



SWAMP's Region 9 Monitoring Plans

2011-12

**Amendment for:
SWAMP's Region 9 Monitoring Plans from
FY 2009/10 and 2010/2011
(Improvement of Monitoring Coordination)**

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This document is an amendment to the following monitoring plans that were previously prepared for SWAMP in the San Diego region:

- Improving Coordination of Watershed Monitoring in the San Diego River Watershed, Fiscal Year 2009/10
- Improving Coordination of Monitoring of Coastal Wetlands in the San Diego Region, Fiscal Year 2010/11

Funding from FY 2011/12 from the R9 SWAMP will support a similar monitoring coordination project in the San Diego region; therefore an amendment to the current monitoring plan is submitted to SWAMP. The two previous monitoring plans on monitoring coordination were peer-reviewed and approved, and after discussion with SWAMP State Board a peer-review of an additional monitoring coordination program in the San Diego region is not needed.

Objectives:

The objectives of the SWAMP funded projects for monitoring is to improve the current monitoring in the San Diego region through a collaborative approach. Such coordination is designed to improve assessment of the health of watersheds and waterbodies in the San Diego region.

Background:

Currently, several regulatory and non-regulatory programs conduct monitoring in the San Diego Region, but these monitoring programs are not conducted in a coordinated, integrated manner. With tightening budgets, increasing anthropogenic influences, and continuing threats to beneficial uses, the goal of the proposed projects are to move towards a collaborative approach by coordinating with the major stakeholders, as well as among different San Diego Water Board programs. The San Diego Water Board is currently working on a region-wide monitoring strategy that will implement the shift from discharger-oriented monitoring and assessment towards water body-oriented and beneficial use-oriented monitoring and assessment (Busse & Posthumus, in preparation).

Past and Current Projects:

The San Diego Water Board with help of R9 SWAMP funds started a monitoring coordination project in the San Diego River watershed in 2010. Staff of the San Diego Water Board with the help of Dr. Brock Bernstein formed a multidisciplinary stakeholder group with the specific intent of improving the coordination of existing monitoring efforts, identifying and filling key data gaps, and developing an overall watershed assessment in the San Diego River watershed. This effort is intended as a prototype for analogous coordination and

assessments in other watersheds in the region. The report for this project is currently being finalized.

In summer of 2010, the San Diego Water Board started a similar project with the intent of improving the monitoring and assessment in San Diego coastal wetlands through a collaborative approach. The outline of this project was presented to the workgroup of Integrated Wetlands Regional Assessment Program (IRWAP). A preliminary list of stakeholders is developed, and the first of a series of meetings will be held in January 2012. The goal of the project is to develop a basic monitoring program for the coastal wetlands in the San Diego region, with additional monitoring modules being linked to this monitoring program depending on the needs of each stakeholder.

Future Plans:

So far, the monitoring coordination projects were very highly successful; therefore FY 2011/12 R9 SWAMP funding will support the monitoring coordination in the San Diego region with \$60,000. These funds will be used to support the follow-up of the two monitoring coordination projects as well as a new project in the San Diego region.

It is necessary to follow on the progress of the two projects that were already funded under SWAMP to ensure the full implementation of coordinated monitoring projects in the San Diego River watershed and in coastal wetlands.

The funding will also support a third monitoring coordination project in the San Diego region. The specific plan for that project will depend on the outcome of the two previous monitoring coordination projects, as well as on the final design of the regional monitoring strategy in the San Diego region. There are several options: (1) coordination of Reference site program in the San Diego region, (2) coordination of ocean monitoring in the San Diego region, or (3) coordination of region-wide monitoring coordination for all watersheds in the San Diego region. The San Diego Water Board will notify the SWAMP contact at State Water Board once the plan for the third monitoring project is finalized.

Schedule:

The schedule for the proposed project is as follows:

	09/ 12	10/ 12	11/ 12	12/ 12	01/ 13	02/ 13	03/ 13	04/ 13	05/ 13	06/ 13	07/ 13	08/ 13	09/ 13	10/ 13	11/ 13	12/ 13	01/ 14	02/ 14
Convene meeting, submission of material																		
Regular meetings, submission of material																		
Collection programs, submission table																		
Review programs, submission of tech. memo																		
Project plan, submission of memo																		
Convene meeting submission material, and memo																		