



## HERBICIDE MONITORING REPORT

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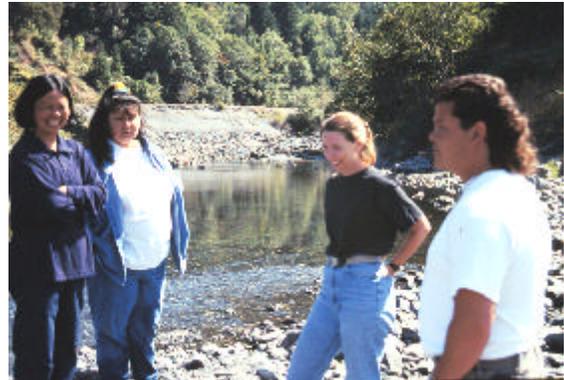
Newsletter Issue I

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### Herbicide Monitoring in the Northwestern California Tribal Territories

This is the first of a series of quarterly newsletters that described efforts by CAL/EPA's Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) to address herbicide concerns on California Indian lands. This project began in late 1997 from meetings with several Northern California Tribes, including the Hupa, Karuk, and Yurok, to discuss herbicide use in Northwestern California. These community meetings addressed tribal concerns with how their natural resources, such as drinking water and food supply, might be affected by herbicides applied for rights-of-way and forestry uses. During these meetings, the tribes asked DPR to sample surface water, vegetation, and soil, encompassing the different ways in which the tribes use these natural resources. As a result, DPR initiated a three-year collaborative study with funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).

DPR formed three working groups to provide input on study objectives, to set priorities, and to select the types of samples and sampling locations. Members of the Hupa Technical Advisory Group are Chuck Striplen, Nolan Colegrove, and Mike Orcutt. Members of the Karuk Environmental Monitoring Workgroup are Leaf Hillman, LaVerne Glaze, Renee Stauffer, and Ora Smith.



Bessie Lee (Yurok staff), Susan Burdick (Yurok), Pam Wofford (DPR), and Darrin Taylor (Yurok) at Pecwan Creek.

Members of the Yurok Environmental Monitoring Workgroup are Susan Burdick, Ken Childs, Sr., Troy Fletcher, Marilyn Hostler, Ron Johnson, Bessie Lee, Jene McCovey, Sef Murguia, Richard Myers, Robley Schwenk, and Chuck Striplen.

The environmental workgroups recommended surface water sampling as a priority since the surface water is both a drinking water source and a habitat for fish. Fish is a major food source for the tribes. The committees are currently discussing the possibilities of sampling additional resources in the next two years.

The tribes and the sponsoring U.S. EPA have approved study protocols and DPR has begun sampling for the Hupa and Karuk studies. The first samples were taken before any major rains and the second samples were taken after the first major rain event on October 25, 1998. Neither of the two samplings showed any positive detects for herbicides nor insecticides. DPR will begin sampling again in February 1999, with heavy sampling during the herbicide application period, March through May.



Elk Creek sampling site.

The Karuk sampling sites are: 1) Klamath River at Horse Creek Bridge, 2) Scott River at the Highway 96 Bridge, and 3) Elk Creek. Sites for the Hupa Territory are: 1) Pine Creek, 2) Supply Creek, and 3) Trinity River at TishTang. All sampling sites are being analyzed for five major forestry herbicides, including atrazine, hexazinone, 2,4-D, glyphosate, and triclopyr. Sites at the Klamath, Scott, and Trinity Rivers will also be analyzed for 19 insecticides in the carbamate and organophosphate groups. These insecticides may be used in agricultural areas around the upper Klamath and Scott Rivers.

Sampling in the Yurok Territory will begin in February 1999 during applications of forestry herbicides. Samples may be taken from any creek of concern in the ancestral territory that have had nearby herbicide applications.

Definite sampling sites are Wilson and Hunter Creeks. Blue Creek, Pecwan Creek, Roach Creek,



Jeff Dolf, Chuck Striplen (Hupa staff), and Renee Stauffer (Karuk) at Supply Creek.



Nan Singhasemanon (DPR) and Jeff Dolf (Humboldt Co.) sampling at Pine Creek.



Pam Wofford (DPR) discussing herbicide applications with Bernard Bush (Simpson Timber Co.), John Falkenstrom (Humboldt Co. Ag. Comm.), and Glenn Anderson (Del Norte Co. Ag. Comm.).

and Redwood Creek are potential sampling sites since they have been designated as creeks of concern by the Yurok Environmental Working Group. Samples will be analyzed for the five forestry herbicides previously mentioned. No insecticide sampling will be done since there is no reported use in the area.



Pam Wofford, Leaf Hillman (Karuk), and LaVerne Glaze (Karuk) taking background samples at the Klamath River.

This project is sponsored by the U.S. EPA agreement no. E-999393-10-2; grant manager, Annie Yates. For a detailed study protocol contact Madeline Brattesani at (916) 324-4082 or email at [mbrattesani@cdpr.ca.gov](mailto:mbrattesani@cdpr.ca.gov); Kean S. Goh at (916) 324-4072 or [kgoh@cdpr.ca.gov](mailto:kgoh@cdpr.ca.gov). Project Directors are Nan Singhasemanon (Hupa and Karuk Territories) and Pam Wofford (Yurok Territory). Newsletter by Johanna Walters.