

Greater LA County MS4 Permit - Monitoring Program Requirements

Staff-level Workshop

March 1, 2012

3/1/2012

LA Co. MS4 Permit - Staff-level Workshop

Overarching Monitoring Program Objectives

- Assess the chemical, physical and biological impacts of MS4 discharges on receiving waters
- Determine compliance with WQBELs and RAP
 - Direct comparison to WQBELs
 - Validate BMP performance / outcome expectations for “Reasonable Assurance Program”
- Help target implementation actions

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Elements of the Monitoring Program

- TMDL Compliance Monitoring Programs
- MS4 outfall monitoring of stormwater discharges
- MS4 outfall monitoring of non-stormwater discharges
- Regional Monitoring Programs

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Specific Objectives

- **TMDL Compliance Monitoring Programs**
 - Assess whether the applicable interim and final WQBELs and RWLs are being achieved
- **Stormwater Outfall-Based Monitoring Program**
 - Characterize the quality of stormwater discharges and their impact on receiving waters
 - Measure the effectiveness of Permittees' Stormwater Management Program (i.e. MCMs/RAP)
- **Non-Stormwater Outfall-Based Monitoring Program**
 - Identify outfalls with significant non-stormwater discharges
 - Characterize the quality of non-stormwater discharges to determine whether these non-stormwater discharges are a source of pollutants
- **Regional Monitoring Programs**
 - Assess whether receiving waters are fully supporting beneficial uses
 - Identify pollutants that are causing or contributing to an exceedance of water quality standards

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Need for MS4 Outfall Monitoring

- Identified by EPA in federal regulations
- Provides data to determine impact of MS4 discharges on receiving water
- Provides data to evaluate whether authorized non-stormwater discharges are a source of pollutants
- Provides data to determine effectiveness of stormwater management programs and illicit discharge detection and elimination programs

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Integration of TMDL and Outfall Monitoring Requirements

Machado Toxics TMDL Monitoring Program

- Three wet weather events each year, including first large storm
- Appropriate locations in the subwatershed

Proposed Outfall Monitoring Program

- Three storms per year, including the first storm of the season
- At least one outfall within each subwatershed

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Comparison of Monitoring Requirements

Existing LA County MS4 Permit

- Mass Emissions
- Tributary
- Shoreline
- Trash Monitoring
- Bioassessment
- BMP Effectiveness
- Peak Discharge Impact Study

Proposed Requirements

- Receiving water
- TMDL/outfall monitoring
- Shoreline (TMDL driven)
- Trash (TMDL driven)
- Bioassessment
- LID Effectiveness Study
- Hydromodification Study
- Pyrethroids Special Study

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Development of Monitoring Program Framework for Permit

- Outfall monitoring
 - Program objectives
 - Outfall / site selection criteria or screening process
 - Minimum frequency
 - Process for adaptive monitoring
- TMDL monitoring requirements
- Regional monitoring requirements/special studies

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Timing of New Monitoring Requirements

- Within first year
 - Update inventories of MS4 outfalls
 - Develop integrated monitoring plans
 - Continue TMDL monitoring
 - Continue mass emission monitoring and other on-going regional monitoring programs
 - Begin screening of outfalls for non-stormwater discharges

