standards for the sanitation of public beaches.

# Monitoring Requirements and Thresholds

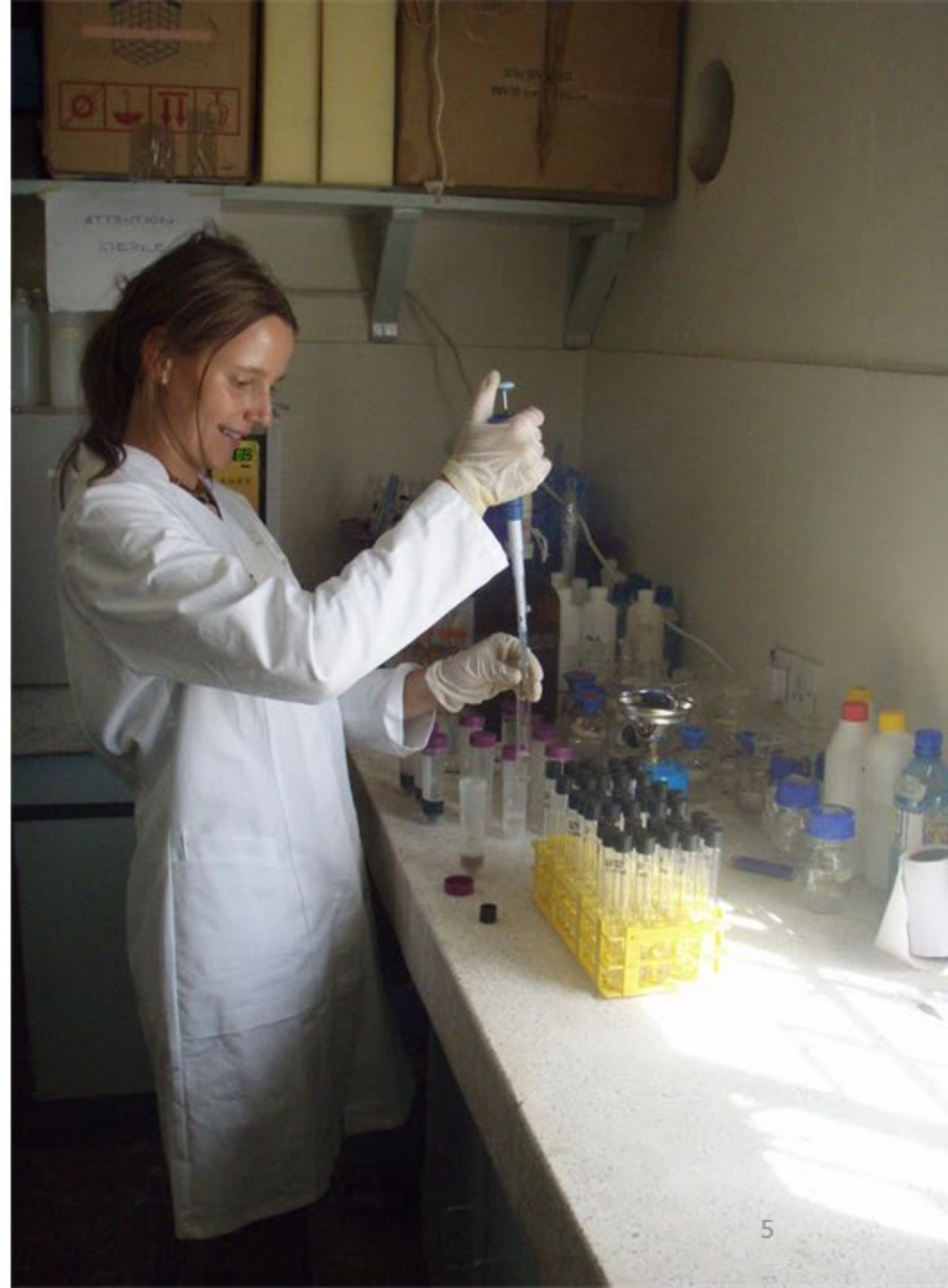
Local environmental health agencies monitor:

- Public beaches with more than:
  - 50,000 visitors a year and
  - located adjacent to a storm drain that flows during the summer
- Weekly from April 1st to October 31st



# Monitoring Requirements and Thresholds

- Minimum Protective Bacteriological Standards established by CDPH
- Both single sample and logarithmic-mean thresholds for
  - Total coliform
  - Fecal coliform
  - Enterococcus



# Monitoring Requirements and Thresholds

Local Environmental Health Agencies conduct monitoring and determine whether to post, close, or otherwise restrict a beach when the standards are not met.

**WARNING**  
WATER CONTACT NEAR  
FLOWING STORM DRAINS  
MAY CAUSE ILLNESS



**AVISO**  
CONTACTO CON EL AGUA  
CERCA DE LOS DRENAJES  
PUEDE CAUSAR ENFERMEDADES

 For more information concerning beach water quality  
contact the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  
1-800 525-5662 <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/beach>

**WARNING**  
BACTERIA LEVELS EXCEED STATE STANDARDS  
CONTACT WITH OCEAN WATER MAY CAUSE ILLNESS  
**SWIMMING IS NOT ADVISED**



**AVISO**  
EL AGUA DEL MAR CONTIENE NIVELES ALTOS  
DE BACTERIA QUE EXCEDEN NIVELES  
ESTATALES. EL CONTACTO CON ESTÁ AGUA  
PODRIA CAUSAR ENFERMEDADES  
**NO SE ACONSEJA NADAR**

 For more information concerning beach water quality  
contact the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  
1-800 525-5662 <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/beach>

**BEACH CLOSED  
FOR SWIMMING**  
CONTAMINATED WATER  
CONTACT WITH OCEAN WATER MAY CAUSE ILLNESS



**PLAYA CERRADA  
PROHIBIDO NADAR**  
AGUA CONTAMINADA  
PUEDE CAUSAR ENFERMEDADES

 For more information concerning beach water quality  
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# CHECK IN BEFORE YOU GET IN

  
FREQUENTLY  
ASKED QUESTIONS

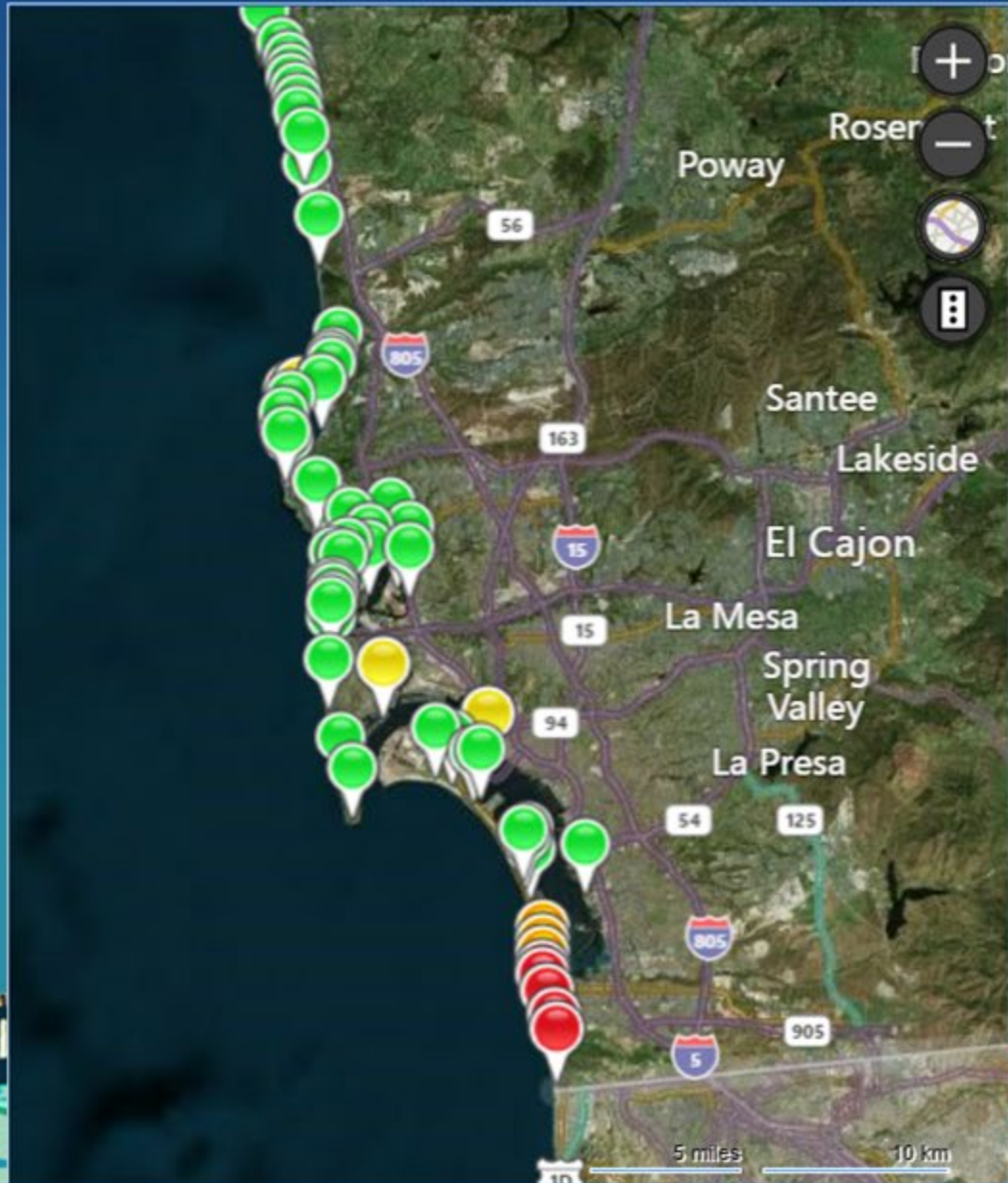
  
ADVISORIES

  
WARNING

  
CLOSURES

For more information on the Beach and Bay Program, please click [here](#).

Last Updated: 2022-Sep-07 12:53 PM



**HOTLINE: 619-338-2073**



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<http://www.sdbeachinfo.com/>

# Beach Program Data

## BeachWatch Database

- Local agencies upload data
- Data becomes available on Water Boards website



## Monitoring Data Search

\* indicates required field.

\* County  
Name:

Station  
Name:

Parameter:

Qualifier:

Analysis  
Method:

Result  
Entered:

\* Year:

Sort  
Results  
By:

Sort  
Result  
Order:

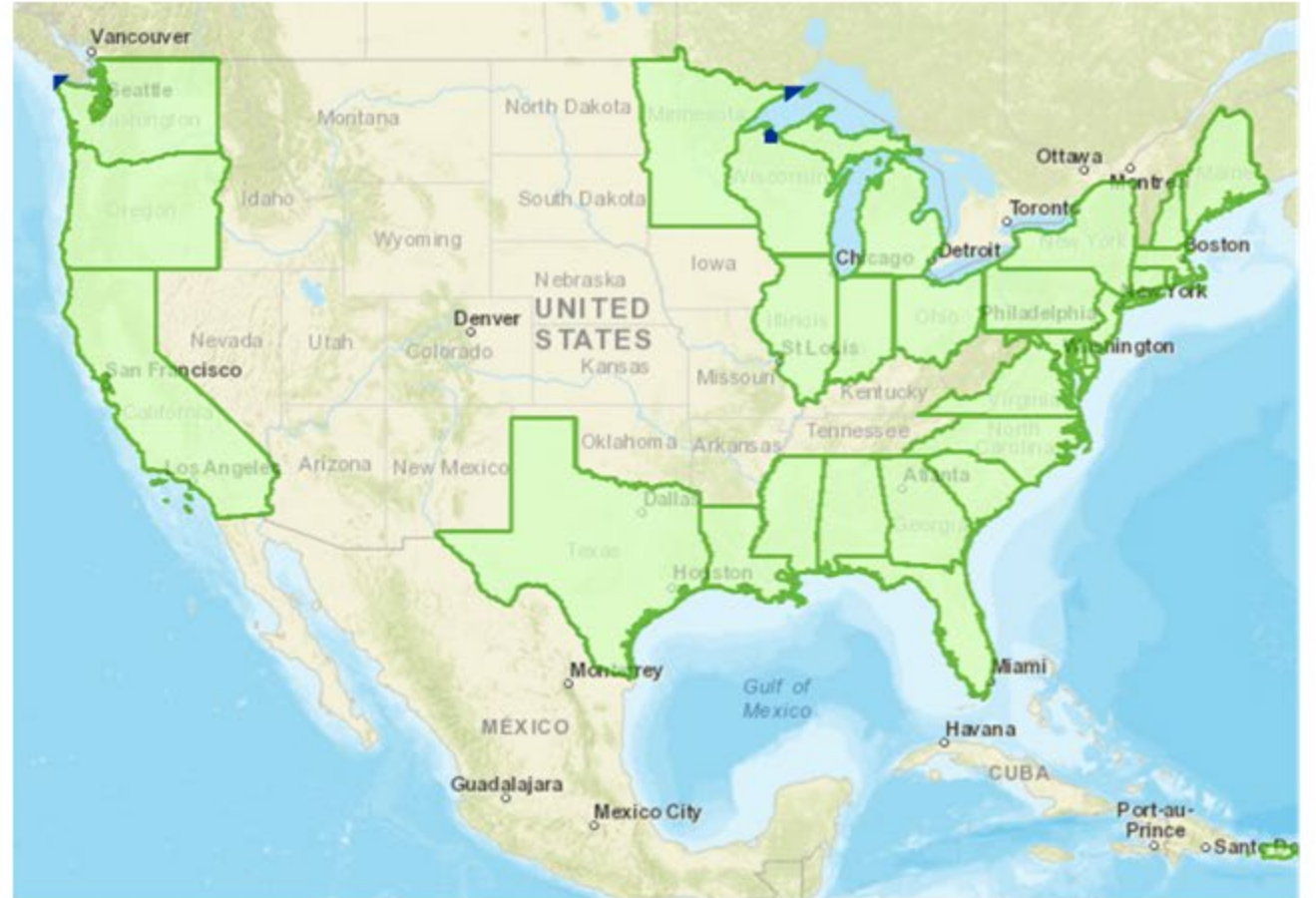


# Beach Program Data

## U.S. Environmental Protection Agency BEACON 2.0

- Displays data from coastal states and territories

<https://watersgeo.epa.gov/beacon2/Beacon.html>

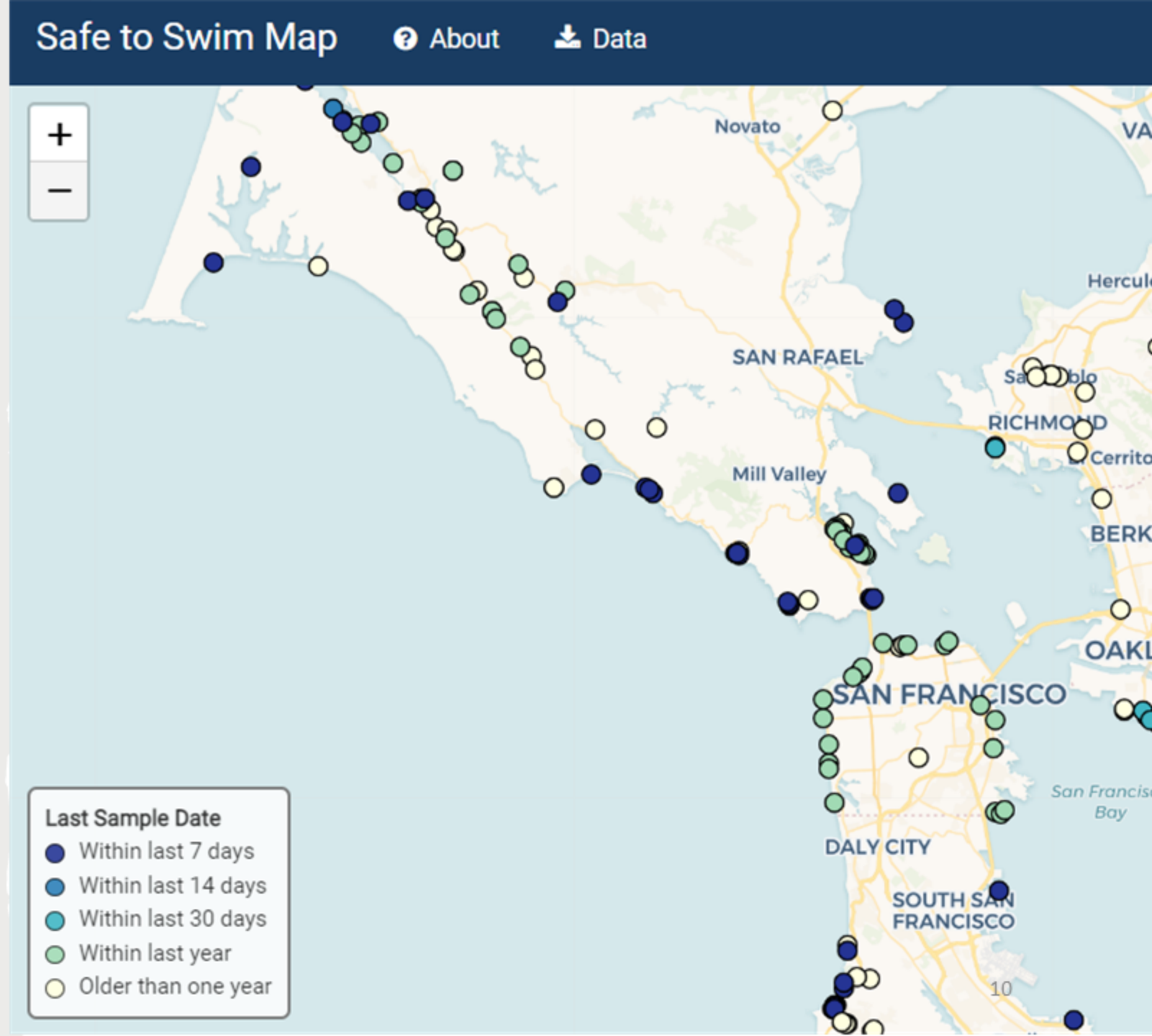


# Beach Program Data

## Safe to Swim

- Incorporates bacteria data from multiple sources
  - BeachWatch
  - California Environmental Data Exchange Network
  - Central Valley E. coli Monitoring Results map

[https://mywaterquality.ca.gov/safe\\_to\\_swim/](https://mywaterquality.ca.gov/safe_to_swim/)

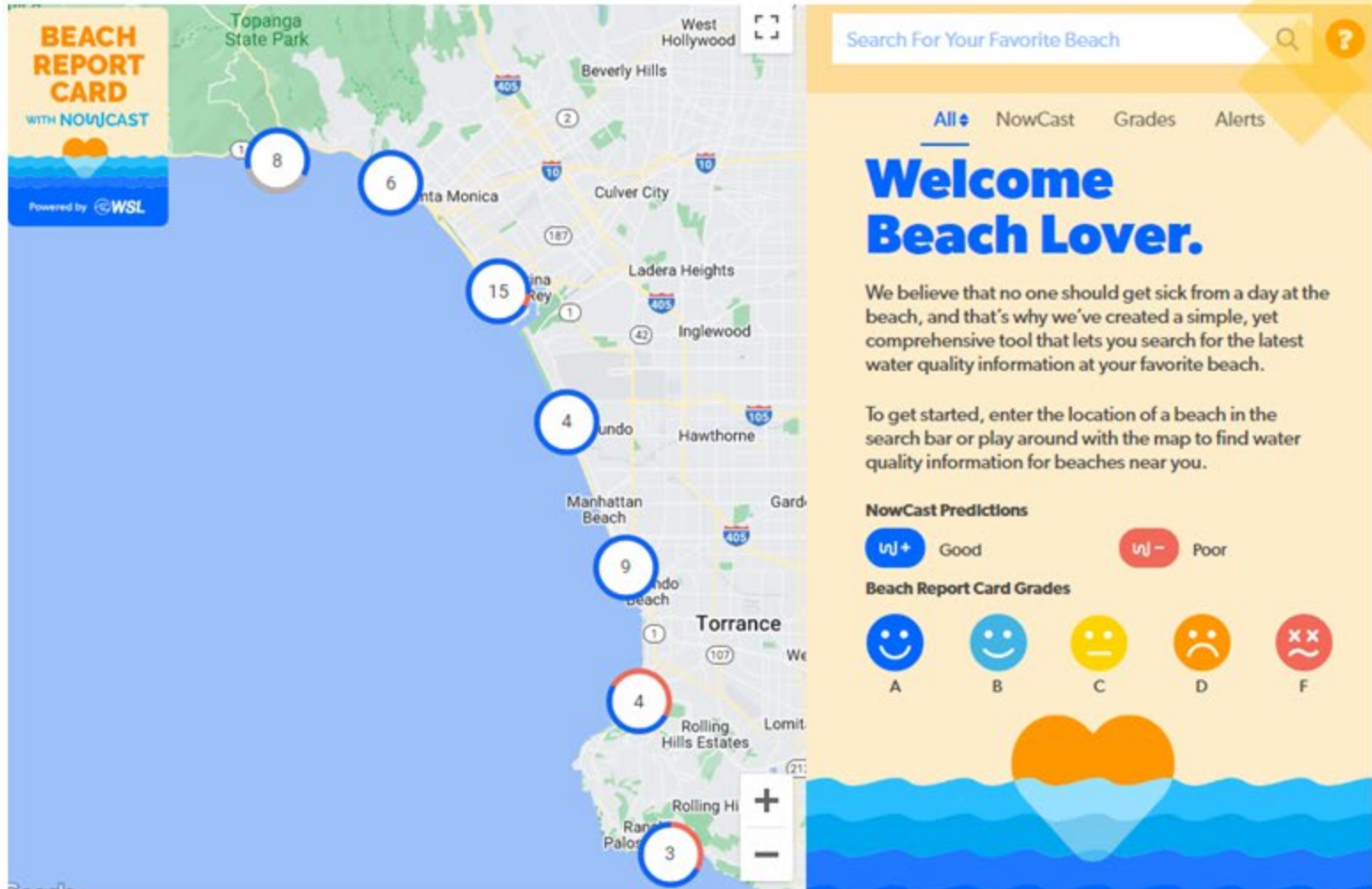


# Beach Program Data

## Heal the Bay

- Annual Beach Report Card
- NowCast predictive modeling tool

<https://beachreportcard.org/>



# Beach Program Considerations

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- Beach Program Standards and Ocean Plan water quality objectives are different, requires statutory change
- Challenges finding laboratories
- Delayed test results
- Funding needs
- Quality assurance process
- Freshwater monitoring program (AB 1066)

# Thank you!

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