

## Los Angeles River Watershed Monitoring Program

### What is it?

The Los Angeles River Watershed Monitoring Program uses a multi-level monitoring framework that combines probabilistic and targeted sampling to assess water quality, toxicity, bioassessment, and habitat condition. It is implemented through a collaborative effort led by the LA and San Gabriel rivers Watershed Council. The objectives of the program are to increase awareness of the importance of issues at the watershed scale and to improve the coordination and integration of monitoring efforts for both compliance and ambient conditions. This effort has origins as a SWAMP sponsored project in 2005, monitoring nutrients, metals, and water toxicity, and conducting bioassessment at 21 sites on the Los Angeles River.

### Why is it important to the State?

Currently, the regional health of Southern California's rivers and streams cannot be determined. This is largely because so little of the region's streams and rivers are monitored.

### Why is it important to me?

In addition to providing information about the health of the Los Angeles River watershed, this program improves the overall cost effectiveness of monitoring efforts in the watershed. It reduces duplication between monitoring programs thus allowing it to target monitoring efforts on contaminants of concern.

### How will this information be used?

Annual results of the ambient assessment provide a context for evaluating water quality and stream conditions below permitted discharge locations. Results help to identify areas where expanded monitoring or special studies need to occur

**Partners:** City of Los Angeles, Burbank, Los Angeles County  
Department of Public Works, Clean Rivers Through Effective TMDLs  
(CREST), Stormwater Monitoring Coalitions, Los Angeles Regional  
Water Board, US EPA, SWAMP

**To learn more about the LA  
River Watershed Program click  
here.**

