

DEDICATION

This report is dedicated to the memory of Del Rasmussen, who passed away in February 2008. Del worked for the State Water Resources Control Board for more than 25 years. Del managed the State Mussel Watch Program, Toxic Substances Monitoring Program, and Coastal Fish Contamination Program. These programs generated most of the information summarized in this report, and represent one of the world's best datasets on bioaccumulation. The programs sampled hundreds of sites across the state and identified many cases of severe contamination, leading to cleanup actions and fish advisories to protect humans and wildlife. They also documented the successful management of many pollutants that had posed serious threats to wildlife and human health in the 1970s and 1980s. Del also contributed to the early development of the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program. The wealth of information generated by the programs under Del's stewardship provides an essential foundation for future monitoring and continuing efforts to improve the health of California's coast, estuaries, lakes, rivers, and streams.



Del Rasmussen