STATE OF CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT: Xavier Fernandez

MEETING DATE: July 9, 2025

ITEM: 6

Overview of San Francisco Bay Regional Monitoring Program

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Overview of San Francisco Bay Regional Monitoring Program

DISCUSSION:

The San Francisco Bay Regional Monitoring Program (RMP) was created by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board in 1993 to ensure water quality management decisions and investments are guided by sound science. The RMP is a collaborative of regulators, dischargers, industry representatives, non-governmental organizations, and scientists. San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI) has managed the monitoring program and conducted the studies needed to assist leaders in developing science-based policies and regulations.

The RMP governance structure is composed of a Steering Committee, Technical Review Committee, and workgroups of stakeholders, regulators, and science advisors focusing on high priority water quality topics. Through this governance structure, studies are developed and implemented by the RMP to gather the latest information needed to respond to new water quality concerns, develop and refine new monitoring approaches, and answer key management questions while also continuing the monitoring needed to assess long term water quality trends. Currently, the workgroups are working on special studies focused on contaminants of emerging concern, microplastics, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), sediment, and mercury.

Amy Kleckner, SFEI RMP Manager, and Jay Davis, SFEI RMP Lead Scientist, will provide an update on the latest activities of the RMP. Program highlights will be shared. The update will also include a summary of recent findings on contaminants of emerging concern in Bay fish, sediment management, and RMP efforts to provide information to support the Water Board with the upcoming Mercury and PCB Total Maximum Daily Load Revision projects.