The RMP's overall goal is to provide data and interpretation that helps to address certain of the Board's information needs. In general, these efforts fall under five major objectives:

* describe patterns and trends in contaminant concentration and distribution;
* describe general sources and loading of contamination to the Estuary;
* measure contaminant effects on selected parts of the Estuary ecosystem;
* compare monitoring information to relevant water quality objectives and other guidelines;
* synthesize and distribute information from a range of sources to present a more complete picture of the sources, distribution, fates, and effects of contaminants in the Estuary ecosystem.