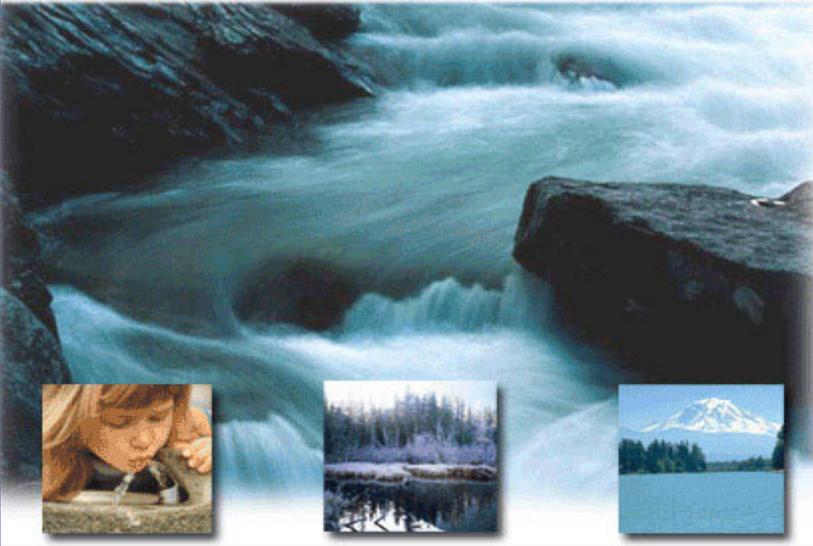


# Water Boards



Strategic Planning Workshop  
February 6, 2008

**Environmental Priorities**

**Planning Priorities**

**Organizational**

**Performance Priorities**

# Protect and Restore Surface Waters

Protect Groundwater

Promote Sustainable  
Water Supplies

**2006 CALIFORNIA 303(d) LIST \*  
OF  
WATER QUALITY LIMITED SEGMENTS**



\* Includes waters requiring TMDLs,  
and those being addressed by  
completed TMDLs  
or actions other than a TMDL.



-  Regional Board Boundaries
-  2006 303(d) listed bays, estuaries, lakes, and wetlands
-  2006 303(d) listed rivers and shorelines
-  Non-303(d) listed California rivers and shorelines
-  Non-303(d) listed California lakes

Data Source: 2006 California 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments  
Map created November 2007, Division of Water Quality, SWRCB

2,237 listings  
affecting 779  
water bodies;  
\$75.5 million  
spent to  
develop 134  
TMDL projects

## Goal:

Decrease the number of impaired water bodies in priority watersheds by 10 percent by 2015, working toward the target of all of these water bodies fully supporting beneficial uses by 2030, focusing resources on TMDL adoption and implementation.



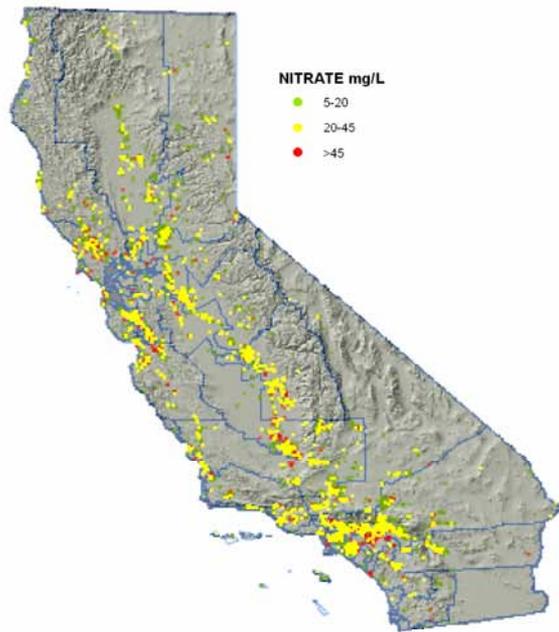
# Objectives

- Develop statewide TMDL implementation strategies for priority watersheds
- Implement alternative regional or statewide strategies
- Manage urban runoff volume and reduce pollutant loadings
- Where appropriate, ensure adequate flows for fish and wildlife habitat protection
- Prioritize and focus enforcement actions
- Create Low-Impact Development Center

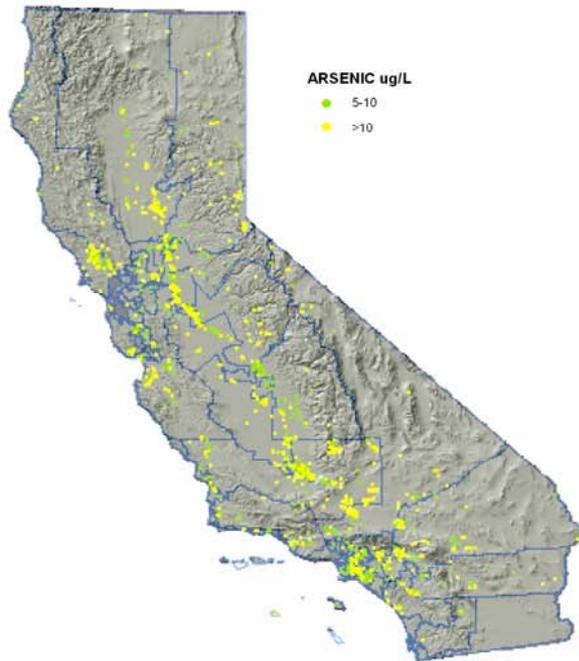
Protect and Restore  
Surface Waters

**Protect Groundwater**

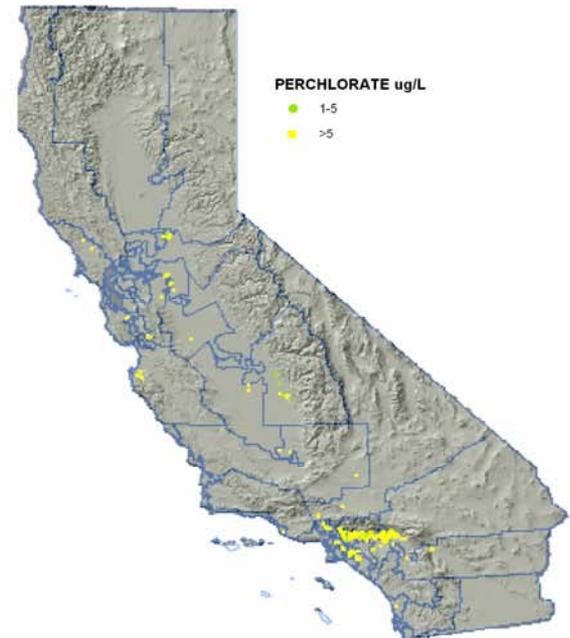
Promote Sustainable  
Water Supplies



Number of wells impacted by nitrate 9502  
 % of wells impacted by nitrate 42%



Number of wells impacted by arsenic 4585  
 % of wells impacted by arsenic 20%



Number of wells impacted by perchlorate 381  
 % of wells impacted by perchlorate 1.7%

Impairment of groundwater basins reduce their use for drinking water or for additional storage and supply

Goal:

Improve groundwater quality by reducing waste discharges to groundwater in high use basins by 25 percent by 2020.



# Objectives

- Implement integrated groundwater protection approach for high-use basins
- Improve groundwater quality for use as drinking water
- Ensure that all WDRs include measures to protect groundwater quality
- Improve the effectiveness of the UST program in cleaning up contamination that may impact groundwater

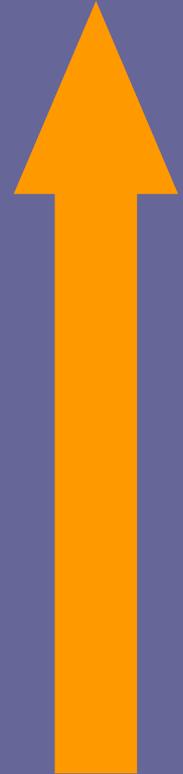
Protect and Restore  
Surface Waters

Protect Groundwater

**Promote Sustainable  
Water Supplies**



Population growth and climate change will increase demand and competition for limited water supplies





## Goal:

Increase sustainable water supplies available to meet existing and future beneficial uses by 1,725,000 acre-feet per year, in excess of 2002 levels, by 2015.

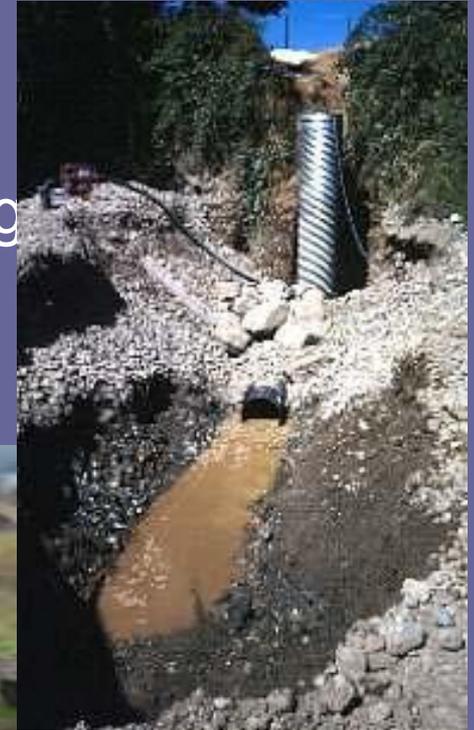
# Objectives

- Increase recycling of water discharged to water bodies from which the water is not easily recovered
- Improve BMPs and compliance with requirements for water conservation
- Promote the reuse of stormwater

# **California Water Quality Plan**

## **Basin Planning**

Basin Plans and statewide plans and policies affecting water quality must be fully integrated into decision making processes regarding current and future water supply decisions.



## Goal:

The California Water Plan addresses water quality protection and restoration, and describes how the relationship between water supply and water quality is affected across all water supply management strategies.



# Objectives

- Prepare a California Water Quality Plan as a key component of the California Water Plan
- Describe the connections between water quality, water quantity, and climate change
- Conduct collaborative processes to assess needs for a statewide Basin Plan update
- Achieve near-term priority Basin Plan amendment needs by collaborating in third-party initiated processes that incorporate Water Board requirements and stakeholder interests

# **Organizational Performance Priorities**

**Transparency and  
Accountability**

**Consistency**

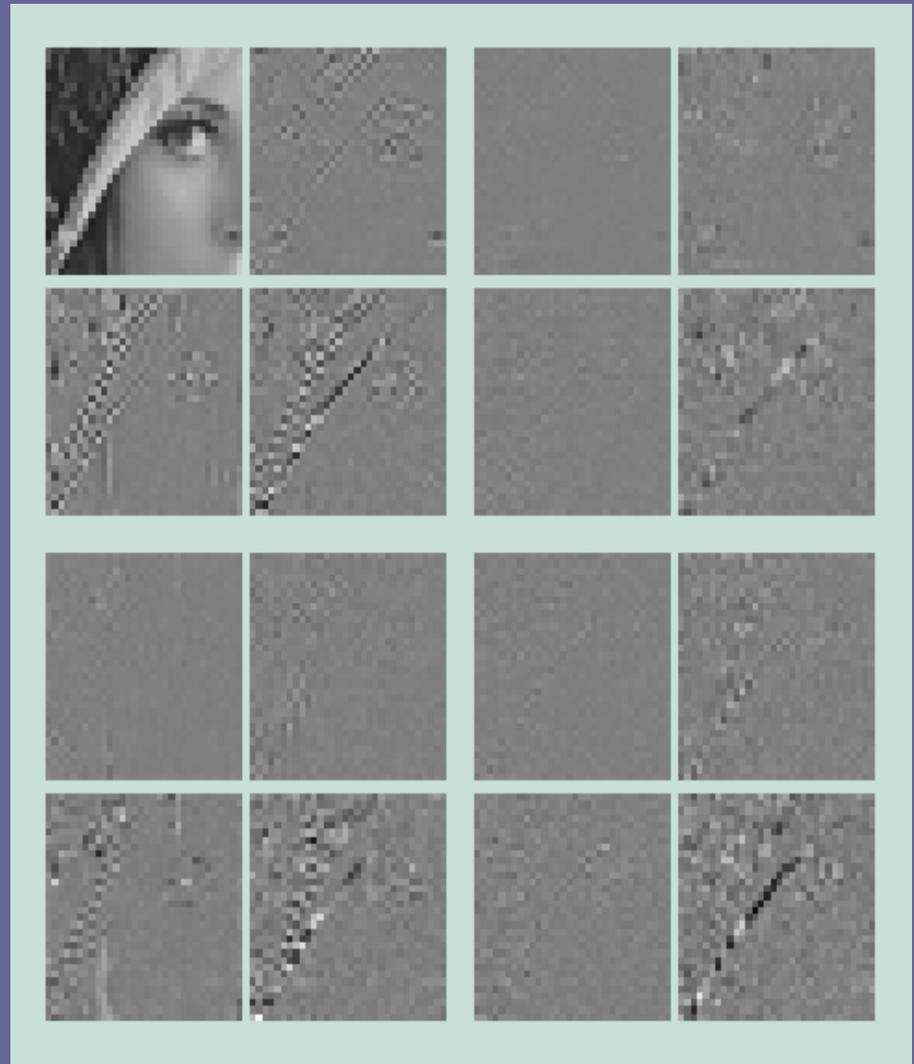
**Workforce Capacity**

# **Transparency and Accountability**

Consistency

Workforce Capacity

The Water Boards need to take steps to develop, integrate, and coordinate information, evaluate ongoing programs and improve them, and make information broadly available.



Goal:

Clearly communicate Water Board goals and actions by demonstrating and explaining results and by enhancing and improving accessibility of data and information.



# Objectives

- Improve current systems, programs, functions, and core business processes
- Enhance water quality data systems, and the accessibility of water body and facility information
- Develop recommendations for a statewide network to display all water quality data
- Create a water quality report card to communicate the quality of the State's waters, the performance of the Water Boards in protecting those waters, and other Water Board-related issues

Transparency and  
Accountability

**Consistency**

Workforce Capacity



Inappropriate inconsistency can result in inequitable treatment, no common understanding of key water quality and water rights goals, and difficulty in achieving a meaningful evaluation of outcomes.

## Goal:

Enhance consistency to ensure that Water Board processes are effective, efficient, and predictable, and to promote fair and equitable application of the laws, regulations, policies, and procedures.



# Objectives

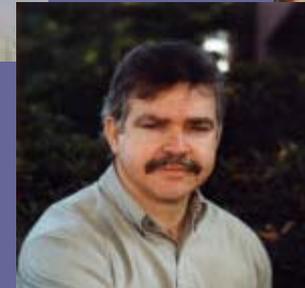
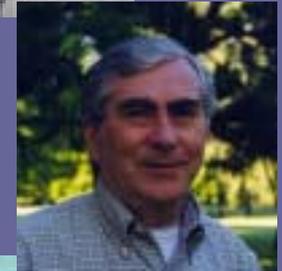
- Target consistency improvements in process and policy for Water Board enforcement activities
- Target consistency improvements in program delivery

Transparency and  
Accountability

Consistency

**Workforce Capacity**

The Water Boards are experiencing turnover in both key rank-and-file staff and management positions from increased competition for prospective and current employees, and an increasing number of employees retiring.



# Goal:

The Water Boards have access to information and expertise, including employees with appropriate knowledge and skills, to carry out the Water Boards' mission.



# Objectives

- Enhance professional development opportunities for Water Board employees to increase their knowledge, skills, and expertise
- Expand recruitment efforts of qualified professionals
- Ensure information, including scientific research and developing science related to emerging pollutants, is easily accessible by staff
- Promote partnerships

“Can we afford clean water? Can we afford rivers and lakes and streams and oceans which continue to make possible life on this planet? Can we afford life itself? Those questions were never asked as we destroyed the waters of our nation, and they deserve no answers as we finally move to restore and renew them. These questions answer themselves.”

*Senator Ed Muskie, Debate on the Clean Water Act,  
1972*