

BOG Meeting Summary

November 30, 2010

In attendance: Bob Brodberg, Terry Fleming, Mark Stephenson, Autumn Bonnema, Jay Davis, Gary Ichikawa, Michael Lyons, Jon Marshack, Cassandra Lamerdin, Eric von der Geest, Dylan Service, Michelle Wood, Billy Jakl, Aroon Melwani, Chantell Royer, Patrick Morris, Mary Adams

Item 1: Roll Call and Review of Agenda

Item 2: BOG Charter

Key Points

- Jay Davis described the process leading to the latest version of the draft charter that he presented to the group.
- Feedback focused on the need to show broader membership to fulfill role as a workgroup of the Council.
- Other groups to consider including are DPH (including the harmful algal bloom folks and the Food and Drug branch), universities (such as Raphael Kudela at UCSC with his tool for forecasting harmful algal blooms), US Fish and Wildlife Service, the licensing division of CDFG, and DWR.
- Groups to consider including should be those that have datasets or assessment tools (data generators), or that have a role or interest in communicating information to interested parties (data users).
- A goal of encouraging more participation is to work toward making the bioaccumulation monitoring program self-sustaining.

Action Items

- Revise description of BOG membership to be broader and encompass other groups that should be participating.
- Discuss BOG membership with the Council in the BOG summary presentation on December 8.
- Come up with a plan for expanding BOG membership and report back to the group.

Item 3: Safe to Eat Portal Enhancements

- Jay Davis described the contract that SFEI has to continue development of the portal and presented a menu of possible enhancements to the group.
- Chantell Royer from the Klamath Basin Monitoring Program asked that the group consider distributing real-time data on microcystin in freshwater mussels from the Klamath Basin, where very high levels that pose health concerns have been observed.

Key Points

- The highest priority is the loading of additional datasets onto the portal. The year 1 coast data are obviously important to load. The other highest priority datasets

for inclusion are those that are in SWAMP format and are comparable to the BOG data in terms of quality and documentation. Some of these are:

- Recent regional lakes data (from regions 2, 3, 4, 6, 8): specific lakes mentioned include Donner, Big Bear, Legg, Puddingstone.
- CFCP
- The EPA/NOAA data for southern California
- Loading historical TSMP data is a moderate priority. The value is clearer for mercury and OC pesticides, not so clear for PCBs due to variation in methods over the years. OEHHA would not use some of these data for advisories, so it may not be helpful to distribute them to the public.
- Switching over to CEDEN as the source of the data is a high priority.
- OEHHA has moved many historic datasets into SWAMP format as part of advisory development.
- Regarding the request from the Klamath group, the BOG did not support developing this capacity due to the challenge of presenting real-time information (and the linkage of the portal with CEDEN) and the lack of a statewide focus for the monitoring.
- The Safe to Swim portal is working on a more real-time approach to presenting bacterial data – we should let this play out and perhaps adapt what they develop to reporting biotoxin data.
- It would be useful to invite someone from DPH to a BOG meeting to discuss possible portal dissemination of data from their shellfish biotoxin monitoring program. The Council has asked that biotoxin data be included on the portal.
- Further development of a report card for sport fish data is a lower priority than loading additional datasets or switching over to CEDEN as the source of portal data.
- The group agreed that testing the portal with users would be very valuable, but to really do it right would take a significant effort. For now Jay will attempt to get user feedback through a low level of effort.
- Providing enhanced downloading of spreadsheets and printed summaries is a lower priority.

Action Items

- SFEI scope out these tasks in more detail and report back with a more specific workplan
- Bob Brodberg will check into whether we can get a list of datasets that OEHHA has converted into SWAMP format
- OEHHA will consider using the portal advisory map for their website
- Invite DPH to a BOG meeting to discuss possible portal dissemination of data from their shellfish biotoxin monitoring program

Item 4: Rivers and Streams Design

Jay Davis provided an update on discussions regarding the design of the Rivers and Streams Survey. A subgroup including reps from regions 1, 5, and 6 met on Nov 29 to discuss design details. Major points of agreement so far include the following:

- Focus on statewide condition through identification and sampling of the most popular fishing locations.

- This will be a screening survey, but will generate information that can be used in consumption advice.
- 303(d) listing is not a priority.
 - Regions can follow up at sites with hits to obtain the information needed for listing determinations
- Need representative sampling (either complete census or probabilistic draw) of the target population (the most popular river and stream fishing locations)
- Need specific strategy for salmon and steelhead (sample at select locations)
- This design would be consistent with the screening surveys for lakes and the coast

Discussion focused on Region 5's greater interest in sampling sites that haven't been sampled previously rather than revisiting sites that have been sampled intensively within the past 10 years. The general consensus of the rest of the group was that obtaining a sound characterization of current statewide condition through a representative sampling of the most popular river and stream fishing locations is the top priority for the survey. Including existing data available for historic sites that is more than five years old is not appropriate for an assessment of current statewide condition.

Action Items

- Michelle Wood to share Regions 5's site preferences with Gary and Jay to see how many can be reasonably accommodated within the design of the statewide survey.

Item 5: Next Meeting

- Set for Dec 21, 10:00-12:00
- Agenda Items
 - Discussion of completed straw design for rivers and streams