Stormwater CECs Approach Design - Near-Term Priorities

The RMP Stormwater CECs Approach will address the RMP’s existing Emerging Contaminants Work Group (ECWG) management questions. To guide the design of the initial phase of the Approach, we sought direction from Stormwater CECs Stakeholder Science Advisor Team (SST) composed of RMP stakeholders and science advisors from the ECWG and the Sources, Pathways, and Loadings Work Group (SPLWG).

The SST recommended that the initial Stormwater CECs Approach design prioritize the following near-term questions, which may be applied to a specific chemical (e.g., PFOS) or a chemical family (e.g., PFAS).

1. **Load.** How does the local watershed runoff load to San Francisco Bay compare to loads from other pathways?
   - This entails order of magnitude load estimates and is interpreted in the context of Bay management questions (which guide the RMP efforts to consider chemical fate, organism exposures, and exposure timing in the Bay)

2. **Changes.** (a) Are presence or concentration in local watershed runoff changing over time? (b) Are presence, concentration, or load expected to change in the future?
   - This is a “trends light” concept, which would provide insights on a multi-year time scale while not requiring datasets robust enough to identify statistically significant trends

3. **Sources.** (a) What are the likely sources? (b) What land features correlate with presence, concentration, and load in runoff?
   - “Sources” = true sources, such as products and contaminated sites and includes consideration of all pathways between source and stormwater runoff, including air deposition and groundwater transport

These questions may be addressed by a combination of monitoring, modeling, and information from publicly available resources (e.g., product presence and management measure changes).

Additionally, the SST recommended that the Stormwater CECs Approach design:
- Support addressing the RMP’s overarching Management Questions through linkage to the ECWG Management Questions and wet season elements of the Bay Status and Trends monitoring design.
- Provide the ability to determine if previously unmonitored CECs are present in local watershed runoff.