# AB 411: Coastal Beach Monitoring Program

Amanda Blackwell

**Environmental Scientist** 

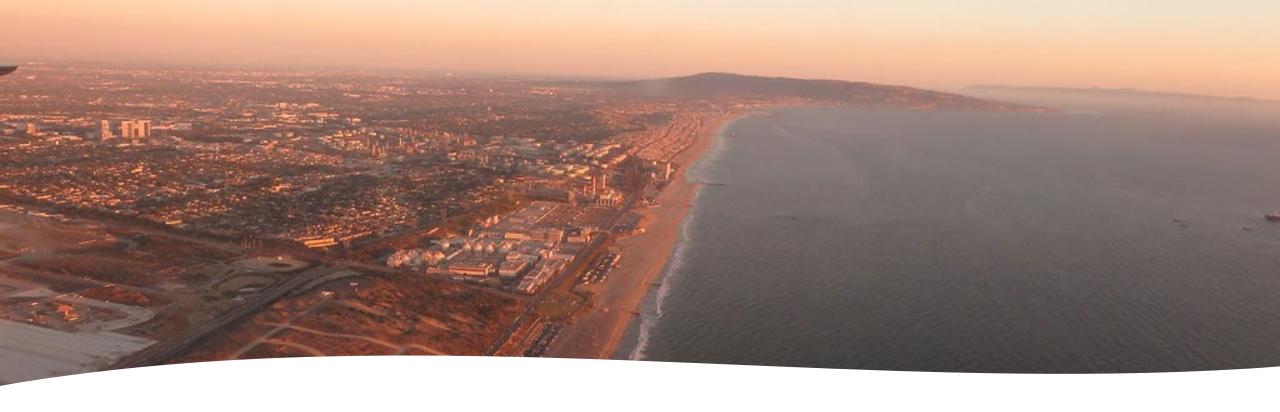
State Water Resources Control Board

September 14, 2022



Background

The Coastal Beach Monitoring Program (Beach Program) was established in accordance with law passed by California Legislature in 1997 through Assembly Bill 411



Background

At the state level was administered solely by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) until 2012, when:

- The State Water Board assumed the responsibility for directing monitoring, managing the statewide database, and providing funding to 16 local environmental agencies, and
- CDPH retained the responsibility for establishing and amending minimum standards for the sanitation of public beaches.

# Monitoring Requirements and Thresholds

Local environmental health agencies monitor:

- Public beaches with more than:
  - 50,000 visitors a year and
  - located adjacent to a storm drain that flows during the summer
- Weekly from April 1st to October 31st



# Monitoring Requirements and Thresholds

- Minimum Protective Bacteriological Standards established by CDPH
- Both single sample and logarithmic-mean thresholds for
  - Total coliform
  - Fecal coliform
  - Enterococcus



#### Monitoring Requirements and Thresholds

Local Environmental Health Agencies conduct monitoring and determine whether to post, close, or otherwise restrict a beach when the standards are not met.









### **CHECK IN BEFORE YOU GET IN**









For more information on the Beach and Bay Program, please click here.

Last Updated: 2022-Sep-07 12:53 PM





**HOTLINE: 619-338-**2073





**About** Us

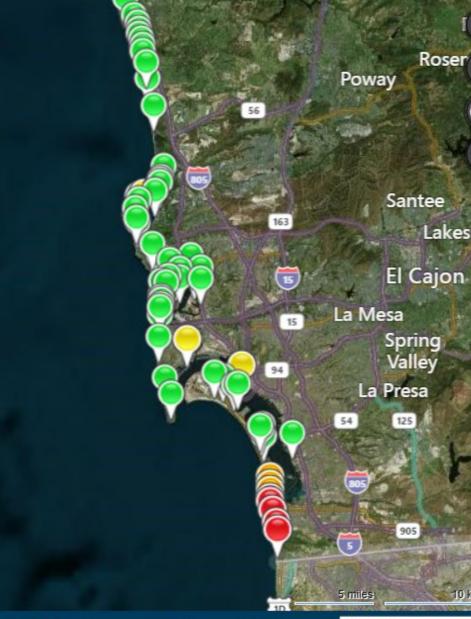
Resources

Historical Reports

North \*

Contact Map Select Language

http://www.sdbeachinfo.com/



Central

South \*

City •

Roser

Lakeside

#### BeachWatch Database

- Local agencies upload data
- Data becomes available on Water Boards website



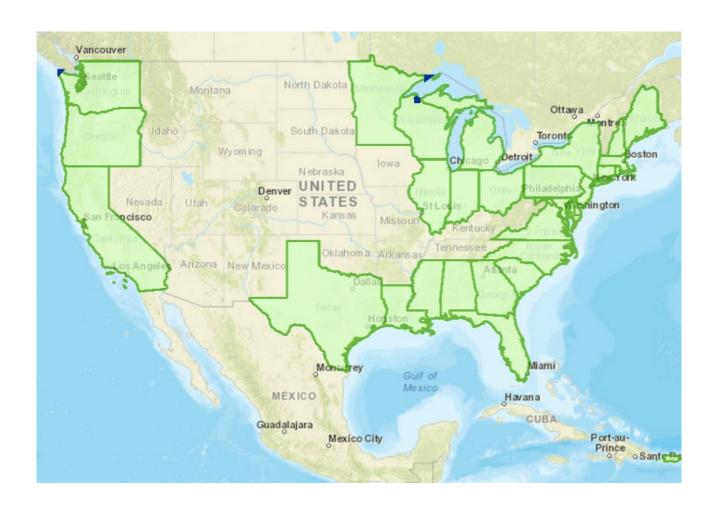
#### **Monitoring Data Search**

* indicates	required filed.
* County Name:	Select a County 🗸
Station Name:	All Stations 🗸
Parameter:	All Parameters 🕶
Qualifier:	All Qualifiers 🗸
Analysis Method:	All Analysis Methods ~
Result Entered:	All 🗸
* Year:	All 🗸
Sort	
Results	Sample Date 🗸
By:	
Sort	
Result	Descending <b>✓</b>
Order:	
Search	

### U.S. Environmental Protection Agency BEACON 2.0

Displays data from coastal states and territories

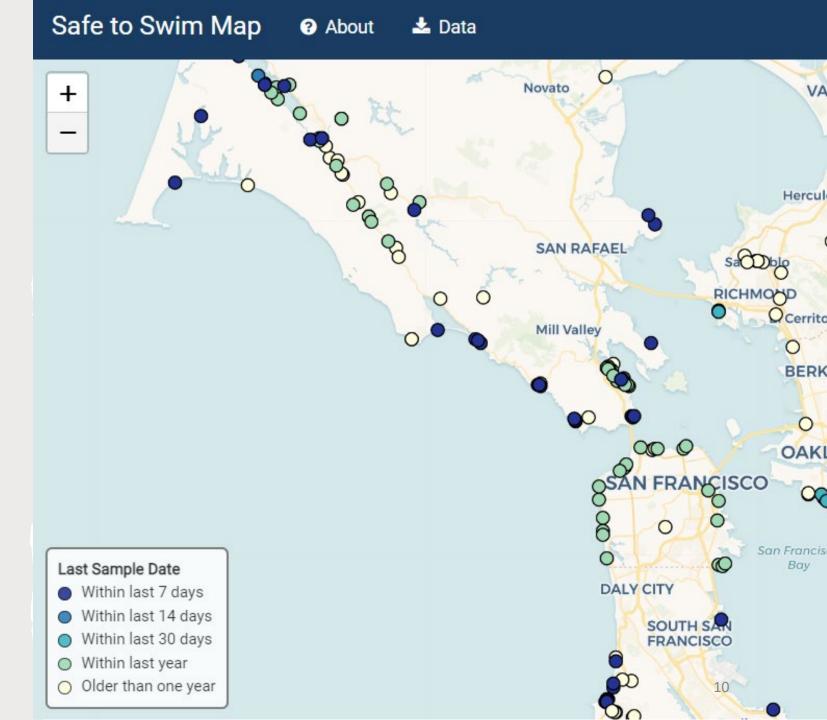
https://watersgeo.epa.gov/beacon2/Beacon.html



#### Safe to Swim

- Incorporates bacteria data from multiple sources
  - BeachWatch
  - California Environmental Data Exchange Network
  - Central Valley E. coli
    Monitoring Results map

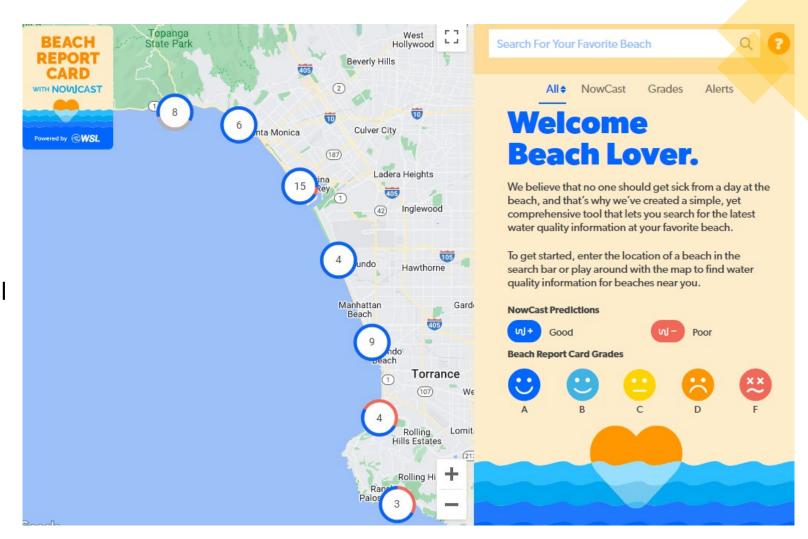
https://mywaterquality.ca.gov/safe to swim/



#### Heal the Bay

- Annual Beach Report Card
- NowCast predictive modeling tool

https://beachreportcard.org/



# Beach Program Considerations

- Beach Program Standards and Ocean Plan water quality objectives are different, requires statutory change
- Challenges finding laboratories
- Delayed test results
- Funding needs
- Quality assurance process
- Freshwater monitoring program (AB 1066)



## Thank you!

Katherine.Walsh@waterboards.ca.gov

Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor

**State Water Boards** 

Ocean Standards Unit

Amanda.Blackwell@waterboards.ca.gov

**Environmental Scientist** 

**State Water Boards** 

Ocean Standards Unit

