

For Immediate Release

Contact: Sevda Eris, Publicist QUEST

415.553.2835, seris@KQED.org

www.kqed.org/press

Screeners available by request

KQED's *Climate Watch* and *QUEST* Investigate California Climate Change***California at the Tipping Point*
Premieres April 14 on KQED 9HD**

San Francisco, Ca, April 4, 2009 - [Climate Watch](#) and [QUEST](#), two of KQED's multimedia series covering science and environmental issues, have teamed up to take an in-depth look at the science behind climate change and to explore the big and small environmental changes already taking place throughout California, from the Sierra Nevada to Monterey Bay. The 30-minute television special, ***California at the Tipping Point***, will air at 7:30pm on **Tuesday, April 14** on KQED 9HD.

"California will be a different place in 20 years," said Craig Miller, Senior Editor for *Climate Watch* and host of the special. "The climate is warming--it's happening now and at a much faster rate than initially thought. We meet some of the scientists immersed in climate research and discover what is potentially to come and what we can do to prepare. We face so many different challenges here that California is basically ground zero for studying climate change impacts."

Illuminating key issues, *Climate Watch* and *QUEST* head out to various corners of the state to:

- tag along with hydrologists who are scrambling to better understand the functions of the Sierra snow pack, vital to California's water supply and its ecosystems;
- discover the implications of the rise in temperature for California's redwoods and what can be done to curb the frequency of wild fires;
- take to the San Mateo Coast and observe the subtle changes already taking place with the denizens of our tide pools, and examine efforts to reduce sea level rise; and
- find out what goes into creating global climate change models and how much they can tell us about our future world.

Additional online features will include blog posts by the producers, a web extra on ice core samples, an Exploration of tide pools in Santa Cruz, and a behind-the-scenes Flickr photo set.

Also of note, on **Monday, April 13** at 6:30 and 8:30am on **88.5 FM, *QUEST* Radio** will report on the transmission grid we all depend on for electricity. The radio report highlights the Silicon Valley companies working on solutions to help utilities move power more efficiently, a larger concern as more renewable energy comes online. *QUEST* also looks at utilities like PG&E who are working with consumers, putting Smart Meters in their homes.

Climate Watch is KQED's new multimedia series providing in-depth coverage of climate-related science and policy issues from a California perspective. It features the latest climate news and analysis on its *Climate Watch* blog in addition to radio stories that air on *The California Report*. For more information, visit kqed.org/climatewatch.

QUEST is KQED's Northern California multimedia science and environment series on television, radio and the web. Unique features include Flickr photos, web extras, a science blog, and educator guides that meet California's science teaching standards. Discover all of its media at kqed.org/quest.

About KQED

KQED (www.kqed.org) is a service of Northern California Public Broadcasting, Inc. (NCPB). KQED Public Television, the nation's most-watched public television station, is the producer of local and national series such as *QUEST*; *Check, Please! Bay Area*; *Jacques Pépin: More Fast Food My Way*; and *Jean-Michel Cousteau: Ocean Adventures*. KQED's digital television channels include 9HD, Life, World, Kids and V-me, and are available 24/7 on Comcast. KQED Public Radio (88.5 FM in San Francisco and 89.3 FM in Sacramento), home of *Forum* with Michael Krasny and *The California Report*, is the most-listened-to public radio station in the nation with an award-winning news and public affairs program service. KQED Education Network brings the impact of KQED to thousands of teachers, students, parents and the general public through workshops, community screenings and multimedia resources. KQED Interactive offers video and audio podcasts and live radio stream at www.kqed.org, featuring unique content on one of the most-visited station sites in public broadcasting.

####