
Project Number: EMC-2015-008
Project Name: Landscape-level long-term water temperature monitoring of forested watersheds

Background and Justification:

Many organizations collect water temperature data in the California forestlands. These include timber companies, government agencies, resource conservation districts, watershed groups, and research organizations. This effort envisions the voluntary participation of these organizations. This project will focus on data sharing, data collection protocols, and coordination of efforts to prevent unnecessary duplication.

Many waterbodies in forestlands throughout the state are listed on section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act as impaired due to elevated water temperature. In 2014, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (NCRWQCB) adopted into its Basin Plan a policy for implementation of the temperature objective. The policy included direction for NCRWQCB staff to develop a regional temperature monitoring plan in coordination with other agencies and jurisdictions.

Objective(s) and Scope:

This study will establish long-term sites, define protocols, and coordinate data collection of temperature data for presentation of water quality conditions and trends throughout the scope of the plan. The project could include an interagency report in which observed temperature trends are identified and discussed.

Rule or Regulation: 916, 936, 956

EMC Critical Question or Priority:

Collaborators: CAL FIRE, NCWQCB, USFS NORWEST program

Needed Funding: \$\$

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