

*Laboratory Intercomparison Exercises*

In 2005, the RMP has initiated several laboratory intercomparison exercises.

- Three of the RMP laboratories will be participating in the next National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) round robin that is scheduled to commence this summer. These laboratories are: AXYS analytical, East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) and California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). The three laboratories will be analyzing sediment and mussel tissue for pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs)
- California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) will analyze egg homogenate provided by the NIST. This intercomparison exercise is an informal exercise in which will analyze a known egg homogenate for PCBs, pesticides and polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs). NIST will analyze an RMP egg homogenate and the results will be compared.
- The RMP also began meeting informally with local laboratories to facilitate the flow of information among laboratories regarding methods, instrumentation, and QA/QC. Laboratories participating in this group are: EBMUD, CDFG, City and County of San Francisco, and the California State Hazardous Materials Laboratory. The first meeting was held on June 7, 2005 at EBMUD.

*Data Management*

- In 2005, the data management staff initiated a Data QA Workshop with the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP), California Department of Water Resources, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (SWAMP), and Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program (CCAMP). Issues regarding standardized data transfer formats, web-based data submittal tools, queries for checking data completeness, QA/QC data verification and validation procedures, documentation/metadata, comparability of datasets, data exchange networks, and data management performance measures were discussed at the most recent meeting in June 2005. As an outcome of the workshop, the group plans on meeting quarterly to further discuss issues related to data management and QA review and to facilitate the exchange of environmental data.