

FACT SHEET

Delta Regional Monitoring Program Prioritization (14-13)	
Deliverables: Cover memo with Fact Sheets on pathogens, methylmercury, nutrients, toxicity, and current use pesticides.	
Status: Completed. Delta RMP Steering Committee is expected to determine priority(ies) based on Fact Sheets in early December 2013.	
Primary Investigator: Stephen McCord	Recipient Organization: McCord Environmental Inc.
Project Cost: \$15,080	SFCWA Funding: \$15,080
Partners: Co-authors: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, USGS, Aquatic Science Center, Drinking Water Policy Workgroup; many other Steering Committee representatives and topical experts	

Introduction

Five fact sheets were developed for initial assessment priorities: methylmercury, nutrients, pathogens, pesticides, and toxicity. Each fact sheet follows a consistent outline with general guidance that was vetted with the Delta RMP Steering Committee (SC). The fact sheets summarize existing knowledge (and gaps) with regards to the Delta RMP management questions, evaluate conditions relative to seven decision criteria, and provide key reference contacts and documents. Draft and final results were presented to the SC to support the decision-making process. The PI worked with co-authors and stakeholders to compile and assess relevant information, identify potential TAC members, and develop knowledge for subsequent monitoring program design.

Objective

The primary objective is to inform decisions by the Delta RMP Steering Committee (SC) about initial assessment priorities. Secondary objectives are to identify potential TAC members, and to develop knowledge for subsequent monitoring program design.

Results

The SC and other stakeholders reviewed and/or contributed to the information and assessments in each fact sheet. The PI produced or reviewed draft and final fact sheets. The PI produced a cover memo summarizing the five fact sheets; comparing and contrasting each constituent relative to the information available, decision criteria, and scheduling interests; identified general interests by stakeholder category; and recommending next steps in the program development process. The PI and co-authors presented to and discussed with the Steering Committee the draft fact sheets and cover memo.

Conclusions

1. The fact sheets provide a focused, organized compilation of available information, a consistent assessment of each constituent relative to decision criteria, and a list of useful references.
2. The Steering Committee reviewed each fact sheet and the cover memo, providing a consistent baseline for consideration and deliberation of the relative attributes, merits and concerns of each constituent.

Relevance

The Steering Committee can now use the information in the fact sheets to make more informed decisions about initial priorities for monitoring. The information compiled is available for subsequent use during program development, depending on the priority selected.

Next Steps

The next step in the RMP development process is for the Steering Committee to identify the prioritized constituent(s). Related directly to that decision, the Steering Committee should also:

- Distinguish between interests in baseline/trend/core monitoring and special studies.
- Clarify the relationship between the RMP and NPDES permit-required background characterization studies.

Next, several related steps will be needed before operating the RMP, including, in approximate chronological order:

- Clarify how RMP representatives (Steering Committee members, project team, TAC members) should interact with other monitoring program staff and stakeholders?
- Identify potential TAC members based on general knowledge of Delta monitoring activities and/or constituent-specific expertise.



Organization structure of the Delta RMP