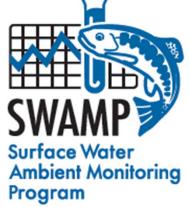


Bioaccumulation Strategy



California Water Quality Monitoring Council

- SB 1070 requires Cal/EPA and the Resources Agency to coordinate water quality monitoring, assessment, and reporting
- Monitoring Council to improve coordination and cost-effectiveness of water quality monitoring and assessment, enhance integration, and increase public accessibility to data information
- My Water Quality portals
- BOG adopted by the Council in 2010
- No funding



Bioaccumulation Strategy

- A priority for the State Board
- Fulfilling BOG role as a Council workgroup
- "Strategy for Coordinated Monitoring, Assessment, and Communication of Information on Bioaccumulation from Aquatic Ecosystems in California"
- Promote efficient use of bioaccumulation monitoring resources across the state



Bioaccumulation Strategy

- Brief written document
- Overarching vision (BOG as Council workgroup) of what needs to be done to address bioaccumulation problems in California
 - SWAMP role is to do some of the work that is needed
- Audience: the Council, BOG (narrow and broad), SWAMP, other programs



Bioaccumulation in California: Problem Statement

- A lot has been accomplished in recent years
 - Statewide sport fish surveys
 - Unprecedented coordination of programs
 - Annual reports and fact sheets
 - Safe to Eat Portal
 - Centralized database
 - Plans for first statewide study of impacts on aquatic life



Bioaccumulation Monitoring in California: Problem Statement

But areas for improvement remain

- Data many water bodies not monitored sufficiently, others not at all – lack of information on fishing and aquatic life beneficial uses – trends – CECs – biotoxins – drivers of bioaccumulation
- Coordination lack of consistency and coordination in monitoring (including QA), data management, assessment, reporting, peer review



Bioaccumulation Monitoring in California: Problem Statement

- Synthesis, assessment, and reporting safe eating guidelines, interpretation of patterns, coordination on thresholds
- Understanding of sources and fate essential to management
- Access to data and information for scientists, regulators, and the public
- Coordinated and effective communication of important information
- Control plans



Goals and Objectives

- 1. Conduct coordinated, long-term statewide monitoring and assessment to generate the data needed to support exposure reduction and water quality protection and restoration (TMDLs, etc.)
 - 1. Conduct monitoring needed to support **advisory development**
 - Provide periodic statewide assessments of California water bodies that policy makers need to track general status
 - 3. Conduct the **trend monitoring** needed to track effectiveness of specific cleanup actions
 - In support of control efforts, conduct the studies needed to identify the most important sources and pathways



Goals and Objectives

- 2. Communicate to the public and provide public access to information on fish contamination that the public can use to reduce their exposure to contaminants and participate in management processes in an informed manner
 - 1. Develop **safe eating guidelines** for all water bodies where they are needed and communicate these guidelines effectively
 - 2. Maintain and refine the "safe to eat" portal as one form of access to fish contamination information



1. Coordinated Monitoring and Assessment

- 1. Monitoring to support advisory development
 - Regional Boards, OEHHA, regional and local partners fund and coordinate monitoring
 - OEHHA lead technical role
 - Council/SWAMP support: information sharing, QA, data management
- 2. Statewide assessments
 - SWAMP lead, other partners
 - 10 year cycle



- 1. Coordinated Monitoring and Assessment (continued)
 - 3. Studies to support control plan development
 - SWAMP role in filling gaps left by other programs (e.g., aquatic life)
 - 4. Trend monitoring
 - Higher frequency (5 yr or less) monitoring
 - Local and regional partners lead
 - Council/SWAMP support: information sharing, sampling design, QA, data management, general synthesis, archiving, peer review; fund reference site monitoring?



- 1. Coordinated Monitoring and Assessment (continued)
 - 5. Source identification and mitigation studies
 - Local and regional partners lead (Regional Boards, permit holders, etc.)
 - Council/SWAMP support: information sharing, sampling design? QA? data management? general synthesis, peer review



2. Communication

- 1. Exposure reduction
 - OEHHA safe eating guidelines
 - DPH lead in coordination and communication
 - Should be expedited more funding needed
 - Assess effectiveness
- 2. Communication of technical information
 - Council/SWAMP funds and leads: synthesis reports, workshops, trainings
- 3. Other communication to the public
 - All partners coordinate on media coverage
 - Council continues Portal development



Bioaccumulation Strategy: Steps

- Develop draft strategy
- Identify additional partners
- Get new partners to participate with help from BOG members – workshop
- Review charter, strategy, organization with expanded workgroup
- Finalize strategy
- Start implementing!

