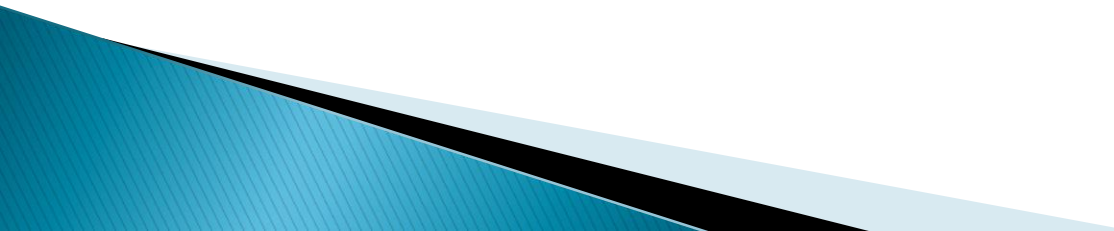


Christine Sotelo, Chief
Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program

Program Overview



Overview

- ▶ Size and scope
 - ▶ Implementing Program Responsibilities
 - ▶ Certification/Application process
 - ▶ Monitor/Enforce
 - ▶ Recommendations for CA ELAP Future/Direction
- 

Size and Scope

CA ELAP Certifications
TNI/NELAP

~700
47

Type of Certification

of Labs

Aquatic Bioassay

78

Asbestos

13

Drinking Water

388

Food Pesticide Residue

11

Radiochemistry

39

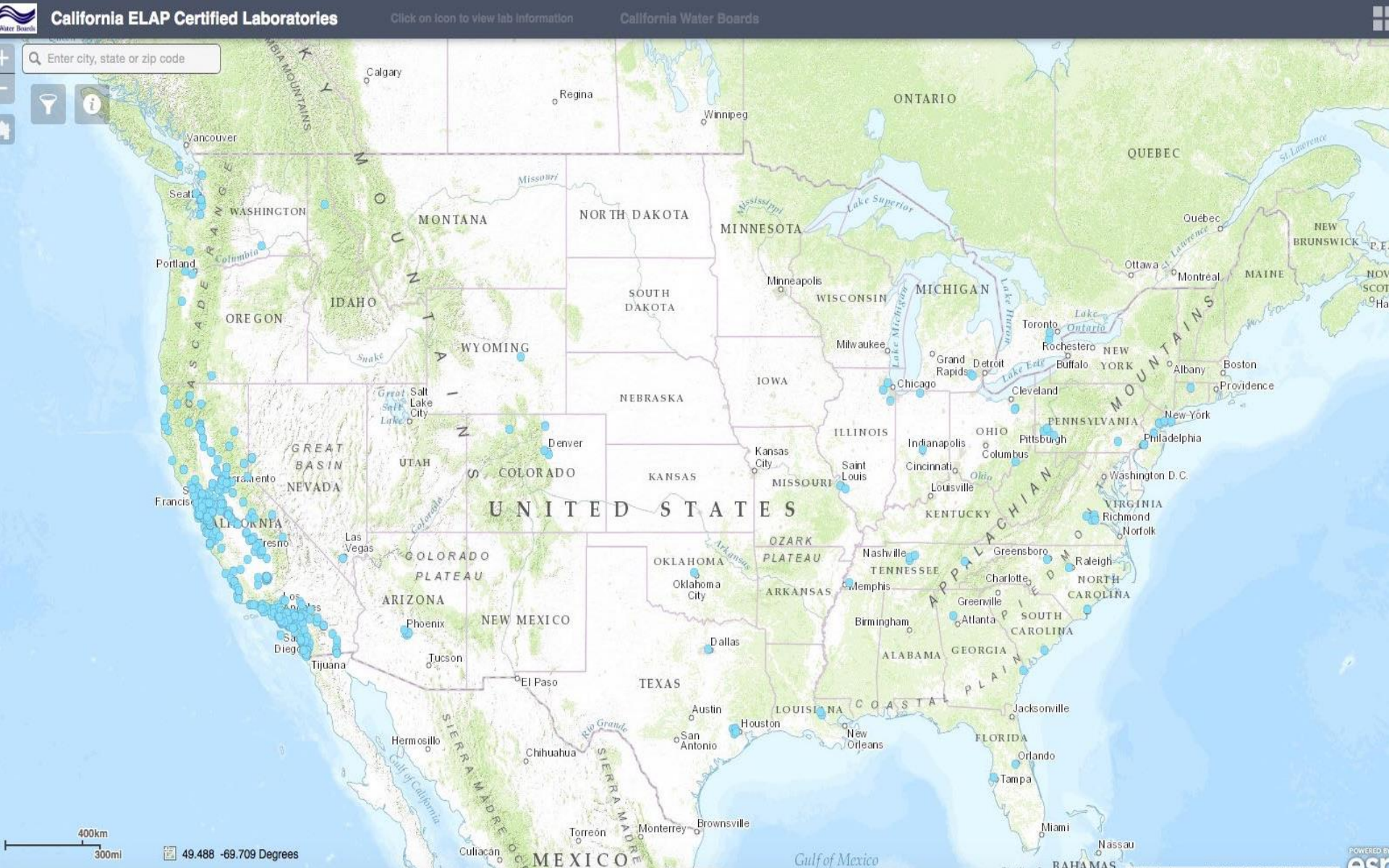
Shellfish Sanitation

5

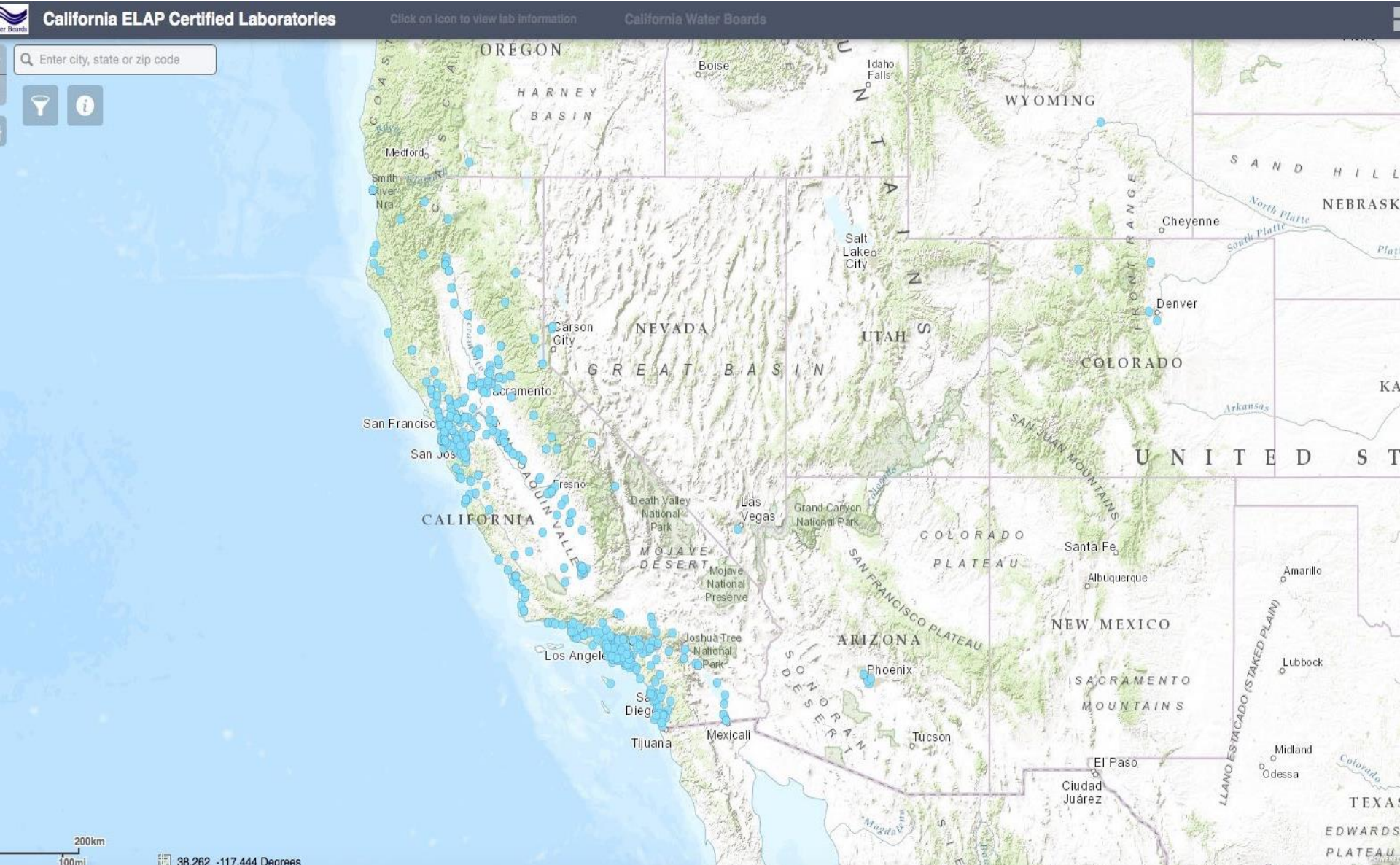
Waste Water

282

Size and Scope of CA ELAP



Size and Scope of CA ELAP



Size and Scope – Fiscal Condition

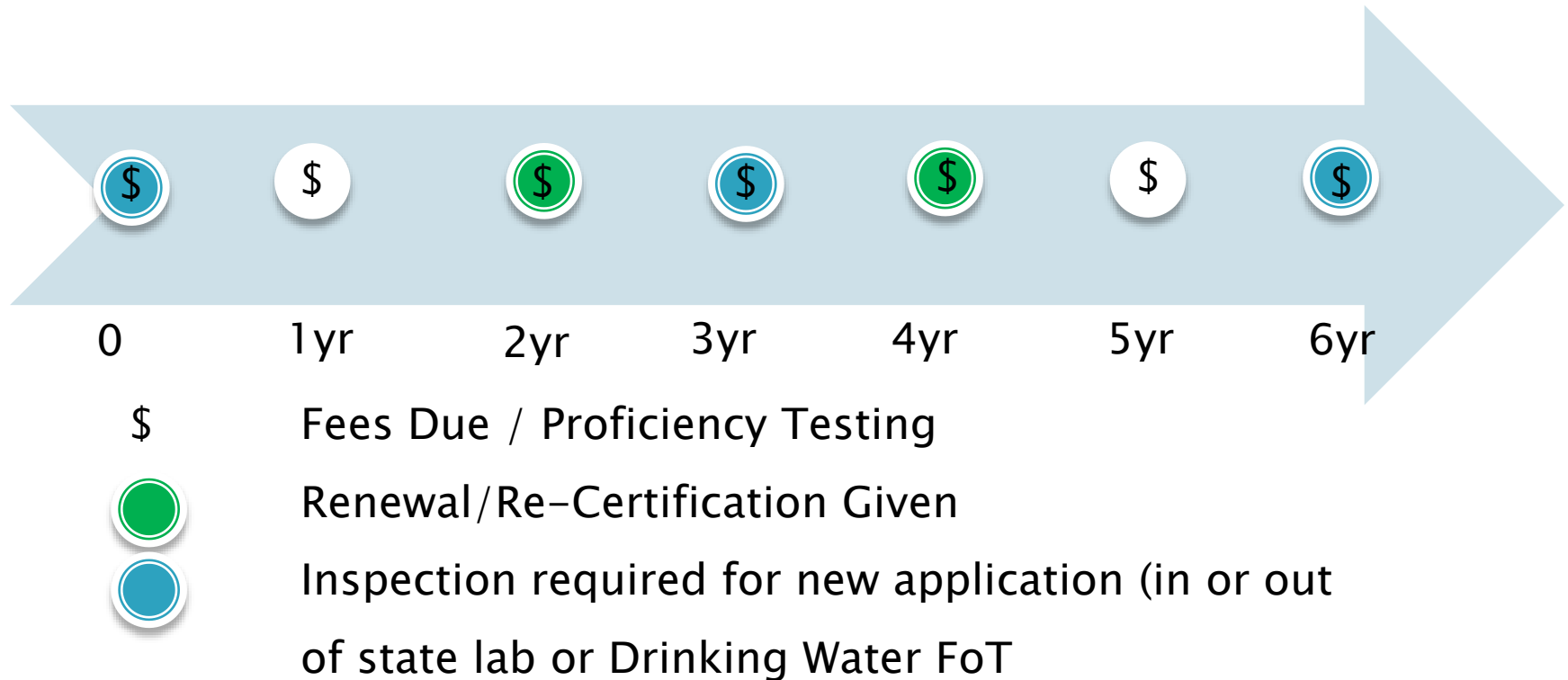
- ▶ Fee based program
 - Laboratory Accreditation Fund
- ▶ 3.3 Million Budget
 - Revenue 2.2 Million
 - Deficit of 1.5 Million
- ▶ Water Board Fee Branch lead effort to restructure fees
- ▶ Currently Fees are as follows:
 $\$1003 \text{ Base fee} + \# \text{ of FoTs} \times \$452 = \text{Total Fee}$

Certifying Laboratories

Application Processes

- ▶ **New Application**
 - Require inspection
- ▶ **Renewal Application**
 - Submit every 2 years
 - Waive inspection if not a threat to public health
- ▶ **Amendment Application**
 - Adding FoT or method
 - Requires inspection
- ▶ **Out-of-State Application**
 - Require inspection (new)
 - Existing certification – based on status of other out-of-state certifications

Certification/Inspection/Fees Timeline



Inspections conducted – any year if adding new FoT/method

Backlog Process

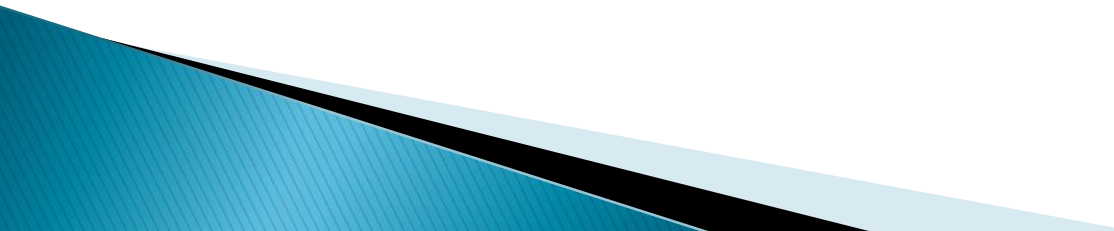
- ▶ Priorities based on:
 - Labs that test for drinking water (FOT 101–105)
 - How long inspection has needed to be done
- ▶ Some laboratories backlogged since 2008

Monitor and Enforce

Monitor

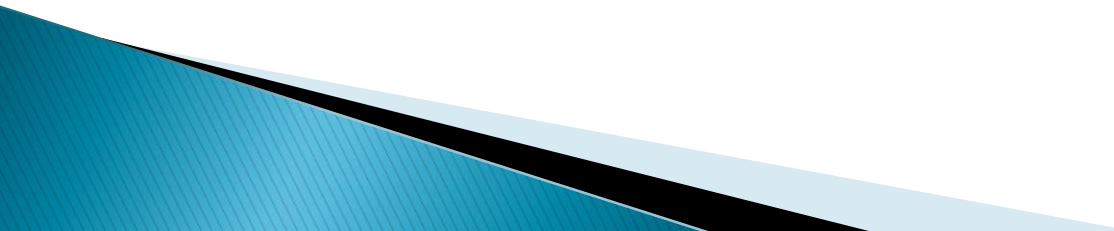
- ▶ Review PTs annually
- ▶ Comprehensive review of all Applications (QA Manual)

Enforce

- ▶ Exercise enforcement tools in regulations
 - ▶ Unannounced inspections
 - ▶ Utilize Office of Enforcement expertise
- 

CA ELAP Future / Direction

What we have changed

- ▶ Leadership
 - ▶ Address critical personnel issues
 - ▶ Developing a complaints system
 - ▶ Actively using enforcement tools
 - ▶ Efficient Certification/Inspection/process
 - ▶ Electronic submittal of documents
 - ▶ Streamline business processes
- 

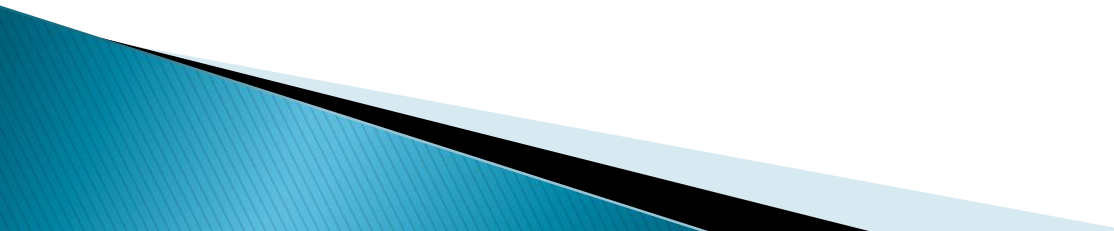
CA ELAP Future / Direction

What we're in the process of changing

- ▶ Draft Regulations
- ▶ Setting Appropriate Fees

CA ELAP Future/Direction

What we have yet to address

- ▶ Expert Panel Report
 - ▶ Cross training all staff
 - ▶ Succession planning/transition of knowledge
 - ▶ Consistent Quality Systems
- 

Questions?

