Date: November 2, 2012

To: SWAMP Round Table

From: Melinda Woodard, SWAMP Quality Assurance Team; Beverly van Buuren, SWAMP Quality Assurance Officer; Peter R. Ode, SWAMP Bioassessment Coordinator

Cc: Joe Slusark, DFG-ABL

Subject: Release of the SWAMP Standard Operating Procedure for Laboratory Processing and Identification of Benthic Macroinvertebrates in California

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Subject

The Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) Quality Assurance Team (QAT) announces the release of the *SWAMP Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Laboratory Processing and Identification of Benthic Macroinvertebrates in California.* This SOP was developed by Melinda Woodard of the SWAMP QAT, Joe Slusark of the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) Aquatic Bioassessment Laboratory (ABL), and Peter Ode, SWAMP Bioassessment Coordinator. This SOP was approved by the SWAMP Round Table and the SWAMP Quality Assurance Officer on August 17, 2012.

The *SWAMP SOP for Laboratory Processing and Identification of Benthic Macroinvertebrates in California* provides the following functions:

1. Outlines requirements and recommendations for laboratories performing SWAMP work, and those laboratories wishing to be SWAMP-comparable.
2. Documents the procedures of the SWAMP benthic macroinvertebrate (BMI) Quality Assurance laboratory, DFG-ABL.

SWAMP-funded laboratories and those generating SWAMP-comparable data **must** follow all requirements outlined in Table 1 of the SOP. Recommendations in Table 1 are recommended for SWAMP users to support the generation of known and documented quality data, but are not required. Internal DFG-ABL protocols are documented in this SOP, and may be adapted to fit the needs of other laboratories as is practical in their own written laboratory standard operating procedures.

SWAMP
Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program

The *SWAMP SOP for Laboratory Processing and Identification of Benthic Macroinvertebrates in California* and its associated bench sheets and data sheets may be found at: http://swamp.mpsl.mlml.calstate.edu/resources-and-downloads/standard-operating-procedures.