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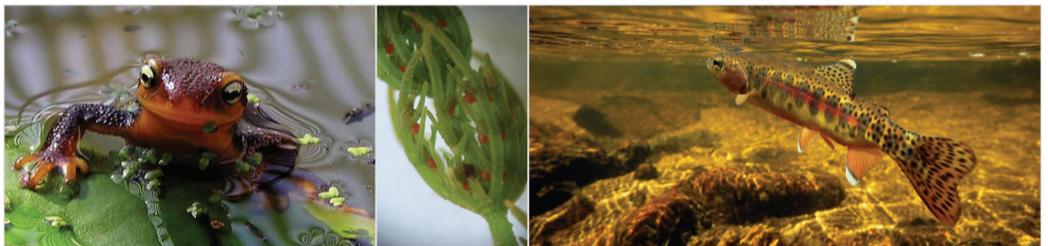
Measuring Ecological Integrity in California Streams and Rivers: An Overview of the State's Bioassessment Program

Speaker: Andrew (Andy) Rehn

Andrew Rehn earned a Ph.D. in Entomology from UC Davis in 2000 and has been a biologist with the California Department of Fish & Wildlife Aquatic Bioassessment Lab (ABL) for the last 21 years. At ABL his research has focused on stream ecology with an emphasis on the development of indices that measure the biological and physical condition of streams and rivers throughout California. He has also helped develop standardized field, laboratory and data management protocols, and he coordinates several regional and statewide stream monitoring surveys.

Bioassessment is the science of evaluating the ecological condition, or "health", of a waterbody based on the organisms living within it. For the last 20 years, California's bioassessment program has focused on measuring the ecological condition of perennial wadeable streams and rivers throughout the state. An overview of the technical elements of the State's bioassessment program is presented, with an emphasis on development of the California Stream Condition Index (CSCI), an interpretive tool that scores stream condition based on aquatic insects and other invertebrates living on the stream bottom. Examples of how the CSCI can be used to assess stream condition at both statewide and regional scales are presented, with the goal that measures of ecological condition will be prioritized to protect and restore California streams and watersheds.

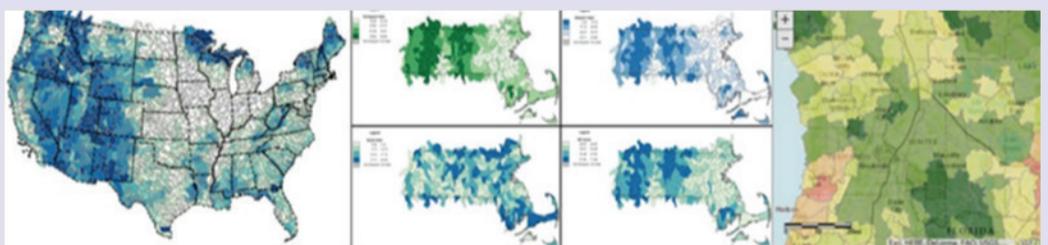
Register [HERE](#) to join us October 28 at noon!



WATERSHED WEBINAR

Using EPA's EnviroAtlas and Recovery Potential Screening Tools to Support Sound Decision Making

This event will be held on Thursday, October 21, 10 am – 12 pm. Click [HERE](#) to register now.



EPA's EnviroAtlas and the Healthy Watersheds Program's Recovery Potential Screening (RPS) Tool are decision-support tools that assist users in determining where and how to take action to ensure successful ecosystem management. Well-informed planning is crucial to restoring and protecting watersheds to ensure benefits to society and the environment. Please join EPA's Watershed Academy for this webcast to view a live demo of EnviroAtlas and the Recovery Potential Screening (RPS) Tool and to hear how these tools can be used. This webcast will provide an overview and demonstration of these user-friendly, accessible, data-rich tools. This demonstration is meant to:

- Provide a basic demonstration on how to use these two EPA tools
- Explore environmental indicators on a diverse range of topics and showcase new tool updates
- Highlight environmental justice-relevant data and functionalities
- Offer examples to apply the data and information to inform decision making and inform strategies
- Help users learn directly from users who have found these tools helpful in their organization

Interested in what the Water Boards and other organizations in California are doing to support the protection and restoration of California's watersheds? Check out California's [Healthy Watersheds Partnership webpage](#) for more information!

