San Francisco Bay Fish Project

The San Francisco Bay Fish Project is a two-year project of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to reduce exposure to harmful chemicals from eating San Francisco Bay fish. While fish is an important part of a healthy diet, some fish from San Francisco Bay contain mercury and PCBs. An interim health advisory for the Bay recommends limiting the types and amounts of fish consumed as a means to limit exposure to chemicals. This advisory will be revised and updated in 2011. Under the San Francisco Bay Fish Project, CDPH will collaborate with community groups, local agencies, tribes, and others to raise public awareness about fish contamination issues in San Francisco Bay, and support community-based projects to reduce exposure to chemicals from fish consumption.

CDPH will be working on the following activities:

- Convene quarterly Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) meetings to solicit feedback on project activities
- Promote engagement and collaboration among interested stakeholders
- Support and conduct risk communication and risk reduction activities
- Conduct capacity building trainings

Beginning in December 2010, quarterly meetings of the SAG will guide development of community-



based outreach, education, and exposure reduction activities. The SAG meetings are also intended to promote collaboration among stakeholders and keep members updated on the progress of the project and related activities.

In 2011, CDPH plans to implement a program to fund local groups to conduct culturally-appropriate exposure reduction activities to address fish contamination issues in the San Francisco Bay. These groups will receive ongoing support and training by CDPH.

This project is created in partnership with Bay Area Clean Water Agencies, Western States Petroleum Association, Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association, the Aquatic Sciences Center, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

For more information, please contact Ian Walker at (510) 620-3657 or ian.walker@cdph.ca.gov.



California Department of Public Health Environmental Health Investigations Branch 850 Marina Bay Parkway, Building P, 3rd Floor Richmond, CA 94804 www.ehib.org