

A Scientific Approach to Evaluating Storm Water Best Management Practices for Litter

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ABSTRACT

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is conducting a Litter Management Pilot Study (LMPS) to assess the effectiveness of several best management practices (BMPs) in reducing litter discharged from Caltrans' storm water conveyance systems. A multi-year effort, LMPS has required the development of litter characterization techniques, selection or development of litter BMPs, and extensive field monitoring. This paper describes the definition of litter, litter monitoring protocols, litter characterization, and the study design used to assess BMP effectiveness. Preliminary data on litter constituents and loading from freeways are also presented.