# Stormwater Toxicity Implementation Guidance

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#### **WET Tests**

- Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) tests are used to measure aggregate effects of contaminants in water samples
  - Municipal wastewater
  - Receiving waters
  - Stormwater
  - Other point/nonpoint sources
- Widely used in monitoring and NPDES programs
  - EPA standard methods
  - Multiple freshwater and marine test species
  - Acute and short-term chronic endpoints
- Methods for testing and data interpretation continue to evolve

#### SIP

- SWRCB specifies methods for wet testing
  - Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (SIP)
  - Specifications for testing, data interpretation, and subsequent actions
  - Currently under revision
- SIP revisions underway to address evolution of WET use and interpretation
  - Stormwater monitoring
  - Data evaluation
- SCCWRP project goal is to provide technical assistance for SIP revisions

## **Project Objectives**

- Develop technical support for stormwater monitoring
  - Study design
  - Sampling and testing methods
- Locate data for west coast WET species
  - Calibrate new statistical method
- Technical support for implementation
  - Document review and response to comments
  - Training

# Stormwater Toxicity Testing Committee

- Northern and Southern California representation in key technical/management roles
  - Stormwater manager
  - Technical Liason
  - Regional Water Quality Control Board
  - Independent Technical Resource
  - EPA & SWRCB
- Meetings to develop consensus recommendations for inclusion in EPA's toxicity training tool
  - Expect completion in 2010

## **Toxicity Data**

- Test of Significant Toxicity
  - New EPA-developed method for evaluating compliance with toxicity limits
  - Intended to reduce drawbacks of current statistical methods (NOEC)
    - Little control over sensitivity of statistical method
    - Disincentive to improve toxicity test precision
- New method establishes a toxicity threshold and statistical error rates
  - Requires test-specific data to establish error rates
  - Data is limited for some test species

## Technical Support

#### Document review

- Technical review of SIP-related documents prepared for public review
- Support for response to comments

#### Training

- Assist with workshops to train agencies in use of revised methods and guidance
- Expected to occur in 2011

#### Schedule

- Work on project is in early stages
- First stormwater committee meeting in June
- Data search underway
- Draft SIP still in preparation