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Director and State Public Health Officer

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM  
Governor

May 4, 2021

Amy Harbert, Director  
Department of Environmental Health and Quality  
County of San Diego  
5500 Overland Avenue  
San Diego, Ca 92123

**Re: Digital droplet Polymerase Chain Reaction use authorization for beach water quality assessment in San Diego County**

Dear Ms. Harbert,

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is authorizing the use of digital droplet Polymerase Chain Reaction (ddPCR) in San Diego County to determine the level of *Enterococci* bacteria in waters adjacent to public beaches, as part of beach water quality assessment. This authorization provided to San Diego County by CDPH is consistent with the provisions in the California Health and Safety Code, Section 115880 (d), and the use of ddPCR is specific to the beach locations in San Diego County included on page two of this letter. The beach locations on page two represent water quality stations included in a side by side comparison study that successfully demonstrated the use of ddPCR as an alternative test method to evaluate microbial conditions for beach water quality assessment in San Diego County. Use of ddPCR can provide water quality results more quickly than conventional test methods, thereby reducing the period the public is at risk while waiting for the presence of bacteria to be confirmed.

Please contact me at [Eric.Trevena@CDPH.ca.gov](mailto:Eric.Trevena@CDPH.ca.gov) or (916) 210-8548 if you have any questions regarding this approval.

Sincerely,

*Eric Trevena*

Eric Trevena, R.E.H.S.  
Chief, Environmental Health Services Section

cc: Keith Kezer



Group	ID number	LOCATION	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
<b>(1) South County Beaches</b> <i>(Beaches occasionally impacted by sewage from Tijuana River)</i>	1B-050	Seacoast Drive, south end - Imperial Beach	32.57	-117.13
	EH-010	Cortez Avenue - Imperial Beach	32.57	-117.13
	EH-030	Imperial Beach Pier	32.58	-117.13
	1B-060	Carnation Avenue - Imperial Beach	32.59	-117.13
	1B-080	Avenida Del Sol - Coronado	32.68	-117.18
	1B-070	Silver Strand State Beach - Campground	32.64	-117.14
<b>(2) Tijuana River Valley</b> <i>(Beaches routinely impacted by sewage from Tijuana River)</i>	1B-010	Border Field State Park - N of border fence	32.54	-117.12
	1B-040	Tijuana Slough - 3/4 mile N of TJ River	32.56	-117.13
	1B-030	Tijuana Slough at Tijuana Rivermouth	32.56	-117.13
<b>(3) Lagoons</b> <i>(Beaches impacted by lagoon outfalls)</i>	SE-060	San Elijo Lagoon outlet - Cardiff Beach	33.02	-117.28
	EH-480	Buena Vista Lagoon - Carlsbad	33.16	-117.36
	FM-100	Torrey Pines, Los Penasquitos outlet	32.93	-117.26
	EH-440	Batiquitos Lagoon outlet - Carlsbad Beach	33.09	-117.31
<b>(4) Open Coast (south end)</b> <i>(Open coast beaches impacted by occasional storm drain runoff)</i>	FM-030	Tourmaline Surf Park - Pacific Beach	32.81	-117.26
	EH-255	Pacific Beach Point	32.81	-117.27
	EH-280	Playa Del Norte Windansea - La Jolla	32.83	-117.28
	EH-300	Nicholson Point - La Jolla	32.84	-117.28
	FM-080	Avenida De La Playa - La Jolla Shores	32.85	-117.26
<b>(5) Open Coast (north end)</b> <i>(Open coast beaches impacted by occasional storm drain runoff)</i>	EH-360	15th Street - Del Mar	32.96	-117.27
	EH-390	Seascape Beach Park - Solana Beach	32.99	-117.27
	EH-410	Swami's Beach - Encinitas	33.03	-117.29
	EH-460	Tamarack Ave - Carlsbad State Beach	33.15	-117.35
	EH-455	Warm Water Jetty - Carlsbad State Beach	33.14	-117.34
<b>(6) City of La Jolla</b> <i>(Beaches impacted by pinnipeds and associated fecal material)</i>	EH-310	Children's Pool	32.85	-117.28
	FM-070	La Jolla Cove	32.85	-117.27
	EH-305	South Casa Beach - La Jolla	32.85	-117.28
<b>(7) San Diego Bay</b> <i>(Beaches within large embayment that receives limited</i>	EH-200	Shelter Island - San Diego Bay	32.71	-117.22
	EH-120	Bayside Park (J Street) - Chula Vista	32.63	-117.11
	EH-070	Tidelands Park - Coronado bayside	32.69	-117.16
	EH-080	Glorietta Bay - Coronado bayside	32.68	-117.17
	EH-211	Lawrence Street - San Diego Bay	32.71	-117.24
	EH-160	Spanish Landing Park - San Diego Bay	32.73	-117.21
<b>(8) Mission Bay (west)</b> <i>(Beaches within small embayment that receives limited</i>	MB-090	Wildlife Refuge swim area - Mission Bay	32.79	-117.23
	MB-100	Crown Point - Mission Bay	32.78	-117.23
	MB-120	Fanuel Park - Mission Bay	32.79	-117.24
	MB-160	Bahia Point swim area - Mission Bay	32.78	-117.25
	MB-173	Bonita Cove, northern shore - Mission Bay	32.77	-117.25
	MB-203	Ski Beach, Vacation Isle - Mission Bay	32.77	-117.23
	MB-205	North Cove, Vacation Isle - Mission Bay	32.78	-117.24
<b>(9) Mission Bay (east)</b> <i>(Beaches within small embayment that receives very</i>	MB-031	Tecolote Playground, watercraft area	32.77	-117.21
	MB-041	Tecolote Shores, swim area - Mission Bay	32.78	-117.21
	MB-051	Leisure Lagoon swim area - Mission Bay	32.78	-117.21
	MB-053	Comfort Station at Leisure Lagoon	32.78	-117.21
	MB-060	Visitor's Center shoreline - Mission Bay	32.79	-117.21
	MB-070	De Anza Cove swim area - Mission Bay	32.80	-117.21
	MB-080	Campland - Mission Bay	32.79	-117.22
<b>(10) Creek/River outlets</b> <i>(Beaches impacted by routine discharge from creeks or rivers)</i>	EH-380	San Dieguito River outlet - Del Mar	32.98	-117.27
	OC-100	San Luis Rey River outlet - Oceanside	33.20	-117.39
	FM-010	San Diego River outlet (Dog Beach)	32.76	-117.25
	EH-420	Moonlight Beach (Cottonwood Creek)	33.05	-117.30
	OC-022	Buccaneer Beach - Oceanside	33.18	-117.37