North Coast Regional Water Quality
Control Board

Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP)

DRAFT Workplan

Long-term 5-year Workplan
Annual FY 2006-07 Workplan

October 2007

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Introduction

The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) direct the water quality programs to implement efforts intended to protect and restore the integrity of waters of the State. California Assembly Bill (AB) 982 (Water Code Section 13192; Statutes of 1999) requires the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to assess and report on the State monitoring programs and to prepare a proposal for a comprehensive surface water quality monitoring program. Ambient monitoring is independent of the water quality programs and serves as a measure of (1) the overall quality of water resources and (2) the overall effectiveness of Regional Water Quality Control Boards' (RWQCBs') prevention, regulatory, and remedial actions.

Pursuant to this directive, the SWRCB has developed the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP). SWAMP is a new and comprehensive program which will (1) integrate the existing water quality monitoring of the SWRCB and RWQCBs and (2) coordinate with monitoring programs of other agencies, dischargers, and citizens groups.

Overview of the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP)

SWAMP Goals

SWAMP is intended to meet four goals as follows:

1. Create an ambient monitoring program that addresses all hydrologic units of the State using consistent and objective monitoring, sampling and analytical methods; consistent data quality assurance protocols; and centralized data management. This will be an umbrella program that monitors and interprets those data for each hydrologic unit at least one time every five years.
2. Document ambient water quality conditions in potentially clean and polluted areas. The scale for these assessments ranges from the site-specific to statewide.
3. Identify specific water quality problems preventing the SWRCB, RWQCBs, and the public from realizing beneficial uses of water in targeted watersheds.
4. Provide the data to evaluate the overall effectiveness of water quality regulatory programs in protecting beneficial uses of waters of the State.

The Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) is a combination of (1) regional monitoring to provide a picture of the status and trends in water quality and (2) site-specific monitoring to better characterize problem and clean locations. This approach balances these two important monitoring needs of the SWRCB and serves as a unifying framework for the monitoring activities being conducted by the SWRCB and RWQCBs. The coordinated SWRCB and RWQCB involvement in study design and sampling is critical to providing comprehensive, effective monitoring (Report to the Legislature, November 30, 2000, Pg. iv).

Although the original intent was to have a program with adequate funding to accomplish this effort, sufficient funding never materialized to create both the regional and site-specific components of the original design.

As a consequence, monitoring efforts have been focused on the second component of the overall program design, "site-specific monitoring".

This document represents the North Coast Region's Five Year workplan and the annual SWAMP workplan for FY06-07.

Five Year Plan – Goal and Objectives

Fiscal year 2007-08 represents the fourth year of the North Coast Region's original 5-year workplan. The goal for the Region 1 SWAMP efforts is to monitor and assess the water quality in the Regions watersheds to determine if the beneficial uses are being protected.

The watershed evaluation process employed by the North Coast Region (NCR) is responsive to the Watershed Management Initiative as called for in the State Water Resources Control Board Strategic Plan (June 22, 1995). It essentially involves designating Watershed Management Areas (WMAs) and performing monitoring with the following objectives:

- Assessing water quality related issues on a watershed basis,
- Employing a sampling design that allows the measurement and evaluation of spatial and temporal trends in watershed water quality.
- Using standard sampling protocols, SWAMP QAMP procedures and the SWAMP database to provide statewide consistency and availability of data.
- Developing prioritized water quality goals for watersheds from the issues,
- Addressing the issues with various programs through a multi-year implementation strategy, and
- Evaluating progress at the end of a specified time period.

The NCR rotates through watersheds on a planned basis as resources allow. The NCR believes that this is the best use of resources at this time: to focus on a few WMAs at a time, cycling back through them every five to seven years. Having the cycle identified and the goals prioritized will make resource needs more apparent. The management areas are prioritized based on a number of factors, including the known water quality impairment, adequacy of existing data, the extent of development and/or land use change, likelihood for problems to increase, and the availability of management tools for the problems.

Both permanent and temporary stations are established throughout the region. The permanent stations are considered long-term trend monitoring sites and are sampled at the same frequency and time each year. The temporary stations are established for each cycle or rotation within the targeted watershed and sampled at the same frequency and time as the trend stations for that particular cycle only.

Annual Plan

North Coast Region's Goals and Objectives for FY2006-07

Program funding reductions have made it necessary to modify our original sampling design for this fiscal year. Prior to the funding cuts, we had intended to continue with our original monitoring design, using two-component approach to address regional and site-specific monitoring: 1) long-term monitoring sites for trend analysis, and 2) rotating intensive basin surveys. The rotation schedule being closely coordinated with the TMDL schedule to provide additional and current information on water quality parameters to the TMDL process.

Due to program funding reductions, current resources are not sufficient to effectively address both components of our monitoring design. Consequently, for this FY, monitoring efforts will be focused on maintaining most of our long-term trend stations with minor involvement in rotating basin surveys.

This plan allows us to address one important aspect of our original goal: to continue our watershed evaluation process by developing site-specific information on an abbreviated list of the long-term trend sites. It is intended that this portion of SWAMP will be targeted at specific locations in each WMA, and focus on collecting information from sites in water bodies of the State to support remedial actions as well as the potential listing or delisting under Clean Water Act Section 303(d). Information collected through this program will also be used in the development of TMDLs as appropriate, as well as monitor the effectiveness of implementation activities in which TMDLs currently exist. TMDLs scheduled in the near future include the Klamath River (2008), listed for nutrients, temperature and low dissolved oxygen

and the Russian River and Laguna de Santa Rosa (2011) listed for pathogens, nutrients and temperature. Existing TMDLs include the Shasta River (2007), the Scott River (2006), and the Eel River (1999-2005).

North Coast Region – Description and Water Quality Issues

Description

The NCR comprises all basins draining into the Pacific Ocean from the California-Oregon state line (including Lower Klamath Lake and Lost River Basins) southerly to the southern boundary of the watershed of the Estero de San Antonio and Stemple Creek in Marin and Sonoma Counties. The North Coast Region covers all of Del Norte, Humboldt, Trinity, and Mendocino Counties, major portions of Siskiyou and Sonoma Counties, and small portions of Glenn, Lake, and Marin Counties. The North Coast Region encompasses a total area of approximately 19,390 square miles, including 340 miles of scenic coastline and remote wilderness areas, as well as urbanized and agricultural areas.

Distinct temperature zones characterize the North Coast Region. Along the coast, the climate is moderate and foggy and the temperature variation is not great. For example, at Eureka, the seasonal variation in temperature has not exceeded 63 F for the period of record. Inland, however, seasonal temperature ranges in excess of 100 F have been recorded.

Precipitation over the North Coast Region is higher than for any other part of California, and damaging floods are a fairly frequent hazard. Particularly devastating floods occurred in the North Coast area in December of 1955, in December of 1964, and in February of 1986. Ample precipitation in combination with the mild climate found over most of the North Coast Region has provided a wealth of fish, wildlife, and scenic resources.

The mountainous nature of the Region, with its dense coniferous forests interspersed with grassy or chaparral covered slopes, provides shelter and food for deer, elk, bear, mountain lion, furbearers and many upland bird and mammal species. The numerous streams and rivers of the Region contain anadromous fish, and the reservoirs, although few in number, support both coldwater and warmwater fish.

Tidelands and marshes are extremely important to many species of waterfowl and shore birds, both for feeding and nesting. Cultivated land and pasturelands also provide supplemental food for many birds, including small pheasant populations. Tideland areas along the north coast provide important habitat for marine invertebrates and nursery areas for forage fish, game fish, and crustaceans. Offshore coastal rocks are used by many species of seabirds as nesting areas.

Major components of the economy are tourism and recreation, logging and timber milling, aggregate mining, commercial and sport fisheries, sheep, beef and dairy production, and vineyards and wineries.

Water Quality Issues

The North Coast Region faces several water quality issues. The highest priority water quality problems include contamination of surface water due to nonpoint source pollution from storm water runoff, erosion and sedimentation (roads, vineyards, grazing and timber harvest), channel modification, gravel mining and dairies, and MtBE and dioxin contamination. Ground water contamination from leaking underground tanks and health and safety issues from contaminated areas that are open to the public are also priority issues. Flow in rivers and streams is becoming an issue, as is the use of agricultural chemicals in vineyards. High priority water quality problems due to point sources include chronic violations by POTWs and lack of permit compliance. Lack of funding for water quality monitoring and watershed assessment compounds the difficulty of addressing these issues.

The highest priority activities to address those problems include:

- protect and restore water quality and beneficial uses

- maintaining the core regulatory program for regulated dischargers
- increasing emphasis on storm water runoff issues
- increasing monitoring and assessment activities
- increasing emphasis on nonpoint source issues (including forestry and agriculture), especially as they affect salmonid resources
- developing and implementing Total Maximum Daily Load strategies (mostly sediment and temperature associated with salmonid resource declines)
- improving outreach and community involvement in decisions
- fostering watershed groups and volunteer monitoring
- ensuring prompt and appropriate enforcement

With the exception of the Russian River watershed and the Klamath River Basin in California, we have very little data on surface water quality in most of our watersheds. The general driving force for our SWAMP monitoring program for this fiscal year will be to collect water quality assessment data at permanent stations established throughout our region.

Site Identification, Monitoring Activities and Objectives

This section of the workplan will address site identification organized by Basin Plan Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) and further referenced to Watershed Management Areas as identified in the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Watershed Planning Chapter.

For each HUC a table is presented detailing the beneficial uses to be protected and the monitoring objectives for that particular site or station. Monitoring frequency and water quality indicators used for that site are also enumerated.

For a complete description of the indicators used, please refer to Attachment C: "Site Specific Monitoring", Table 3, Pgs 10 through 12.

Smith River Hydrologic Unit (103).

The Smith River is within the larger North Coast Rivers Watershed Management Area (WMA) within the Watershed Planning Chapter.

Under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Smith River watershed is wholly contained in the Southern Oregon/Northern California Coasts Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) for Coho salmon. As such, it is designated as critical habitat for Coho salmon, listed as "threatened" under the ESA in 1997.

In the Smith River Plains area, the expansion of agricultural practices such as lily fields and floral greenhouses has occurred at a rapid rate over the past several years and investigation of the impacts of pesticide and fertilizer use on surface and ground water is warranted. Although a small-scale targeted sampling effort in the lower Smith River and Rowdy Creek in 2002 did not indicate the presence of commonly used agricultural chemicals, previous SWAMP monitoring has discovered chlorinated compounds present at low levels in the main stem and South Fork. There is also a concern about dairies and the impact of animal operations on the lower Smith River.

Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program Monitoring Stations for the Smith River Hydrologic Unit (103)

Smith River Hydrologic Unit (103) – FY 2006-07 Monitoring Activities					
Station HUC	Beneficial Use(s) (4)	Monitoring Objectives (1)	Freq (2)	Category	Indicator(s) (3)
SMHFIS103.11 (Smith River – d/s Dr. Fine Bridge)	MUN, AGR, IND, FRSH, NAV, REC1, REC2, COMM, COLD, BSA, WILD, RARE, MAR, MIGR, SPWN, EST, CUL	1,2,3,5,9,10,11, 12,13	4 C 4 O 3 H 4 T	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic and Organic Water Chemistry, Herbicides, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature
SMHSFK103.20 (Smith River – South Fork above Hiouchi)	MUN, AGR, IND, FRSH, NAV, REC1, REC2, COMM, COLD, BSA, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN, CUL	1,2,3,5,9,10,11, 12,13	4 C 4 O 3 H 4 T	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic and Organic Water Chemistry, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature
SMHMAN103.20 (Smith River – u/s South Fork)	MUN, AGR, IND, FRSH, NAV, REC1, REC2, COMM, COLD, BSA, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN, CUL	1,2,3,5,9,10,11, 12,13	4 C 4 O 3 H 4 T	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic and Organic Water Chemistry, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature

Notes:

1. Monitoring Objectives: See Attachment C: Site-Specific Monitoring
2. Frequency: N = number of samples per FY,
   C= Conventional Water Chemistry
   O = Organic Water Chemistry
   H = Herbicides and surfactants
   T = Trace Metals and Mercury
3. Indicator: See Attachment C: Site-Specific Monitoring
4. Includes existing and proposed Beneficial Uses (per Basin Plan amendment adopted by NCRWQCB on June 26, 2003, approved by the SWRCB in June, 2004 and pending approval by the U. S. EPA)

Klamath River Hydrologic Unit (105).

Klamath River Hydrologic Unit as addressed in Region One's WMI Chapter as The Klamath River Watershed Management Area (most of that portion of the overall Klamath River Basin which is within the State of California), has been divided into three sub-basins: Lower Klamath, Middle Klamath and Upper Klamath. This division helps us recognize that the size of the overall basin, and its diversity in climatic and geologic facets and land uses affect water quality in different ways in different sub-areas of the basin. In addition to this for-convenience segmentation of the watershed area within California, we recognize that roughly half of the watershed is north (and mostly upstream) of the California -Oregon state border. This "segment" of the basin in Oregon has profound effects on the quality and quantity of the Klamath River in California. Each sub-basin is described below:

The Lower Klamath sub-basin encompasses that portion of the Klamath River and its tributary watershed downstream from the Scott River to the Pacific Ocean (excluding the Trinity River), and is 2,564 square miles in area. Included in the watershed are the Salmon River, Indian Creek, Clear Creek, Blue Creek and numerous smaller perennial streams, and the Klamath River delta/estuary. The area is largely rugged, steep forest land with highly erodable soils. The population of the area is small and scattered. Water quality issues have arisen as a result of unauthorized discharges or inadequately treated residential sewage. Current water quality issues in the sub-basin are related to the salmonid-habitat qualities of the mainstem river and the effects of silvicultural activities on both federal and private lands to the tributaries. These issues include high summertime temperatures, sedimentation, erosion, mass wasting and stream modifications which affect salmonid habitats, and forest land herbicide applications which threaten domestic water supplies.

Under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Lower Klamath sub-basin is wholly contained in the Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) for Coho salmon. As such, it is designated as critical habitat for Coho salmon, listed as "threatened" under the ESA in 1997.

The Middle Klamath sub-basin is 2,850 square miles in area and encompasses that portion of the Klamath River and tributaries between the confluence of the Klamath and Scott Rivers and Iron Gate Dam. Included in the watershed are the mainstem Klamath, the Shasta and Scott River watersheds and lesser tributaries. The two major tributaries, the Shasta and Scott Rivers, receive localized precipitation as well as snow and glacial melt from nearby mountain ranges. The quality of water from Iron Gate reservoir (which is the sum total of the effects of reservoir limnology, up-river irrigation development and hydropower hydrology), agriculture in the Shasta and Scott Valleys and silvicultural activities in the remainder of the drainage are the major issues. Other water quality issues are related to surface water and ground water contamination from toxic chemical discharges in the Weed and the Yreka areas.

Under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Middle Klamath sub-basin is wholly contained in the Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) for Coho salmon. As such, it is designated as critical habitat for Coho salmon, listed as "threatened" under the ESA in 1997.

The Upper Klamath sub-basin includes watershed areas in California that are upstream of Iron Gate Dam. Many natural and human-altered watershed elements above Iron Gate and across the California -Oregon border affect the quality and quantity of water which exits Iron Gate Dam, supplies the mainstem flow, and affects (both supports and jeopardizes) the beneficial uses of the River within California. The complexity of this sub-basin is magnified by jurisdictional issues associated with water-delivery/utilization infrastructures (including the Federal Klamath Project irrigation), hydropower, endangered species, tribal rights, lake-level-management demands for

Upper Klamath Lake, the waters criss-crossing the California -Oregon border, and minimum flow requirements in the Klamath below Iron Gate Dam.

Most of the Upper Klamath watershed area is in Oregon. The primary sub-watershed in California is the Lost River watershed, which is 1,689 square miles in area. That sub-watershed, which is about half-and-half in California and Oregon, encompasses Clear Lake Reservoir and most of its tributaries in California, the agricultural and contributing areas in Oregon, and back in California, the agricultural and wildlife-refuge areas which were once the bottom of Tule Lake and the Lower Klamath Lake. The Lost River basin was, until Euroamerican settlement and development including farmland "reclamation" and construction of the railroad, periodically connected to the Klamath River via the marshes which occurred south of what is now the community of Klamath Falls, Oregon. Further south, the marsh-river systems dead-ended in Tule Lake that was a closed part of the basin with no natural outlet. The lower end of this basin has been modified to support agricultural crop production, and consequently an artificial outlet has been provided for Lost River water to be pumped into Lower Klamath Lake. Lower Klamath Lake was originally a backwater of the Klamath River, but has been extensively modified for agriculture and a wildlife refuge. Water leaving that system is discharged northward, back into Oregon to the Klamath River, via the Klamath Straits Drain. Much of the former wetlands in the basin are now intensively managed for wildlife as part of the Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuges, with mingled and overlapping cropping and wildlife uses.

Primary beneficial uses in the upper Klamath basin are domestic, agricultural and industrial water supply, cold and warm water fisheries, and recreation. The shortnosed sucker (*Chamistes brevirostris*) and Lost River sucker (*Deltistes luxatus*), native to the watershed, are listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973.

The Klamath River and its delta and estuary within the coastal zone is identified as a Critical Coastal Area as designated under the Plan for California's Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program. (NCRWQCB Watershed Planning Chapter, February 2005, Appendix C)

Monitoring priorities and needs detail for the Klamath WMA

The Surface Water Monitoring Program (SWAMP) rotated intensive surveys into the Klamath WMA in FY 2002-03. The intensive survey focused on overall assessment of water quality in the WMA, and addressed assessment of known problem areas.

Additional assessment by Regional Water Board staff is needed to test hypotheses about support of beneficial uses MUN, REC1, COLD, RARE, or provide assessment information essential for program implementation.

1. **Klamath River mainstem**

The Klamath River is on the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List of Impaired Water Bodies. A TMDL for dissolved oxygen, temperature and nutrients is currently under development and the technical analysis is scheduled for completion by December 2008. We will be collecting data specific to our needs for TMDL development and implementation of nonpoint source controls. We will be returning to two long-term trend monitoring stations and one rotating basin station in the Klamath River in FY 2006-07.

2. **Shasta River**

The Shasta River has a TMDL and implementation plan in place for temperature and dissolved oxygen impacts. For FY 2006-07, SWAMP will continue monitoring the Shasta River at the permanent station located near the town of Yreka, above the confluence with the Klamath River and will also monitor one rotating basin station, first established and sampled in FY 2002-03 (105SHAEDG).

3. **Scott River**

The Scott River watershed has a TMDL and implementation plan in place for temperature and sediment impacts. For FY 2006-07, SWAMP will continue monitoring the Scott River at the permanent station located near its confluence with the Klamath River.

Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program Monitoring Stations for the Klamath River Watershed Management Area – HUC 105

Long-term monitoring stations

Seven long-term stations were established in the spring of 2001: Klamath River below Iron Gate Reservoir (USGS gage), at Everill Creek, at Gottville river access, at Seiad Valley (USGS gage), at Weithcpec, and the Scott and Shasta Rivers near their confluences with the Klamath River. For this FY, monitoring at the Branscomb and Holmes stations has been suspended due to funding constraints. Monitoring will continue at the remaining long term trend stations for FY 2006-07.

Rotating basin monitoring stations

We will be monitoring two rotating basin station in the Shasta Rive watershed originally established and sampled in FY 2002-03: Klamath River at Klamath Glen; Shasta River at Edgewood Road.

Klamath River Hydrologic Unit (105) - FY 2006-07 Monitoring Activities					
Station HUC	Beneficial Use(s) (4)	Monitoring Objectives (1)	Freq (2)	Category	Indicator(s) (3)
KLAMGL (R) 105.11 (Klamath River at Klamath Glenn)	MUN,REC1,REC2,RARE, COLD,SPWN,MIGR,WILD	1,2,3,9,10,11,12, 13	5 C 4 O	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic and Organic Water Chemistry, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature, Vitellogenin
KLAMWP (P) 105.12 (Klamath River at Weitchpec)	MUN, AGR, IND, GWR, FRSH, NAV, REC1, REC2, COMM, WARM, COLD, BSA, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN, CUL	1,2,3,9,10,11,12, 13	5 C	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic Water Chemistry, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature,
KLAMCO 105.37 (Klamath River below Iron Gate)	FRSH, NAV, REC1, REC2, COMM, WARM, COLD, BSA, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN, SHELL	1,2,3,9,10,11,12, 13	4 C 4 O 3 H 4 T	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic and Organic Water Chemistry, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature,
SCOTSH 105.41 (Scott River at Steel Head)	MUN, AGR, IND, GWR, FRSH, NAV, REC1, REC2, COMM, COLD, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN	1,2,3,9,10,11,12, 13	4 C 4 O 3 H 4 T	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic and Organic Water Chemistry, Herbicides, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature

Klamath River Hydrologic Unit (105) - FY 2006-07 Monitoring Activities					
Station HUC	Beneficial Use(s) [4]	Monitoring Objectives [1]	Freq [2]	Category	Indicator(s) [3]
SHAEDG (R) 105.50 (Shasta River nr Edgewood)	MUN,REC1,REC2,RARE, COLD,SPWN,MIGR,WILD	1,2,3,9,10,11,12, 13	5 C 4 O 3 H	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic and Organic Water Chemistry, Herbicides, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature
SHA263 105.50 (Shasta River at Highway 263)	MUN, AGR, IND, GWR, FRSH, NAV, REC1, REC2, COMM, WARM, COLD, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN, AQUA	1,2,3,9,10,11,12, 13	4 C 4 O 3 H 4 T	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic and Organic Water Chemistry, Herbicides, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature, Vitellogeni

Notes:

1. Monitoring Objectives: See Attachment C: Site-Specific Monitoring
2. Frequency: N = number of samples per FY,
   C= Conventional Water Chemistry
   O = Organic Water Chemistry
   H = Herbicides and surfactants
   T = Trace Metals and Mercury
3. Indicator: See Attachment C: Site-Specific Monitoring
4. Includes existing and proposed Beneficial Uses (per Basin Plan amendment adopted by NCRWQCB on June 26, 2003, approved by the SWRCB in June, 2004 and pending approval by the U. S. EPA)

Trinity River Hydrologic Unit (106).

The Trinity River comprises the Trinity WMA as described in the Watershed Planning Chapter.

The Trinity River, a wild and scenic river located in northwestern California, is the largest tributary to the Klamath River. Its basin drains an area of about 2900 square miles of mountainous terrain, with its headwater streams originating in the Klamath and Coast Ranges. From its headwaters, the river flows 172 miles south and west through Trinity County, then north through Humboldt County and the Hoopa Valley and Yurok Indian reservations. The confluence with Klamath River at Weitchpec is about 43 miles upstream from the Pacific Ocean. In the early 1950's two major water-development features: Lewiston Dam and its reservoir and related facilities and Trinity Dam and its reservoir, known as Trinity Lake, which are jointly known as the Trinity River Division of the Bureau of Reclamation's Central Valley Project (CVP) were installed above River-Mile 112 and the community of Lewiston. Water stored and released from the Trinity Dam reservoir is used for power generation and diverted to out-of-Basin multiple uses throughout the Central Valley of California.

Since the installation of the Trinity River Division (TRD) works, the Lewiston Dam is the uppermost limit of natural salmon and steelhead fish-migration. A fish hatchery and rearing facilities were constructed and operate as part of the TRD to mitigate for the loss of upstream habitat. Trinity Lake has been stocked with a variety of nonnative fish, including Smallmouth and Largemouth bass and Kokanee (landlocked Sockeye salmon). Trinity River downstream of TRD is habitat for not only the anadromous salmonids and other native species, but also has populations of brown trout.

Under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Trinity River downstream of the Lewiston Dam is wholly contained in the Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) for Coho salmon. As such, it is designated as critical habitat for Coho salmon, listed as "threatened" under the ESA in 1997.

The public lands that adjoin the TRD facilities are managed for multiple uses as part of the Whiskeytown-Shasta-Trinity National Recreation Area; those in upper portions of the basin are managed as components of the US Shasta -Trinity and Six Rivers National Forests. Private timberlands, ranches and residential properties are mostly near the Highway 3-Highway 299 corridors in the southeastern part of the basin. The Hoopa Valley Reservation occupies about 170 square miles on both sides of the lowest 15 miles of the river.

This WMA is mostly rural with human population centered near Trinity Center, Weaverville, Lewiston, Hayfork and Hyampom. The only large-scale agriculture is cattle grazing. Timber harvest continues but at a much reduced level than in the past on Federal lands. However, the intensity and scope of logging appears to be increasing in private lands. Toxicity concerns center around acid mine drainage from abandoned mines and past mining activities, sediment release from subdivision development and eroded roads in areas with unstable soil and decomposed granite, septic tank use, aboveground and underground tanks, and lumber mills. The U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management federally manage approximately 80 percent of the land in the Trinity WMA. Of the remaining 20 percent of the basin, which is privately owned, approximately half are industrial timberlands. Old existing access roads that are not maintained or properly decommissioned are a continual source of sedimentation into the Trinity River and its tributaries. Tourism including boating and rafting, is a significant part of the economy of this area.

Starting in 2000, in a cooperative endeavor with federal land management agencies including the U.S. Forest Service, Shasta-Trinity National Forest and the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Geological Service began collecting water and fish tissue samples in the Trinity River watershed upstream of Trinity Dam – an area having a long history of mining activity dating back to the early 1850s.

Water samples analyzed to date had low concentrations of mercury. Fish tissue samples had varying degrees of mercury contamination.

Water Quality Goals and Actions

The broad goals for the Trinity River WMA include improving the anadromous fishery through sediment reductions and habitat enhancements and maintaining the other high beneficial uses of both surface and ground water.

Three specific goals for the Trinity River were identified in the Watershed Planning Chapter and are related through the beneficial uses they address:

- GOAL 1: Protect and enhance salmonid resources (COLD, MIGR, SPWN, RARE)
- GOAL 2: Protect and enhance ground water resources and attendant beneficial uses
- GOAL 3: Protect all other surface water uses

The protection of cold water fisheries (Goal 1) requires the protection of surface water (Goal 3) and ground water (Goal 2) along with additional concerns for siltation, habitat loss, temperature and low tributary flows. Actions for protecting the beneficial uses for Goal 1 (COLD) largely serve to protect all other uses, except MUN.

Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program Monitoring Stations

Long-term monitoring stations

One long-term stations will be maintained in the WMA as established in FY 2000-01: Trinity River at Weitchpec.

Trinity River Hydrologic Unit (106) - FY 2007-08 Monitoring Activities					
Station (Type) [1] HUC	Beneficial Use(s) [5]	Monitoring Objectives [2]	Freq [3]	Category(s)	Indicator(s) [4]
TRINWP (P) 106.11 (Trinity River at Weitchpec)	MUN, AGR, IND, GWR, FRSH, NAV, REC1, REC2, COMM, WARM, COLD, BSA, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN, CUL	1,2,3,5,9,10, 11,12,13	5 C	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic Water Chemistry, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature, Vitellogenin

Notes: 1. Type: P = Permanent, R = Rotating
2. Monitoring Objectives: See Attachment C: Site-Specific Monitoring
3. Frequency: N = number of samples per FY, C= Conventional Water Chemistry
O = Organic Water Chemistry
4. Indicator: See Attachment C: Site-Specific Monitoring
5. Includes existing and proposed Beneficial Uses (per Basin Plan amendment adopted by NCRWQCB on June 26, 2003 and pending approval by SWRCB and U. S. EPA)

Redwood Creek Hydrologic Unit (107).

Redwood Creek comprises a portion of the Humboldt Bay Watershed Management Area and is largely National Park land in the lower section of the watershed and along the main stem. However, private industrial timberland comprises a significant portion of the upper watershed and tributary areas. Redwood Creek supports production of anadromous salmonids, including steelhead and cutthroat trout, and coho and chinook salmon. It appears that sedimentation has moved into the lower part of the watershed from past activities in the upper watershed. The National Park staff is conducting assessments of documented problem areas and follow-up coordination for implementing controls is being conducted. A Section 303(d) Water Quality Attainment Strategy ("TMDL") will build upon the existing efforts to coordinate activities in the watershed to benefit enhancement of the salmonid resources. Redwood Creek was a NCWAP assessment watershed for calendar year 2001 and has been included in the final assessment report.

Under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Redwood Creek is wholly contained in the Northern California Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) for Steelhead, listed as "threatened" under the ESA in 2000. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is currently developing Steelhead critical habitat status and description for this ESU.

Redwood Creek is also wholly contained in the California Coastal Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) for Chinook salmon. As such, it is designated as critical habitat for Chinook salmon, listed as "threatened" under the ESA in 1999.

Redwood Creek is identified as a Critical Coastal Area as designated under the Plan for California's Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program. (NCRWQCB Watershed Planning Chapter, February 2005, Appendix C).

Surface Water Monitoring Program Monitoring Stations for the Redwood Creek Hydrologic Unit (107).

SWAMP has established one long-term trend station in Redwood Creek just upstream of the highway 101 bridge in the town of Orick. SWAMP plans to continue monitoring at this station for FY 2006-07.

Redwood Creek Hydrologic Unit (107) - FY 2006-07 Monitoring Activities					
Station HUC	Beneficial Use(s) [4]	Monitoring Objectives [1]	Freq [2]	Category	Indicator(s) [3]
RDWDOR 107.10 (Redwood Creek at Orick)	MUN, AGR, IND, GWR, NAV, REC1, REC2, COMM, COLD, BSA, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN	1,2,3,9,10,11,12, 13	4 C 4 O 3 H 4 T	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic and Organic Water Chemistry, Herbicides, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature

Notes:

1. Monitoring Objectives: See Attachment C: Site-Specific Monitoring
2. Frequency: N = number of samples per FY,
   C= Conventional Water Chemistry
   O = Organic Water Chemistry
   H = Herbicides and surfactants
   T = Trace Metals and Mercury
3. Indicator: See Attachment C: Site-Specific Monitoring

4. Includes existing and proposed Beneficial Uses (per Basin Plan amendment adopted by NCRWQCB on June 26, 2003, approved by the SWRCB in June, 2004 and pending approval by the U. S. EPA)

Mad River Hydrologic Unit (109)

The Mad River Hydrologic Unit comprises a portion of the Humboldt Bay Watershed Management Area as identified in the Watershed Planning Chapter.

The Mad River watershed is mixed private and Forest Service timberland with a long history of timber harvest. Adding to the mix is gravel mining in the lower portions of the watershed. The Mad River is Section 303(d) listed for turbidity and temperature impacts. The primary issues for the watershed are forestry-related, with urbanization and associated industrial and public point sources. For the Mad River and its tributaries, discharge of waste is allowed only under NPDES permit during the period of October 1 through May 14 and at 1% of the flow of the receiving water. The McKinleyville Community Services District discharges municipal effluent to the Mad River in compliance with those restrictions. The City of Blue Lake does not discharge directly, disposing of effluent in percolation/evaporation ponds.

Ruth Lake - a 48,000 acre foot reservoir on the Mad River is the primary water source for the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District (HBMWD). The HBMWD is a wholesale water agency that serves the greater Humboldt Bay area - including the cities of Eureka, Arcata and Blue Lake, as well as Community Service Districts serving unincorporated areas such as McKinleyville, Cutten, Fairhaven, Fieldbrook and Manila. The population served via these agencies totals about 65,000 people. HBMWD's service area contains a large variety of business and industry; College of the Redwoods, a two year community college; and, Humboldt State University, a campus of the California State University System.

Under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Mad River is wholly contained in the Northern California Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) for Steelhead, listed as “threatened” under the ESA in 2000. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is currently developing Steelhead critical habitat status and description for this ESU.

The Mad River is also wholly contained in the California Coastal Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) for Chinook salmon. As such, it is designated as critical habitat for Chinook salmon, listed as “threatened” under the ESA in 1999.

The Mad River is identified as a Critical Coastal Area as designated under the Plan for California’s Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program. (NCRWQCB Watershed Planning Chapter, February 2005, Appendix C)

Surface Water Monitoring Program Monitoring Stations for the Mad River Hydrologic Unit (109).

One permanent station and five rotating stations were established for this hydrologic unit for FY 01-02. Three stations were specifically established in Ruth Lake to monitor the extent of MtBE and other fuel by-products including benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylene (BTEX). Previous SWAMP monitoring at these stations has indicated the presence of MTBE in the water column at low levels, below the Public Health Goal (PHG) established by OEHHA. No further monitoring is planned for these stations for FY 2006-07.

The SWAMP has addressed some monitoring issues in the WMA in FY 2000-01 and intensified monitoring in the rotation into the WMA in FY 2001-02. For the FY 2006-07, we will maintain the permanent station established in FY 01-02 in the Mad River at Blue Lake.

Mad River Hydrologic Unit (109). - FY 2006-07 Monitoring Activities					
Station HUC	Beneficial Use(s) (4)	Monitoring Objectives (1)	Freq (2)	Category	Indicator(s) (3)

Mad River Hydrologic Unit (109). - FY 2006-07 Monitoring Activities					
Station HUC	Beneficial Use(s) [4]	Monitoring Objectives [1]	Freq [2]	Category	Indicator(s) [3]
MADBLU 109.10 (Mad River at Blue Lake)	MUN,AGR, IND, PRO,GWR, FRSH, NAV, REC1, REC2, COMM, COLD, BSA, WILD, RARE, MIGR,SPWN, EST, AQUA, CUL	1,2,3,9,10,11,12	4 C 4 O 3 H 4 T	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic and Organic Water Chemistry, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature

Notes:

1. Monitoring Objectives: See Attachment C: Site-Specific Monitoring
2. Frequency: N = number of samples per FY,
   C= Conventional Water Chemistry
   O = Organic Water Chemistry
   H = Herbicides and surfactants
   T = Trace Metals and Mercury
3. Indicator: See Attachment C: Site-Specific Monitoring
4. Includes existing and proposed Beneficial Uses (per Basin Plan amendment adopted by NCRWQCB on June 26, 2003, approved by the SWRCB in June, 2004 and pending approval by the U. S. EPA)

Eel River Hydrologic Unit (111).

The Eel River comprises the Eel River WMA as described in the Watershed Planning Chapter. The Eel River Watershed encompasses roughly 3,684 square miles in highly erodable soils in the steep coastal mountains of the NCR, supporting a variety of water uses including municipal and agricultural supply systems, salmonid fisheries, and recreation. Surface water in many areas is intimately connected with the ground water along the nearby alluvial valleys, thereby having a profound effect on local groundwater supplies. The Eel River Watershed is also a prime recreational area boasting numerous state and private campgrounds along its length with both contact and noncontact uses such as boating and swimming. The Eel River is the third largest producer of salmon and steelhead in the State of California and supports a large recreational fishing industry. The erodable soils, steep terrain, and timber production evoke a high level of concern for the anadromous fishery resource. Coho salmon were listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act in 1997. It is heavily forested and as such, heavily utilized for timber production. Numerous activities occur within the watershed that may result in potential adverse effects to the beneficial uses of the Eel River Watershed. Municipal, agricultural, and recreational uses may be impaired through discharges to surface water bodies from chemical, biological, and sedimentary materials entering the surface water system. A few of the many activities threatening surface water beneficial uses include: illegal waste disposal, vehicle and railroad maintenance yard operations, herbicide application, gravel extraction, timber harvesting, road building, dairy operations, automotive wrecking yard activities, historical mill operations, wood treatment facilities, publicly owned treatment works, and failing septic systems.

Lake Pillsbury is a reservoir located on the Eel River in northwest Lake County in a relatively remote area. It is surrounded by Mendocino National Forest, and access is mainly via unpaved roads. The reservoir, operated by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), was created by the impoundment of water on the Eel River by the Scott Dam, and is used for water storage and to provide water flows downstream for fish. Scott Dam is located on the southwest shore of the reservoir, and was completed in the early 1020's. The reservoir has a drainage area of approximately 290 square miles and a surface area of approximately 2200 acres. Lake Pillsbury is a component of the Potter Valley Project which diverts approximately 160,000 acre-feet of water annually into the Russian River system through the Potter

Valley diversion tunnel into the Potter Valley power plant for the generation of electricity. The water then flows through Potter Valley and into Lake Mendocino via the East Fork of the Russian River.

Lake Pillsbury is a popular recreation and fishing lake. It is served by four campgrounds with over 153 campsites, all located on the waters edge. Mercury is a common element found in the soils in and around Lake Pillsbury. Some of this mercury has made its way into the food chain. High mercury concentrations have been detected in largemouth bass and pike minnow. As a consequence of these findings, the State of California, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, has issued a health advisory concerning the consumption of certain fish from Lake Pillsbury.

Under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Eel River system is wholly contained in the Northern California Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) for Steelhead, listed as "threatened" under the ESA in 2000. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is currently developing Steelhead critical habitat status and description for this ESU.

The Eel River system is also wholly contained in the California Coastal Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) for Chinook salmon. As such, it is designated as critical habitat for Chinook salmon, listed as "threatened" under the ESA in 1999.

In general, the primary issues associated with water quality in the Eel River WMA are focused on the beneficial uses for drinking water supply, recreation, and the salmonid fishery.

Four water quality goals for the Eel River WMA have been identified are related through the beneficial uses they address:

- Goal 1: Protect and enhance the salmonid resources (COLD*)*
- Goal 2: Protect other surface water uses (MUN, AGR, REC 1, REC-2)
- Goal 3: Protect ground water uses (MUN, IND, AGR, REC-1, REC-2)
- Goal 4. Protect warmwater fishery resources

Protection of surface water (Goal 2) for the primary beneficial uses MUN, AGR, REC-1 and REC-2 will in most cases protect all other beneficial uses. The MUN (municipal and domestic supply) beneficial use designation is for uses of water for community, or individual water supply systems including, but not limited to, drinking water supply. It demands, therefore, the highest quality of water. The REC-1 (water contact recreation) beneficial use designation is for uses of water for recreational activities involving body contact with water, where ingestion is reasonably possible. This beneficial use also demands a high degree of water quality. If MUN and REC-1 beneficial uses are protected then it follows that agricultural and industrial supplies are also protected which relates Goal 2 to Goal 3. The protection of cold and warm water fisheries (Goals 1 and 4) requires the protection of surface and ground waters (Goals 2 and 3) along with additional concerns for siltation, habitat loss, low tributary flows and water temperature. Therefore, by protecting the beneficial uses that demand the highest quality waters most components supporting the other beneficial uses also will be protected.

The Eel River within the coastal zone is identified as a Critical Coastal Area as designated under the Plan for California's Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program. (NCRWQCB Watershed Planning Chapter, February 2005, Appendix C)

Surface Water Monitoring Program Monitoring Stations for the Eel River Hydrologic Unit (111).

Long-term monitoring stations

Six long-term stations were established in the spring of 2001: South Fork at confluence, Bull Creek, and near Branscomb Creek; Eel River at Dos Rios (Holmes); Middle Fork at Dos Rios. A reference station has been established at Elder Creek above the confluence with the Eel River. For this FY, monitoring at

the Branscomb and Holmes stations has been suspended due to funding constraints. Monitoring will continue at the remaining long term trend stations for FY 2006-07.

Eel River Hydrologic Unit (111) - FY 2006-07 Monitoring Activities					
Station HUC	Beneficial Use(s) [4]	Monitoring Objectives [1]	Freq [2]	Category	Indicator(s) [3]
EELSFK 111.30 (Eel River – South Fork d/s of Bull Creek)	MUN,AGR, IND, GWR, FRSH, NAV, COMM, WARM, REC1,REC2, COLD, BSA, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN	1,2,3,9,10,11, 12,13	4 C	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic Water Chemistry, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature
ELDRCR 111.33 (Elder Creek at Eel River)	MUN,AGR, IND, GWR, FRSH, NAV, COMM, WARM, REC1,REC2, COLD, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN	1,2,3,9,10,11, 12,13	4 C 4 O 3 H 4 T	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic and Organic Water Chemistry, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature,
EELMDV 111.41 (Eel River above Dyerville)	MUN,AGR, IND, GWR, FRSH, NAV, COMM, WARM, REC1,REC2, COLD, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN	1,2,3,9,10,11, 12,13	4 C	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic Water Chemistry, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature
EELMAN 111.41 (Eel River above Dos Rios)	MUN,AGR, IND, GWR, FRSH, NAV, COMM, WARM, REC1,REC2, COLD, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN	1,2,3,9,10,11, 12,13,	4 C	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic Water Chemistry, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature
MFKEEL 111.62 (Eel River – Middle Fork at Dos Rios)	MUN,AGR, IND, PRO, GWR, FRSH, NAV, POW, REC1,REC2, COMM, WARM, COLD, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN, AQUA	1,2,3,9,10,11, 12,13	4 C	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic Water Chemistry, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature

Notes:

1. Monitoring Objectives: See Attachment C: Site-Specific Monitoring
2. Frequency: N = number of samples per FY,
   C= Conventional Water Chemistry
   O = Organic Water Chemistry
   H = Herbicides and surfactants
   T = Trace Metals and Mercury
3. Indicator: See Attachment C: Site-Specific Monitoring
4. Includes existing and proposed Beneficial Uses (per Basin Plan amendment adopted by NCRWQCB on June 26, 2003, approved by the SWRCB in June, 2004 and pending approval by the U. S. EPA)

Mendocino Coast Hydrologic Unit (113)

Gualala Watershed Management Area (113.82)

The Gualala River watershed in Sonoma and Mendocino counties is about 300 square miles in area. The Gualala River runs in a north-south direction flowing into the ocean at the town of Gualala. The watershed is in mountainous terrain and contains relatively erodible soils. The tributaries flow through steep valleys with narrow bottom lands and elevations range from sea level to over 2,650 feet. The steep slopes are forested mainly with Douglas fir and redwood interspersed with madrone and tan oak. Rainfall averages 38 inches per year at the coast and up to 100 inches per year on the inland peaks. Primary land use is forest production and some grazing. Hillside vineyard development is becoming an increasing threat to water quality as more and more steep land is converted to vineyards.

The Gualala River is listed on California's 303(d) list as a water quality limited water requiring the establishment of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), for sediment. The key stakeholder concern is the decline of the once healthy coho salmon and steelhead trout fisheries thought to be associated with excess sediment load and elevated water temperatures. A Consent Decree entered in settlement of a lawsuit against the USEPA assigned the date of December 31, 2001, for completion of TMDL allocations for the Gualala River.

Under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Gualala River is wholly contained in the Northern California Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) for Steelhead, listed as "threatened" under the ESA in 2000. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is currently developing Steelhead critical habitat status and description for this ESU.

The Gualala River is also wholly contained in the California Coastal Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) for Chinook salmon. As such, it is designated as critical habitat for Chinook salmon, listed as "threatened" under the ESA in 1999.

In addition, the Gualala River is also wholly contained in the Central California Coast Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) for Coho salmon. As such, it is designated as critical habitat for Coho salmon, listed as "threatened" under the ESA in 1996.

The primary water quality goals for the Gualala River center around protection of the beneficial uses associated with aquatic life and drinking water supplies. The development of the TMDL waste reduction strategy for sediment is the highest priority for action in the watershed.

Surface Water Monitoring Program Monitoring Stations for the Mendocino Coast Hydrologic Unit (113), Gualala River.

A permanent station has been established at Gualala Regional Park and will be included in the FY 2006-07 monitoring effort.

Mendocino Coast Hydrologic Unit (113) - FY 2006-07 Monitoring Activities					
Station HUC	Beneficial Use(s) [4]	Monitoring Objectives [1]	Freq [2]	Category	Indicator(s) [3]
GUAGRP 113.84	MUN, AGR, IND, GWR, NAV, REC1,REC2, COMM, WARM, COLD, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN	1,2,3, 9,10,11,12,13, 14,15	4 C 4 O 3 H 4 T	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic Water Chemistry, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature,

Notes:

1. Monitoring Objectives: See Attachment C: Site-Specific Monitoring

2. Frequency: N = number of samples per FY,
C= Conventional Water Chemistry
O = Organic Water Chemistry
H = Herbicides and surfactants
T = Trace Metals and Mercury
3. Indicator: See Attachment C: Site-Specific Monitoring
4. Includes existing and proposed Beneficial Uses (per Basin Plan amendment adopted by NCRWQCB on June 26, 2003, approved by the SWRCB in June, 2004 and pending approval by the U. S. EPA)

Russian River Hydrologic Unit (114)

The Russian river comprises a major part of the Russian/Bodega WMA as described in the Watershed Planning Chapter. The Russian River hydrologic unit encompasses 1485 square miles in Mendocino and Sonoma counties, bounded by the Coast Ranges on both the east and west. The mainstem is about 110 miles long, flowing southward from Redwood and Potter valleys (north of Ukiah) to its confluence with Mark West Creek, where it turns west to cut through the coast range and empties into the Pacific Ocean at Jenner. The principal tributaries from the headwaters down are the East Fork Russian River, Feliz Creek, Pieta Creek, Big Sulfur Creek, Dry Creek, Mark West Creek (including the Laguna de Santa Rosa), Green Valley Creek, Willow Creek, Fife Creek, Austin Creek, and other small streams. Elevations range from sea level at the estuary near Jenner to 4,343 feet at the summit of Mt. St. Helena in the Mayacamas Mountains.

The Russian River ground water basins are generally broad, alluviated valleys in the Coast Range physiographic province of California. The province is dominated by northwest trending mountain ranges and intervening valleys. Cotati Valley is the southern portion of the larger Santa Rosa Valley which is bounded on the east by the Sonoma Mountains and the west by the mountains of the Coast Range Franciscan Complex. The geologic materials in the unsaturated zone between the ground surface and the top of ground water generally consists of interbedded clays, silts and sands. Sediments underlying the valley are predominantly young, unconsoliated fluvial deposits of Quaternary age derived from the nearby Sonoma Mountains and are characterized by variable grain sizes, composed mainly of interbedded gravel, sand, silt, and silty clay. Sedimentary rocks of the Petaluma Formation and volcanic rocks of the Sonoma Group underlie the valley alluvium and are exposed in the hills to the east.

Two reservoirs provide flood protection and water supply storage: 1) Coyote Dam and Lake Mendocino on the East Fork Russian River near Ukiah, and 2) Warm Springs Dam and Lake Sonoma on Dry Creek west of Healdsburg. A diversion from the Eel River through the Potter Valley powerhouse flows into the East Fork and Lake Mendocino. The Russian River hydrologic unit supplies drinking water, including ground water supply to over 500,000 people and an unknown amount of water for agricultural purposes. The State Division of Water Rights has declared the Russian River tributaries fully appropriated from April 1 through December 14. The Water Rights Division is in the process of developing a strategy to deal with additional diversions in the mainstem and tributaries outside of the fully appropriated period. The majority of flow in the Russian River is during the winter season, when rainfall ranges from 30-80 inches, depending on locale. The summer climate is moist and cool near the coast with temperatures increasing in the upper valley areas that are more isolated from the coastal influence. Ground water is found in shallow to deep aquifers. The water table aquifer is particularly vulnerable to contamination from nitrates and toxic chemicals, and drinking water wells often withdraw from this shallow aquifer, and may connect the shallow layers with deeper ground water bearing zones.

Land Uses in the Russian River Hydrologic Unit

The watershed is agriculturally based, with urban and industrial uses concentrated around the incorporated municipalities. The most notable are Ukiah, Cloverdale, Healdsburg, Guerneville, Windsor, Rohnert Park, Cotati, Sebastopol, and Santa Rosa. The largest concentration of urban and industrial use is

in the Santa Rosa Plain, with Ukiah and Windsor second and third. Industrial uses include electronics manufacturing industries, petroleum distribution plants, light manufacturing, wrecking and salvage yards, wineries, wood products, and industries related to the construction industry. Santa Rosa is the commercial distribution center for the North Coast.

In the Potter Valley area north of Ukiah, irrigated agriculture and pasturing are common land uses. Rangeland and mixed coniferous forests (with minimal timber harvesting) are prevalent in the hills away from the farmed alluvial plains. Around Ukiah, irrigated orchard and vineyard are common land uses with light industry, several large wood products facilities associated with the timber industry, and gravel mining. Water quality issues in this part of the watershed are primarily associated with industrial areas, historical waste disposal practices, wastewater treatment plants, water use, erosion and sedimentation in the tributaries, destruction of riparian areas, and agricultural chemical uses in the alluvial areas.

Moving down the watershed, the Hopland area is predominantly vineyard with rangeland grazing in the areas away from the mainstem. The river then cuts through a small canyon with rangeland grazing as the primary land use before reaching Cloverdale and more vineyards. Vineyards dominate the valley areas down to the Santa Rosa Plains. Vineyard development in the hillside areas adjacent to the alluvial terrace is an increasing concern from the standpoint of erosion and sedimentation. Gravel terrace pits are another feature interspersed in the alluvial plain. In addition to the water quality issues upstream, bank erosion, health of riparian areas, construction activities, and more industrial, commercial, household, and agricultural chemical uses rank high as concerns for this area.

The Santa Rosa Plain and Healdsburg hydrogeologic areas contain large ground water basins, supplying water for municipal, domestic, industrial and agricultural uses. The Santa Rosa Plain and tributary uplands include a number of animal facility operations. There are currently 24 active dairies in the Mark West Creek (Laguna de Santa Rosa) watershed. Conversion of rangeland, pasture, and orchards to vineyard has increased in the last decade. The availability of reclaimed wastewater produced by the City of Santa Rosa operated sub-regional municipal wastewater treatment facility has resulted in conversion of about 6,500 acres of rangeland to irrigated pasture, cultivated fodder crops, and other uses. The Santa Rosa Plain is the most populated area in the North Coast Region with six incorporated communities and over 200,000 residents (1990 US Census). A number of large river terrace pit-type gravel mines are located downstream of Healdsburg.

The trend appears to be towards continued conversion of range, pasture and forest lands to vineyards, and continued growth of the urban areas of Ukiah, Cloverdale, Guerneville, Healdsburg, Windsor, Santa Rosa, and Rohnert Park. In the future there will be a major expansion in the electronic industry. Associated with that growth are active construction sites and an increase in light industrial operations. A concerted effort is being made in the Santa Rosa Plains to retain the reclaimed wastewater irrigated crop and pastureland type of agriculture and maintain the viability of the dairy industry. However, significant conversion of rangeland and pasture to vineyards continues to occur . The market for premium North Coast wine grapes far outstrips supply. Therefore, the pressure for land conversion to vineyards probably will not diminish, and there could be a water supply issue in the future.

The Laguna de Santa Rosa watershed drains the southern two-thirds of the Santa Rosa Plains. The Laguna de Santa Rosa, which is a major tributary of Mark West Creek, is listed for nutrient and dissolved oxygen impairment on the C W A section 303(d) list. Nutrient and dissolved oxygen impairments result from both point and nonpoint source discharges and the hydrology of the watershed. An active waste reduction strategy is underway per section 303(d) requirements, including the development of waste loading limitations.

The Russian River turns to the west and cuts through the Coastal Range downstream from the confluence of the Laguna de Santa Rosa and Mark West Creek tributary area. This downstream physical structure of the river has a lower gradient and the summer base flow occupies most of the low flow channel. The lower Russian River hillsides are steep and forested with mixed conifers, redwoods being the major component. Residential areas are located periodically along the river with a number of them on the

narrow flood plain itself. Land uses are consistent with the semi-rural setting with vineyards and pastures located on the flood plain benches. Industrial activity is associated primarily with timber (harvesting and lumber) and the construction trade. Tourism associated with summer recreational use of the river is a major economic base. Growth has been sporadic. The 1990 census lists five unincorporated communities with less than 10,000 residents. Water quality concerns include effects from upstream land use activities in both urban and rural areas and include individual on-site septic system problems and erosion and sedimentation problems from tributary streams. As the river flood plain flattens to meet the ocean, the river widens into a relatively narrow estuary in the Jenner area. Land use is predominantly rangeland grazing and timber production.

Under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Russian River is wholly contained in the Central California Coast Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) for Steelhead, listed as "threatened" under the ESA in 2000. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is currently developing Steelhead critical habitat status and description for this ESU.

The Russian River is also wholly contained in the California Coastal Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) for Chinook salmon. As such, it is designated as critical habitat for Chinook salmon, listed as "threatened" under the ESA in 1999.

In addition, the Russian River is also wholly contained in the Central California Coast Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) for Coho salmon. As such, it is designated as critical habitat for Coho salmon, listed as "threatened" under the ESA in 1996.

Surface Water Monitoring Program Monitoring Stations for the Russian River Hydrologic Unit (114).

Monitoring for the 2006-07 FY cycle will include the following five permanent, long-term trend stations.

Russian River Hydrologic Unit (114) - FY 2006-07 Monitoring Activities					
Station HUC	Beneficial Use(s) [4]	Monitoring Objectives [1]	Freq [2]	Category	Indicator(s) [3]
RRTAL 114.31 (Russian River at Tamadge - Ukiah)	MUN, AGR, IND, GWR, FRSH, NAV, POW, REC1, REC2, COMM, WARM, COLD, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN	1,2,3,4,9,10,11, 12,13	4 C 4 O 3 H 4 T	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic and Organic Water Chemistry, Herbicides, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature, Vitellogenin
RRCLO 114.25 (Russian River Cloverdale)	MUN, AGR, IND, GWR, FRSH, NAV, REC1, REC2, COMM, WARM, COLD, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN	1,2,3,4,9,10,11, 12,13	4 C 4 O 3 H 4 T	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic and Organic Water Chemistry, Herbicides, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature, Vitellogenin
RRHMB 114.24 (Russian River at Healdsburg Memorial Beach)	MUN, AGR, IND, GWR, FRSH, NAV, REC1, REC2, COMM, WARM, COLD, BSA, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN, AQUA	1,2,3,4,9,10,11, 12,13	4 C 4 O 3 H 4 T	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure,	Inorganic and Organic Water Chemistry, Herbicides, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total

Russian River Hydrologic Unit (114) - FY 2006-07 Monitoring Activities					
Station HUC	Beneficial Use(s) [4]	Monitoring Objectives [1]	Freq [2]	Category	Indicator(s) [3]
				Habitat	Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature, Vitellogenin
LAGMIR 114.11 (Laguns de Santa Rosa at Mriabel)	MUN, AGR, IND, GWR, FRSH, NAV, REC1, REC2, COMM, WARM, COLD, BSA, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN, EST	1,2,3,4,9,10,11, 12,13	4 C 4 O 3 H 4 T	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic and Organic Water Chemistry, Herbicides, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature, Vitellogenin
RRJB 114.11 (Russian River at Johnson's Beach)	MUN, AGR, IND, GWR, FRSH, NAV, REC1, REC2, COMM, WARM, COLD, BSA, WILD, RARE, MIGR, SPWN, EST	1,2,3,4,9,10,11, 12,13	4 C 4 O 3 H 4 T	Contaminant Exposure, Biological Response, Pollutant Exposure, Habitat	Inorganic and Organic Water Chemistry, Herbicides, Chl-a, Nutrients, Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Temperature, Vitellogenin

Notes:

1. Monitoring Objectives: See Attachment C: Site-Specific Monitoring
2. Frequency: N = number of samples per FY,
   C= Conventional Water Chemistry
   O = Organic Water Chemistry
   H = Herbicides and surfactants
   T = Trace Metals and Mercury
3. Indicator: See Attachment C: Site-Specific Monitoring
4. Includes existing and proposed Beneficial Uses (per Basin Plan amendment adopted by NCRWQCB on June 26, 2003, approved by the SWRCB in June, 2004 and pending approval by the U. S. EPA)

Intra-Agency Coordination Activities

SWAMP interfaces with a number of regional board programs. SWAMP data is used by our regulatory unit to provide information on the potential impacts of regulated facilities and in the issuance and renewal of NPDES permits. Our Grants unit uses the SWAMP QAPP. SWAMP data is provided to the nonpoint source unit for the 305(b) assessment and 303(d) listing processes. The TMDL development unit uses SWAMP data and equipment for TMDL development and preparation of implementation plans.

Region One Intra-agency operations

Agency Group	Monitoring Program Description	Available Data Format	Using SWAMP QAPP	Data SWAMP Compatable	Data used for 303(d) & 3 05(b)
TMDLs	TMDL monitoring for loading assessments in Region 1 rivers including the Scott, Shasta, Lost, Klamath and Russian Rivers	Data currently being collected and planned over the next several years. Future data will be consistent with the SWAMP format.	X	X	X
Core Regulatory	SWAMP ambient data being used for issuance and renewal of NPDES permits and Monitoring and Reporting Plans and mixing zone calculations.	SWAMP database	X	X	X

Inter-agency and Organizational Coordination

SWAMP is currently in coordination with the following local agencies and organizations collecting and sharing data from various waterbodies in the Region

	Monitoring Activities	Coordination Status
Tribal		
Yurok Indian Tribe	WQ Monitoring in Klamath River System	Information and equipment sharing
Karuk Indian Tribe	WQ Monitoring in Klamath River System	Information and equipment sharing
Hoopa Indian Tribe	WQ Monitoring in Klamath-Trinity River System	Information sharing
Quartz Valley Indian Tribe	WQ Monitoring in Scott River	Information and equipment sharing
Local		
Humboldt County RCD	WQ Monitoring in Salt River System	Information and equipment sharing
Sotoyome RCD	Austin Creek Monitoring Program	Information and equipment sharing
Mendocino Land Trust	Big River Monitoring	Information and equipment sharing
Volunteer		
Russian Riverkeeper	Russian River First Flush	Data acquired, NCRWQCB provides in-house laboratory space
Sotoyome RCD	Russian River First Flush	Data acquired, NCRWQCB provides in-house laboratory space

SWAMP provides data and coordinates monitoring efforts in the Klamath-Trinity basin with the efforts of the USFWS, the Yurok, Hoopa and Karuk Tribes. The Klamath Basin Fish Health Assessment Team (KBFHAT) will draw on SWAMP resources during and after any fish die-off in the basin.

Specific Sample Design and Sample Collection

Wadeable Stream and River Sites

The field crew will collect the samples at sites where the geo-coordinates were previously recorded on the site reconnaissance form during past field work at these stations. If sampling work is being performed at a new station, the geo-coordinates and cross-referenced photographs, and other pertinent information shall be recorded on the field form for future reference. If there is confusion about locating a site, it shall be resolved in consultation with RWQCB staff member present in the field or via phone contact with the regional SWAMP program coordinator. Sufficient volume of sediment or tissue or water shall be collected in order to perform the analyses to be conducted at each station, as well as to allow for archiving of samples for future analysis, as shown on Attachment A "Services to be performed at each station/Budget".

Sample collection and subsequent processing and testing will be performed according to protocols specified in the most recent version of the SWAMP Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) and region-specific QAPP's/SOP's."

Laboratory Analysis

Surface water sample collection will be contracted through the Department of Fish and Game.

Actual analytical services that will be performed on each sample are detailed in the attached table: "Services to be performed at Each Station/Budget (Attachment A).

A statewide SWAMP QAPP has been developed by CDFG. The QAPP addresses issues of analytical methodology, detection limits and QA/QC criteria. The provisions of this plan will be adopted and consistently applied by all Regions.

Data Quality Evaluation and Data Reporting

Analytical results shall be reported in tabular format and in a timely manner by the laboratory. Appropriate QA/QC documentation should accompany each report pursuant to the SWAMP. In addition, the data shall be provided electronically in EXCEL format.

Deliverable Products

The State Board shall receive the following deliverable products pursuant to this workplan:

- CDFG Master Contract with amendments as appropriate.
- Aquatic Toxicology Laboratory Contract
- Site reconnaissance data, sample collection information, and chemical, physical and biological analysis as specified per contract work order.
- Laboratory analysis and data reports as specified per contract work order.

The data report will include the following items, where applicable, but shall not necessarily be limited to the following items:

All station data including CDFG station name, station number, IDORG number, leg number, sample collection date, sample station longitude and latitude, sample GPS coordinates, sample station water

depth, sample location characteristics, toxicity test endpoint mean and standard deviation, and all detection limits. In addition to the above data, the following will also be reported for all stations indicated on the attached "Services to be performed at each station/cost" spreadsheet for bioassessment: raw data and computed biological indices. Additionally, data from the bioaccumulation tests will be reported as tissue chemistry data for the specific chemical constituents shown on the attached "Services to be performed at each station/cost" spreadsheet. A map (and GIS shape file) should be included showing the locations of each sampling station and an indication of the overall integrity of that site as excellent, good, marginal, or poor. Another map (and GIS shape file) should further indicate the integrity of each site for biological, chemical, and toxicity data results expressed as a triad for each site.

- Other tasks as specified in the contract Scope of Work.

Desired Milestone Schedule

We plan four sampling episodes for all stations in this FY for the collection of conventional chemistry and metals. Some of these episodes will include sampling for water column organic chemicals and herbicides at selected stations.

Currently, we plan to initiate sample collection in November of 2007. For the following calendar year, we plan to collect samples in February, April, and July of 2008.

Desired Sample Throughput Schedule

Ideally, provisional sample results for each sampling episode should be provided to the Regional Board prior to the subsequent sampling episode for the same set of stations.

Actual schedule will be provided by CDFG.

Budget

Please see Attachment A: "Services to be Preformed at Each Station/Budget"

Other Information and Attachments

Statewide Monitoring Efforts

Attachments:

Attachment A: "Services to be Performed at Each Station/Budget"

Attachment B: "Regional Monitoring"

Attachment C: "Site-Specific Monitoring"