EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARD

August 2024

EMPLOYEE: Stephen Huie
UNIT: Nonpoint Source Planning 303(d)
TITLE: Environmental Scientist
SUPERVISOR/TITLE: Jennifer LaBay, Sr. Environmental Scientist

---

Stephen has been an Environmental Scientist with the Central Valley Water Board since September 2021. Since joining the Board Stephen has been working on a region-wide evaluation of bio stimulatory substances in the Central Valley.

Over the last few years, Stephen has dived into data assessment for all the lakes and reservoirs in the Central Valley Region and introduced the Planning Section to the capabilities of using newer visualization tools such as the Shiny Apps through R Studio. This data assessment is being incorporated into a multi-indicator condition assessment framework for the Region. The framework is designed to provide insight into the extent and magnitude of eutrophication, impairments from bio stimulatory substances, and information on the condition of lakes and reservoirs.

Stephen also took over leading an existing project focused on harmful algal blooms in 2 lakes in the Fresno area. He was able to dive into the data analysis and visualization and worked with several collaborators to evaluate the drivers of harmful algal blooms in those systems. He has completed drafting a manuscript that will be submitted for a scientific peer reviewed publication.

Stephen is such a joy to work with. He has grown tremendously in his time with the Board, both in his technical work and in his confidence as an Environmental Scientist. The development of the condition assessment framework was complex, and the team often asked for additional analyses and figures to help inform the decisions. Stephen enthusiastically implemented these requests and learned to anticipate additional information needs.

Stephen is leaving the Board in September to focus on grad school. Although he will be missed, we all know we can expect great things from him in the environmental world in the future. We are grateful for the time we had with Stephen and his contributions will continue to serve the Board and stakeholders in the Central Valley.

For this and so much more, Stephen is very deserving of this award.