

Vision for the Future

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We are thinking about making changes with two goals in mind

- Getting up to adequacy
 - All tasks completed
 - Fully implemented program
 - This gets us to adequate
- But we don't want to be just adequate
 - We are already starting to think about the things we can do once we reach adequacy

Our three top priorities for reaching adequacy

- Quality management system
- Laboratory accreditation standard
- Resources

Quality Management System

- Complete our remaining SOPs
 - We still have peripheral ones to complete
 - Some of our existing SOPs are already in need of revision
- Train our staff
- Continuously improve
 - Collect metrics and audit ourselves

Laboratory Accreditation Standard

- We need to turn our preliminary modifications list into a finalized one
 - We would like to do so before your report out to the Water Board in May
- Go through a formal rulemaking process to change our regulations
- Provide training and implementation tools once adopted
 - Consistent and persistent outreach to our laboratory community

Resources

- Take action to reduce our assessment backlog
 - Procure a PT Database
 - Execute our Training Contract
 - Address our qualified staff deficiency
- We need to bring our program up to fully-fee funded
 - And we want to work with the community to revise the structure

Moving Beyond Adequacy

- Respond to the Agency Partner's request for enhanced performance evaluation
- Expand list of accredited methods
 - Agency Partners have identified a number of newer analyses they would like to see accredited
- Reconsider returning to TNI

Enhanced Performance Evaluation

- Agency Partners identified PT process don't represent real world conditions
 - They are the bare minimum
- Agency Partners get more information out of intercalibration exercises that are done by other organizations
 - They asked us to become more active in leading that kind of study
- We want to respond to this client request
- We see a number of cost-effective opportunities to do this

Accredit for New Methods

- Agency Partners have identified a number of measurements they want accredited
 - For example, contaminants of emerging concern
- Agency Partners also identified a number of new methods that they anticipate requiring
 - QPCR for Beach Monitoring
 - Cell line assays for emerging contaminants
- California is ahead of the nation in requiring any of these methods
 - Also we are fortunate to have many method developers in CA
- We see this as important for moving from worst to first
 - But we have to get the basics right first

TNI

- The Water Board and Executive Management are interested in exploring a return to TNI
 - Your preliminary report also recommends considering it after resolving our pressing issues
- We'll be discussing whether it would be beneficial for California
- This is at least five years away



Questions