### Safe to Swim Network Inland Beach Monitoring Workgroup Fecal Indicator Bacteria Voluntary Guidance Document

Patrick Seaman, UCLA Fielding School of Public Health





#### Why Do We Need A Voluntary Guidance Document?

- Ensure protection of public health at California's inland freshwater beaches
- "Currently, there are no statewide objectives for bacteria that apply to freshwater designated for primary contact recreation" - SWRCB Bacterial Provisions
- Establish consistent framework for the whole state of California
- Aid public health officials and beach managers in instituting beach monitoring programs



#### Sanitary Surveys for Recreational Waters

- Essential to determine where people are recreating in California
- Ensure that all inland freshwater beaches approved for REC-1 are accounted for
- Physical characteristics of the beach as well as average usage
- Data collection both before and during beach monitoring



#### Testing Procedures

- Under normal circumstances: at least once per week starting five weeks before swimming season
- Test only for *E. coli*
- Beach Action Value (BAV) = 190 cfu
- Geometric Mean (GM) = 100 cfu
- Statistical Threshold Value (STV) = 320 cfu
- Data uploading and sharing to CEDEN

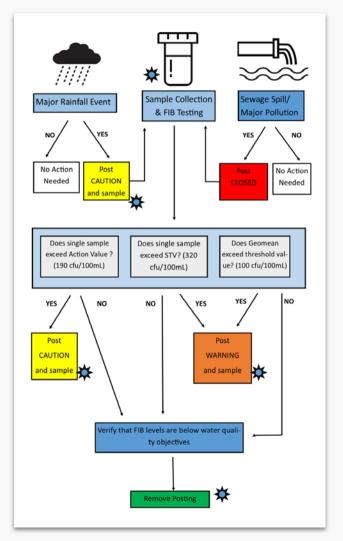


#### Posting Procedure

- Three-tiered sign system
- Caution: exceedance of BAV or 72hour rainfall advisory
- Warning: exceedance of the GM and/or STV
- Closure: sewage spill or other major pollution event
- Consistent messages for sign postings



# Voluntary Guidance Decision Tree



## Questions, Comments, Feedback?