A large amount of water quality monitoring takes place in California’s Central Valley, conducted by numerous federal, state, local, private and public organizations. Few people have a comprehensive grasp of all that is taking place, but environmental managers, including staff at US EPA and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, have long suspected limited monitoring resources would go further with increased coordination. To facilitate coordination, the Aquatic Science Center has developed the Central Valley Water Quality Monitoring Directory (Directory).

The Directory is designed to provide a comprehensive catalog of Central Valley surface water monitoring, current and planned. Monitoring locations can be viewed by basin, monitoring program, lead organization, or analyte. Monitoring descriptions provide details including people, start and end dates, and data products. Information can be maintained by stakeholders using a web browser. Maintenance is facilitated by email reminders and automatic information archiving when monitoring periods expire. Planned enhancements include a duplication-of-effort analysis, where adjacent sites that monitor the same parameter(s) on similar intervals are identified and highlighted.

The Directory was developed in close coordination with the Central Valley RWQCB (Region 5) and takes advantage of existing web services and open source frameworks, allowing development in much less time than would otherwise be possible. Google Maps was chosen over Bing Maps due to more comprehensive and complete features. Continued use of older browsers (particularly Internet Explorer 7 and earlier) at various agencies made development more complex and costly.

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WHO'S MONITORING WHAT WHERE?
Developing the Central Valley Water Quality Monitoring Inventory

Michael May, mikem@aquaticscience.org
Todd Featherston, todd@aquaticscience.org
Cristina Grosso, cristinag@aquaticscience.org
Meredith Williams, meredithw@aquaticscience.org
Patty Frontiera, pattyf@aquaticscience.org
Thomas Jabusch, thomasj@aquaticscience.org

1 Aquatic Science Center