

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

2017 Sea Grant Fellowship Opportunity Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP)

1. Host location and contact information

State Water Resources Control Board CA-EPA building, Division of Water Quality 15th Floor, 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814.

Fellowship Supervisor & Point of Contact for Prospective Fellows and Finalists Lori Webber, Senior Environmental Scientist (916) 341-5556 lori.webber@waterboards.ca.gov

3. Position Description

The State Water Resources Control Board was created by Legislature in 1967. Our mission is to preserve, enhance and restore the quality of California's water resources, and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations. http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/.

Under the general direction of the of the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) Unit senior, the Sea Grant Fellow (Fellow) will perform complex analysis and interpretation of coastal monitoring program data collected by SWAMP and partner agencies to inform water quality managers and the public. The SWAMP Unit is part of the State Water Board's Office of Information Management and Analysis.

SWAMP's <u>Coastal Fish Survey</u> evaluates contaminant concentrations in sport fish sampled at popular fishing spots along California's coast. The survey was first conducted in 2009 and 2010 and the next survey is scheduled to begin in 2017. SWAMP also actively participates in the <u>National</u> <u>Coastal Condition Assessment</u> (NCCA). The most recent NCCA occurred during the 2015 field season and the data are currently being compiled and analyzed by the USEPA and state partners.

The Fellow will be the SWAMP Unit's main point of contact for marine studies and will be involved in multiple phases of the SWAMP, NCCA and other coastal monitoring programs (including monitoring required by Water Board permits and other regulatory actions). Duties will include participating in monitoring study design, field sampling and logistics, meeting organization and notetaking, coordinating with partner programs, data analysis and interpretation, data visualization and communication, adding content to the <u>My Water Quality Portals</u>, and presentation of findings to both technical and lay audiences. The Fellow will also perform other duties, as assigned, to support the SWAMP Unit and the Office of Information Management and Analysis. In performing these duties, the Fellow will interact with interested agency staff, stakeholders and the general public in a courteous and helpful manner. The Fellow is responsible for the quantity, quality, and timeliness of work assigned.

Skills or attributes we seek include:

- Ability to perform complex scientific analysis and communicate findings to technical staff, managers and the general public.
- Strong interest in the mechanics of utilizing science to inform public policy.
- Ability to lead groups of people, often with divergent views on how to move forward on a particular issue.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- A problem solver with strong personal initiative and the ability to work well under minimal supervision.