Expert Science Panel

Closed Session Summary

November 9, 2022

The Expert Science Panel (Panel) met from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM remotely via zoom. The goal of the day was two-fold: (a) become familiar with the data from the baseline intercalibration study, and (b) identify what data analysis should be conducted. SCCWRP staff had prepared and sent a draft Data Packet from the baseline intercalibration study to the Panel members. The last of the laboratory data was submitted to SCCWRP less than a week prior.

SCCWRP began the day with a brief recap of the project status, including the basic study design of the intercalibration. The quality assurance/quality control process was also described, which included three overarching steps: (a) 100% data check for completeness and data quality objective criteria, (b) 5% random data check of electronic submittals vs bench sheets, with any errors resulting in a 100% data audit for that laboratory, and (c) many hours of phone calls with each laboratory confirming out of range data and any necessary corrections.

The Panel familiarized themselves with the data by going through the data packet in page order. The data packet consisted of three parts: (a) biological response data summary, (b) dose response data summaries (EC50, IC50, IC25), and (c) preliminary water chemistry results (although still waiting on some lab results for most recent samples).

The Panel discussion led to a range of follow up activities including: (a) updating the data packet formats to tables and figures, (b) plotting more summary statistics including frequency distributions, binning data by trigger points, and (c) advanced data analysis including Analysis of Variance or Covariance (ANOVA/ANCOVA), random forest, and multiple linear regression, amongst others.

The meeting ended with a description of the schedule for the remaining tasks, emphasizing the compressed timing for the next two tasks: optimize test parameters and second intercalibration (using the optimized test parameters). The next Panel meeting will also be closed session on Dec 9, 2022