



## FOCUSING ON COORDINATION: MORE SWAMP PARTNERS ENHANCE MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT IN THE SAN DIEGO REGION

### What is it?

The Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) engages in internal and external coordination with partner programs and other organizations in order to leverage resources and coordinate monitoring and assessment on a statewide and regional basis. Coordination among these groups is necessary to ensure that the development and implementation of monitoring and assessment programs are informed by a broad range of experience, expertise, and perspectives. Coordination also helps build support and buy-in for the monitoring and assessment programs that are ultimately developed and implemented.

In 2012, the San Diego Region SWAMP program coordinated with several new partners, including the US Forest Service; San Diego State University; San Diego River Park Foundation; US Geological Survey (Multi-Species Conservation Program); Department of Fish and Wildlife, San Diego office; Stormwater co-permittees; and water districts. In addition, it coordinated with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (Warren Kimball) and the US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1 (Hillary Snook) to develop report cards for watersheds in the San Diego region. It also worked internally with the Basin Planning unit at the San Diego Water Board for a collaborative project on non-perennial streams.

The SWAMP program and the San Diego Water Board continued to maintain and enhance its coordination with previous SWAMP partners, including the Southern California Coastal Water

Research Project (SCCWRP); Department of Fish and Wildlife, Rancho Cordova office; Stormwater Monitoring Coalition (SMC); and Bight Regional Monitoring project partners.

### **Why is it important?**

It is critical to coordinate activities with other programs and agencies in order to build a cost-effective program for monitoring and assessing water bodies in the San Diego Region. The newly adopted Monitoring and Assessment Framework for the San Diego Region outlines the need for coordination and provides a 10-step collaborative process for developing monitoring and assessment programs. In times of limited resources, coordination among water quality agencies and stakeholders is essential to produce information that is needed to protect and restore California's water resources.

### **How will this information be used?**

The monitoring data produced by these coordination projects will be available through the California Environmental Data Exchange Network ([CEDEN](#)). Technical reports and fact sheets will be available on the websites of the San Diego Water Board and the program partners. The San Diego Water Board and all program partners are able to access and use this information to better manage the San Diego Region's water resources.

For more information, contact Lilian Busse at [LBusse@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:LBusse@waterboards.ca.gov) or (858) 736-7332, or visit the [San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board](#) website.