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Title:

Central Coast Healthy Watersheds assessment: Integrating surface water, groundwater and land use data into a regional assessment to support management decision-making

Brief abstract:

The Central Coast Water Board has established goals of healthy aquatic life, clean ground water and proper land management to support its vision of “Healthy Watersheds”. We have used both modeled and measured data to evaluate surface water health, and are now working to integrate that data with other data associated with groundwater quality and land management. To support this effort, we have made use of Recovery Potential Analysis (RPA), a tool developed by U.S. EPA to combine and map geographic data representing ecological status, stressors, and the human potential for affecting change. We have incorporated data sets from the State’s Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment program (GAMA) and the California Healthy Watersheds Assessment, as well as locally collected datasets related to land management. The EPA RPA tool can be customized to focus on specific watersheds, regions, or issues of concern. A version of RPA already populated with data specific to the state of California is available at [http://www.ccamp.us/ccamp\\_org/tech\\_support/](http://www.ccamp.us/ccamp_org/tech_support/), and can be readily adapted for use by others.