

The California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN): A Statewide Water Quality Monitoring and Visualization System for California

Steven J. Steinberg, Ph.D., GISP

CEDEN Program Manager

Principal Scientist: Information Management & Analysis

Southern California Coastal Water Research Project

Costa Mesa, CA 92626-1437

714-755-3260

steves@sccwrp.org

Karl Jacobs

Senior Information Systems Analyst

Office of Information Management & Analysis

California State Water Board Sacramento, CA 95814

(916) 341-5545

kjacobs@waterboards.ca.gov

Everyone needs data!

California has:

- 211,000 miles of rivers and streams
- 1100 miles of coastline
- 1.6 million acres of lakes
- 1.3 million acres of bays and estuaries
- Annually 15 million acre-feet of groundwater extracted

Everyone needs data! ... but

Everyone needs data! ... but

that data must be ...

Everyone needs data! ... but

that data must be ...

GOOD DATA!

(comparable and of known quality)

The Water Quality & Ecosystem Information Problem





8th National Monitoring Conference May 2, 2012 – Portland, Oregon

WHY CEDEN?

CEDEN consolidates California's data in a central location, where it can be easily accessed by resource managers, scientists, citizen groups, and the public for reports and research purposes.

CEDEN is consolidating data from:

- Local, State and Federal Agencies
- Tribal Governments
- Citizen Monitoring Groups
- NGO's
- Private firms



CEDEN Structure

- Institutional support for development came from multiple programs
- Driven by need for these data for regulatory processes and analysis



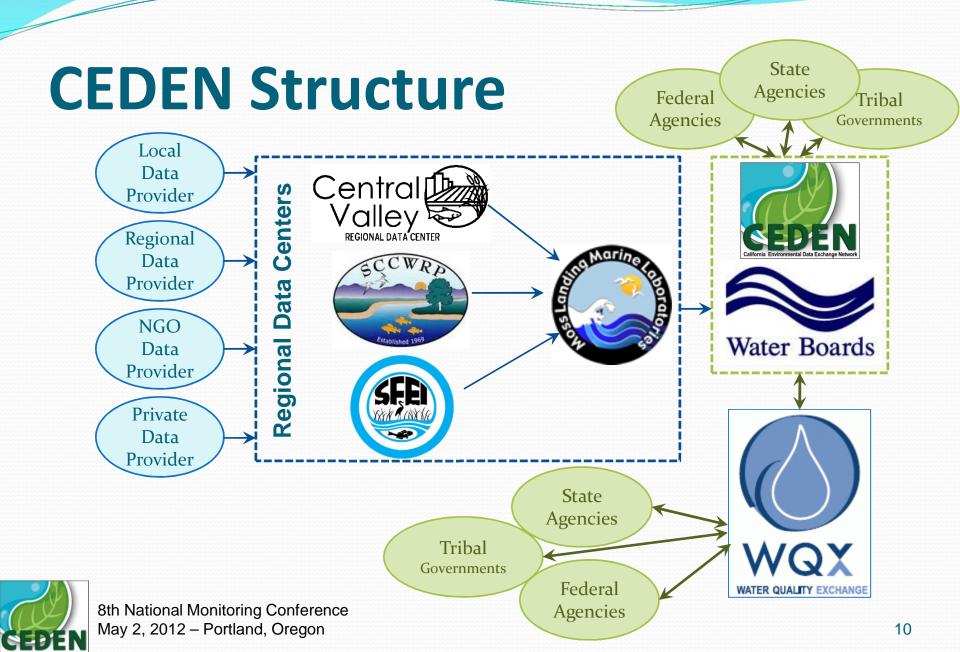




CEDEN Structure

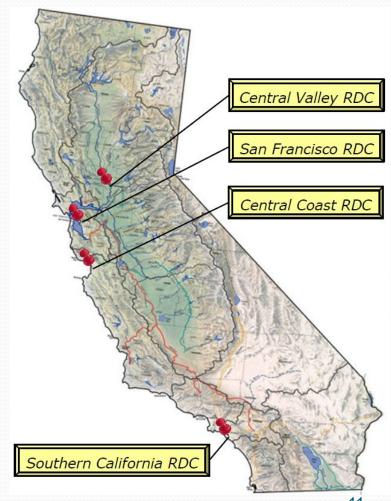
Avoid the big database in the cloud!

- Instead:
 - Take advantage of what already exists: e.g. dbases and web services available from larger data providers
 - House data within CEDEN where appropriate
 - Entities w/o sufficient internal capacity
 e.g. smaller, government agencies, tribes and non-profits



Regional Data Center Model

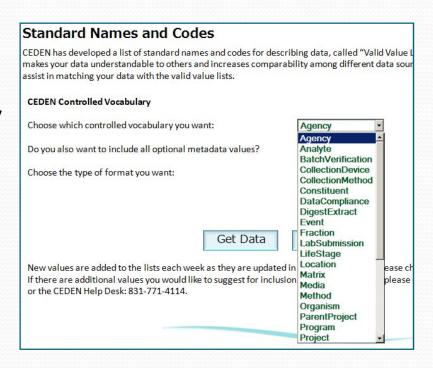
- Provide local, user-centric support to data providers.
 - Built RDCs upon known/trusted organizations
 - Leverages expertise re: data types/methods
 - Allows the State to focus on its strengths, analytical and policy needs





All data is spatial

- Defined data templates:
 - Include: feature geometry, lat/long, datum, and a variety of geographic names (local, GNIS, etc.)



Data templates/vocabulary

- Benthic Template
- Field Collection and Results
- Chemistry Data
- Toxicity Data
- Tissue Data
- Taxonomic Data



- Controlled Vocabulary for data maintained in the CEDEN system
 - Analytes
 - Methods
 - QA

Additional Data Structures

- Database does NOT currently contain all data types needed by users (system updated weekly)
 - Examples of additional data types:
 - Emerging contaminants
 - New variants of existing categories
 - Other biotic communities (focus has been freshwater)
 - New methods (gear, QA protocols)
 - New categories (marine debris, invasive species, etc.)

How is CEDEN being used?

- Our primary clients (at present) are:
 - State Water Quality Control Board/EPA
 - California Water Quality Monitoring Council
 - Citizen Monitors
 - Public

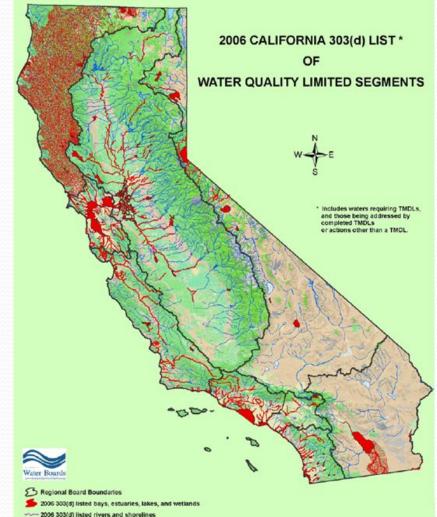
Partnerships

- Other entities have similar missions (data collators)
- We are consciously focused on working with potential partners
 - Identify and prioritize where and how CEDEN will collaborate
 - Avoid duplication of efforts
 - Share knowledge and resources

- Clean Water Act 303(d) and 305(b) listings:
 - Section 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act require states to identify waterbodies that do not meet water quality standards and are not supporting their beneficial uses.
 - The Section 305(b) report describes the current conditions of the state's waters to the U.S. Congress and the public. It is a state-wide assessment of the status of all the state's waters.

...or in other words...

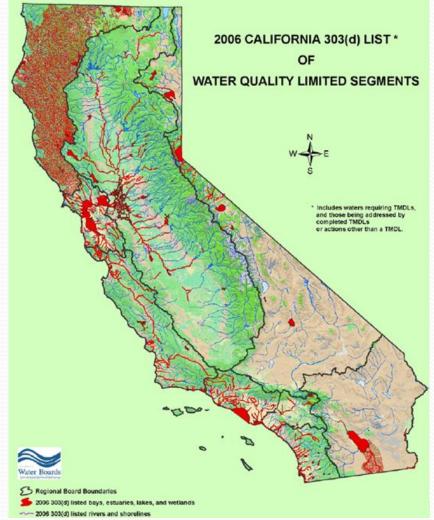
...to improve this map!



...or in other words...

...to improve this map!

...but not just the map



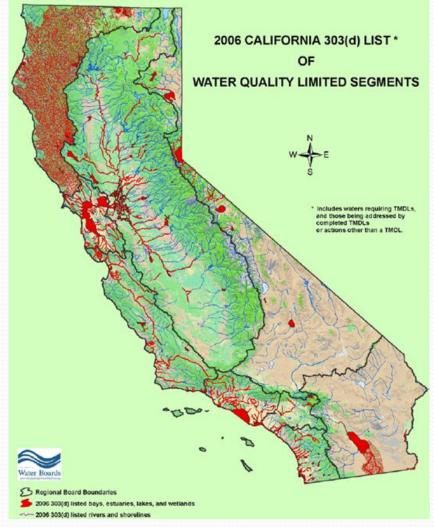


...or in other words...

...to improve this map!

...but not just the map

Also: quality, consistency and transparency of the data and analysis leading to its creation





Water Quality Monitoring Council

Established via State legislation in 2007 to:

Improve the coordination and cost-effectiveness of water quality and ecosystem monitoring and assessment, enhance the integration of monitoring data across departments and agencies, and increase public accessibility to monitoring data and assessment information.





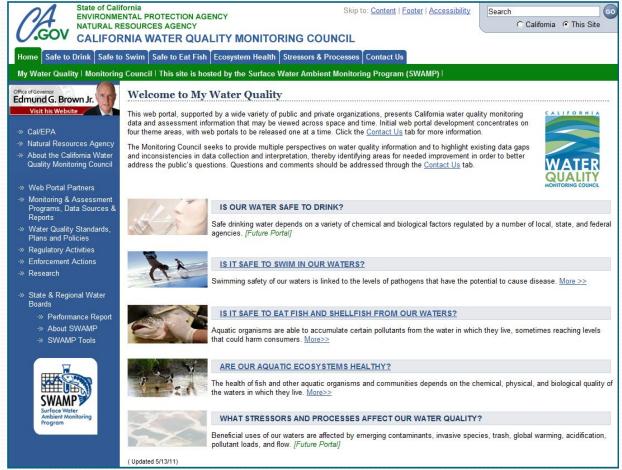
Water Quality Monitoring Council

- CEDEN was viewed as an optimal mechanism to help facilitate this mandate:
 - Enhance the integration of monitoring data across departments and agencies
 - Increase public accessibility to monitoring data and assessment information





Increase public accessibility





How will CEDEN be used?

- Powered by CEDEN
- A variety of applications "Powered by CEDEN"
 - Analytical tools to provide assessments and indices
 - Data filtering tools to facilitate spatial, temporal and attribute based queries
 - Additional council portals continue to be developed
 - Are our aquatic ecosystems healthy?
 - Is it safe to eat fish and shellfish from our waters?
 - Is our water safe to drink?



Find Data

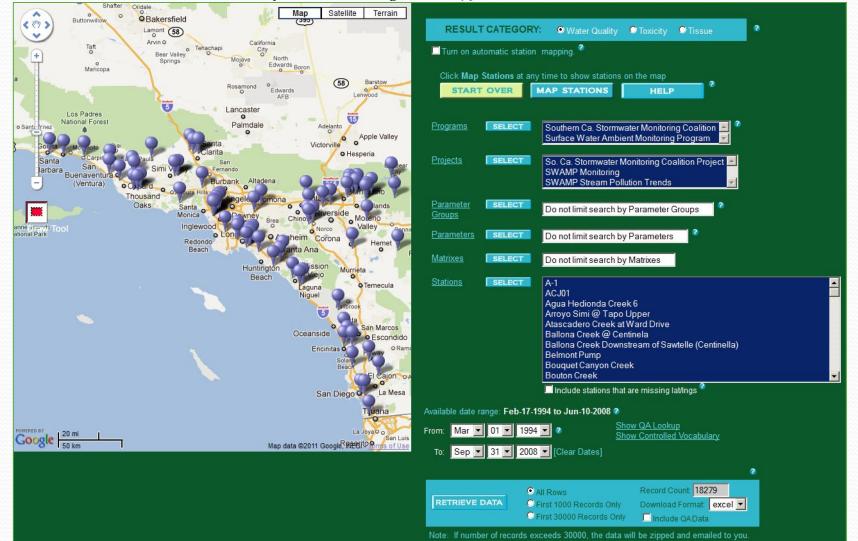
Submit Data

About CEDEN

contact us | site map

Search

CEDEN houses data about California's aquatic habitats and other ambient waters, including lakes, streams, rivers, wetlands, stormwater, treated wastewater, and recycled water dating back to 1950.



What makes CEDEN successful?

- Planning for data acquisition with a distributed locally supported RDC approach has been essential
- Data standards are rigorous but not out of reach
 - RDC's work hard to make sure support is provided when needed
- Leveraging existing systems and knowledge in and out of CEDEN is essential to success, can't be the big database in the cloud
- Focus on serving a few well-defined clients and evolutionary growth and development



What's next for CEDEN?

- Focus on integration of more data types into CEDEN
- Continue to support bringing in additional data providers
- Develop new tools to support filtering and query of data
- Continue to support the needs of the California Water Quality Monitoring Council
- Work with agencies, NGO's and private firms to develop applications "Powered by CEDEN"



Thank You! Questions?





Steven J. Steinberg, Ph.D., GISP

CEDEN Program Manager
Principal Scientist: Information Management & Analysis
Southern California Coastal Water Research Project
Costa Mesa, CA 92626-1437
714-755-3260
steves@sccwrp.org

Karl Jacobs

Senior Information Systems Analyst
Office of Information Management & Analysis
California State Water Board
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 341-5545
kjacobs@waterboards.ca.gov