

Policy Statement on Requests for Collaborative Work

The RMP encourages collaboration with other programs and research projects. In general, SFEI staff and contractors will collaborate to the extent that such collaboration does not adversely affect or delay RMP activities, or require additional expenditure of time or funds not previously approved by the RMP Steering Committee. RMP Participants will have priority for requests for collaboration.

RMP contractors and vessels may be used for sampling provided that there is not significant departure from the RMP sampling schedule. If collaborative work requires additional boat time or has significant impact on the RMP field crew, it will be the responsibility of the Collaborator to pay for any additional expenditures.

Scientists from other programs may accompany RMP contractors on sampling cruises to sub-sample RMP samples or collect additional samples as long as there is no interference or delay to RMP procedures, and no compromise of RMP QA procedures. Side-by-side deployment of other samplers or moorings will be considered on a case by case basis.

RMP samples can be split to provide researchers with Bay samples provided the split is surplus material to the needs of the RMP.

Requests to join RMP field cruises should come in the form of a proposal, directly to SFEI and the RMP Field Coordinator for evaluation. Requests should include the study rationale, methodology of sampling, and number of persons involved (if any). Requests should be made at least 30 days in advance to allow analysis of potential impacts to the RMP. Requests related to complementary data gathering efforts will receive priority over projects with no relation to RMP objectives. All requests require official, written approval by SFEI prior to sampling.

Principal Investigators of approved collaborative work agree to contribute a summary of project results from data gathering efforts to the RMP Annual Report.

In exchange for offering collaboration with other researchers, SFEI requests that the researchers acknowledge this contribution in any articles published. An example acknowledgement is presented below:

"The authors would like to thank the Regional Monitoring Program for Water Quality in the San Francisco Bay (RMP) for providing assistance in the collection of these samples. For more information on this program, please visit www.sfei.org."