

Southern California
Stormwater Monitoring
Coalition:
Five-Year Research Agenda





The SMC Exists to Support Stormwater Management

Created in 2001 by two SCCWRP member agencies

Has grown to 16 member agencies

 Mission is to conduct the collaborative research to enhance stormwater management



SMC Members

Dischargers

- County of Orange
- Los Angeles County Flood Control District
- County of San Diego
- Riverside County Flood Control and Water
 Conservation District
- San Bernardino County Flood Control District
- Ventura County Watershed Protection District
- City of Long Beach
- City of Los Angeles
- City of San Diego
- California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS)

Regulators

- Regional Water Quality Control Board Los Angeles Region
- Regional Water Quality Control Board -Santa Ana Region
- Regional Water Quality Control Board San Diego Region
- State Water Resources Control Board
- US Environmental Protection Agency

Others

SCCWRP



Have an Effectively Unique Structure

- Master Agreement formalizes the Coalition
 - Allows for simplified annual project contracting
- All project funding is voluntary
 - Better have a project that people want

Not all projects are equal-share funded

What Kinds of Projects?

■ 34 projects over 18 years

- ■\$18+ Million
 - About 2/3 are non-SMC project funds
- Virtually every project effects management outcomes

History of Success Collaboration affects change

Example SMC Project Management Outcome Hydromodification criteria in permits and watershed plans

Bacterial reference watershed	Holpod croate TMADI taracts
study	Helped create TMDL targets

Microbial source tracking method	Methods adopted into State
comparison	Microbial Source Tracking Manual

Model MS4 monitoring program	Written into NPDES permit monitoring requirements
	monitoring requirements



The Importance of the Research Agenda

- The Research Agenda is the road map of future SMC projects
- Revised every five years with the renewed Master Agreement
- Utilize a Panel of outside Experts
 - Multiple disciplines
 - National recognition



Experts for this Agenda

November 20-22, 2019

Karen Ashby

Larry Walker & Assoc.

Monitoring Specialist

Drew Kleis

City of San Diego
Regulated
Community

Allen Davis

Univ. of Maryland
Civil/Enviro.
Engineer

Jody Harwood

Univ. of South Florida

Microbiology/
Public Health



David Senn

SFEI
Water Quality
Chemist

Greg Gearheart

State WRCB
Information
Specialist

Shelley Luce

Heal the Bay
Environmental
Advocacy

Teri Hogue

Colorado School of Mines **Modeling**

Pete Ode

CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife

Ecology/Biology



Can the Two Different Processes Achieve the Same Outcomes?

SMC

- Outside experts
- SMC Steering Committee review and prioritization
- Five year vision
- Revised every 5 years
- Three-day sequestered
 Workshop for all thematic areas

SCCWRP

- Internal staff
- CTAG review and prioritization
- 5 10 year vision
- Revised every 3 years
- One full day per thematic area



The Newest SMC Research Agenda

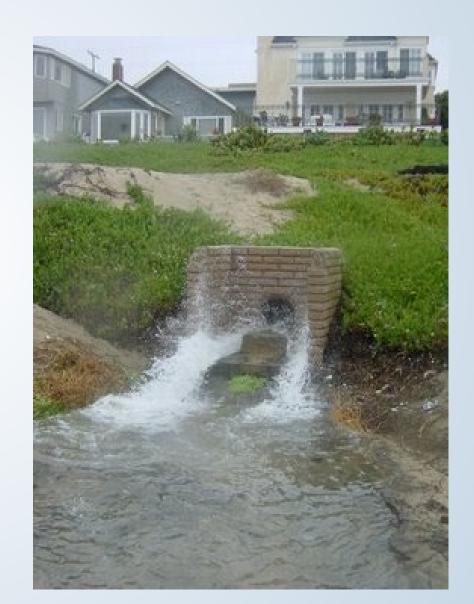
- Started with 64 project concepts
- Whittled and refined to 26 project concepts

- Grouped into 6 thematic areas
- The SMC has prioritized six projects for selection in FY 2020-21



Major Project Categories

- 1. Microbiology & Human Health Risk
- 2. BMP Monitoring, Implementation & Effectiveness
- Innovative Technology & Science Communication
- 4. Expanding the Utility of Biomonitoring
- Improving Stormwater Monitoring Effectiveness
- 6. Emerging Challenges





- Quantifying Human Fecal Sources in Wet Weather
- Linking Indicators of Fecal Contamination to Human Health Risk
- Development of a Regional BMP Monitoring Network
- Development of a Research Work Plan for assessing the Effectiveness of Non-Structural Stormwater BMPs
- Streamline Data Collection for Stormwater Annual Reporting and Prototype Interfaces for Program Effectiveness Information
- Streamline Annual Reporting



SMC and SCCWRP Research Agendas Are Well-Aligned

- 23 of 26 projects are the same/similar projects
 - The 3 "missing" projects are not "research" focused
- Stormwater management needs are greater than just So Cal
 - Working together helps build consensus
- The alignment of the two strategies is not accidental
 - Demonstrates SCCWRP focuses its research on management needs



Where The SMC Goes Next

Approving their Research Agenda next week

Final project(s) selection for next Fiscal Year

SCCWRP will likely lead the research-focused projects