

## **BOG Meeting Summary**

July 21, 2008

### **Item 1**

In attendance: Michael Lyons, Bob Brodberg, Gary Ichikawa, Terry Fleming, Aroon Melwani, Dave Edwards, Jennifer Doherty, Vera Williams, Mark Stephenson, Autumn Bonnema, Marco Sigala, Ken Schiff, Karen Taberski, Dave Crane, Diane Fleck, Chris Beegan

### **Item 2: OEHHA's New Thresholds**

- Bob Brodberg gave a Powerpoint presentation (posted on the FTP site) on the new thresholds described in OEHHA's report "DEVELOPMENT OF FISH CONTAMINANT GOALS AND ADVISORY TISSUE LEVELS FOR COMMON CONTAMINANTS IN CALIFORNIA SPORT FISH: CHLORDANE, DDTs, DIELDRIN, METHYLMERCURY, PCBs, SELENIUM, AND TOXAPHENE"
- ATLs will be used by OEHHA as a framework for developing advisories and safe eating guidelines.
- FCGs were developed for potential use by other agencies, similar to OEHHA's public health goals for drinking water
- FCGs are risk-based and conservative
- ATLs take health benefits of fish consumption into account
- The State and USEPA need to figure out how to use these values
- In discussing how to use these values for reporting the Lakes Survey data the following points were made:
  - The Lakes report should provide information that can be used by the Regional Boards for 303(d) listing decisions, but should not attempt to actually make 303(d) determinations. Impairment determinations are not SWAMP's role.
  - The report can show the implications of using different values (FCGs, ATLs, screening values)
  - Screening values are still being used for listing decisions based on guidance in the SWRCB training manual for the 2008 listing process. The report should include these numbers, in addition to the new OEHHA numbers.

### **Item 3: General Scoping of the Coast Survey**

- Funds are tight for SWAMP this year, so it is very unlikely that more than \$750K will be allocated for bioaccumulation monitoring.
- Discussion focused on what could be done with \$750K, and how this amount could be used to cover coastal fishing areas of interest. A phased two or three year approach will be needed, with this level of funding, to cover the locations and species of interest.
- One strategic question is whether to do one region in year 1, or alternatively take a phased approach to covering different types of fishing locations on a statewide basis.

- The number of species to include is another key question.
- Potential instability of funding is a consideration.
- Don't forget to take NOAA's big So Cal survey into account. The SWAMP work should build on that. The Bight 08 plan was to adapt the NOAA strategy to cover a broader area. OEHHA is working with the NOAA data right now to prepare a report due summer 2009. The SWAMP work could support that effort.
- A focus on So Cal in 2009 might work well in terms of collaboration with the Bight effort. Might also be good for future funding and making a splash with year 1 results.
- The BOG should bring a straw design and the basic questions to be answered to the Roundtable at their August 13 meeting.
- BOG should also show some of the preliminary Lakes data to the RT.
- BOG will meet via teleconference from 1:00 to 4:00 on August 4 to continue developing the Coast design.
- BOG will meet on September 8 in person to continue developing the Coast design. The goal of this meeting will be to develop a strawman Powepoint summary to present to the RT on the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup>.
- We need to examine whether we really need 157 locations. We should map these out for the next meeting. Some species roam over larger areas so there may be redundancy.
- Important questions to discuss for the Coast design include:
  - Number of locations
  - Regional vs. statewide sampling in year 1, pros and cons
  - Number of species to include

#### **Item 4**

- Mark Stephenson gave a Powerpoint presentation on the State Board's Bioaccumulation Factor Study (posted on the FTP site)
- It's a \$200,000 study that expires in March 2009
- Will be used to develop water quality criterion
- Details are in the Powerpoint