

## North Coast Regional Water Board

During the first five years of the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP), the North Coast Regional Water Board focused on funding monitoring in each of our 6 watershed management areas. We established 80 rotating stations and 29 long-term trend monitoring stations on 49 rivers and streams throughout the North Coast Region. Due to funding constraints, we have spent most of our funding allocation on monitoring wadeable streams and large rivers, relying upon water column chemistry to assess whether the aquatic life beneficial use is supported. An [interpretive report](#) on this data is available through the State Water Board website.

Our Regional SWAMP efforts were initially coordinated to provide information to the North Coast Watershed Assessment Program and the Total Maximum Daily Load program as well as to provide information to managers and decision makers where limited or no data was previously available. These efforts provide almost all of the Regional ambient monitoring data that we use to assess the general health and condition of our waters. SWAMP data have proven to be especially valuable for assessing the many unpopulated areas of the Region where other entities are not actively monitoring. We also are using these data to prepare the 303(d) and 305(b) Integrated Water Quality Assessment Report. Over 60% of the “Lines of Evidence” used to evaluate the North Coast waterbodies for the Integrated Water Quality Assessment Report were based on Regional SWAMP data.

In addition, the North Coast Regional Water Board utilized SWAMP funding to investigate MTBE concentrations in two North Coast lakes and to conduct a screening study of estrogenic endocrine disrupting



chemicals in two major rivers in the North Coast in conjunction with the Central Valley Water Regional Board.

Currently we are involved with the development of the Klamath River Water Quality Monitoring Group, a regional monitoring program comprised of members from Federal, State, County, Tribal agencies, and local non-governmental organizations. We also provide training, staff time, and equipment to local and Tribal entities throughout the Region to increase their involvement in data collection, analysis, and assessment.

The North Coast Regional Water Board is re-evaluating the direction of our Regional SWAMP efforts for fiscal year 2010-2011. We are evaluating all of the data collected to date by SWAMP and other entities to determine where additional information is needed and where additional investigations are warranted.

