

CALIFORNIA WATER QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL

Monitoring Council Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, June 15, 2011 – 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Conference Room
 Association of California Water Agencies
 910 K Street, Suite 100, Sacramento



IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!

Meetings of the Monitoring Council are open to the public. Times indicated in the agenda are approximate. The order of agenda items is subject to change. Actions of the Monitoring Council are advisory to the Secretaries of the California Environmental Protection Agency and the Natural Resources Agency.

Handouts, presentations, and related meeting and Monitoring Council information will be available prior to or after the meeting at http://www.mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring_council/meetings/.

Remote access to the meeting will be available via WebEx. To join the WebEx on-line meeting, go to <https://waterboards.webex.com/waterboards/j.php?ED=147229107&UID=0&PW=NY2E1MDFiYjJ&RT=MIM0>; enter your name and email address; enter the meeting password "cwqmc"; click "Join Now" and follow the instructions that appear on your screen. You may log on up to 15 minutes before the meeting starts to allow WebEx to set up the meeting connection. WebEx will automatically set up Meeting Manager the first time you join a meeting. Participation by teleconference only is available by dialing 1-888-764-9721 and entering the attendee access code 363 618 0.

For a map and directions to the Association of California Water Agencies offices, visit: <http://www.acwa.com/content/directions-acwa>. The nearest public parking is available in structures at the corner of 10th and L Streets (enter on 10th) and on I Street between 10th and 11th Streets (enter on either 10th or 11th). View map of additional [downtown parking opportunities](#).

ITEM:	1	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	INTRODUCTIONS AND HOUSEKEEPING	10 minutes
Purpose:	1) Introductions 2) Review draft notes from December 8, 2010 Council meeting 3) Review agenda for today's meeting	
Desired Outcome:	a) Approve December 2010 Monitoring Council meeting notes b) Preview what will be presented today and overall meeting expectations c) Adjust today's agenda, as needed	
Attachment Links:	Draft notes from December 8, 2010 Council meeting	
Contact Person:	Jon Marshack	jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov , 916-341-5514

ITEM:	2	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES	80 minutes
Purpose:	a) Introduce new Monitoring Council Member Leah Walker representing the Department of Public Health (Jon Marshack) b) Introduce new Monitoring Council Member John Norton representing Citizen Monitoring Groups (Jonathan Bishop)	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) Update on Citizen Monitoring Activities (Erick Burres, SWRCB, SWAMP) d) Cal State Northridge contract to produce GIS layers of CA water quality standards (Stephanie Rose, SWRCB) e) Update on the California Environmental Data Exchange Network and the Data Management Workgroup (Steve Steinberg, SCCWRP) f) Joint Water Boards / Department of Fish & Game Five-Year Wetland Conservation Program Plan (Bill Orme, SWRCB) g) Mapping Water Pollution Data in Hangzhou, China (Hao Xin, Qiantang River Waterkeeper Program) h) Legislation update (Steve Weisberg, Sarge Green, and Linda Sheehan) i) State budget update (Jonathan Bishop)
Desired Outcome:	Information and feedback
Background:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) <i>New Monitoring Council Member Representing CDPH</i> – At the end of last year, Gary Yamamoto retired as Chief of the Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management, the Monitoring Council Member representing the California Department of Public Health. The new Division Chief, Leah Godsey Walker, replaces Mr. Yamamoto as a Monitoring Council Member. b) <i>New Monitoring Council Member Representing Citizen Monitoring Groups</i> – Dr. Steven Steinberg, Co-Director of the Klamath Watershed Institute at Humboldt State University, has represented citizen monitoring groups on the Monitoring Council since the Council's inception in 2008. At the end of May of this year, Dr. Steinberg will end his service with the Institute and will leave the Monitoring Council. In March, the Monitoring Council announced this upcoming vacancy and received a number of applications. The Monitoring Council Co-Chairs interviewed three candidates on April 28, and selected John Norton of the Sierra Streams Institute to replace Dr. Steinberg on the Monitoring Council. c) <i>Citizen Monitoring Activities Update</i> – Erick Burres is the coordinator of the Clean Water Team (CWT) of the Water Board's Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) that provides support for citizen monitoring efforts. Mr. Burres also coordinates the regular webinar program of the Monitoring Council's Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network, also focused on supporting citizen monitoring. Mr. Burres will provide a brief overview of existing and planned support efforts for citizen monitoring. d) <i>GIS Layers of California Water Quality Standards</i> – The Water Boards have entered into a two year contract with Cal State Northridge to develop GIS layers representing California's water quality standards. Stephanie Rose of the Planning, Standards and Implementation Unit will provide an overview of this project. e) <i>CEDEN and Data Management Workgroup Update</i> – In his new role as CEDEN Program Manager, Steven Steinberg has been interviewing key staff in various agencies and organizations that will provide data to or manage or use data in CEDEN. Due to the considerable overlap of CEDEN development with the data management needs of the Monitoring Council and its theme-specific workgroups, Dr. Steinberg will initiate the formation of a Monitoring Council's Data Management Workgroup. f) <i>Coordinated Wetland Conservation Program Plan</i> – In October 2009,

	<p>USEPA issued a memo encouraging State and Tribal wetland programs to provide “Wetland Program Plans” that outline goals and actions over the next few years, with a schedule for carrying out the actions and achieving the goals. Wetland Program Development Grant [pursuant Section 104(b)(3) of the Clean Water Act] applications that propose to help carry out actions articulated in Wetland Program Plans will be eligible for extra points in the competition process starting with the Fiscal Year 2011 Request-for-Proposal. In response and working through the California Wetland Monitoring Workgroup, the Water Boards and the Department of Fish and Game developed and signed a Five-Year Wetland Conservation Program Plan, which has been submitted to USEPA.</p> <p>g) Mapping Water Pollution Data in Hangzhou, China – Hao Xin, VP and Spokesman for the Qiantang River Waterkeeper Program, will introduce an easy-to-use interactive electronic mapping technology for use by Waterkeepers in their waterways. He will use the example of his Qiantang River Map, which is a crowdsourcing and volunteer geographic information (VGI) based Web 2.0 public interactive platform. It uses GeoCommons Web-GIS technology to visually present a comprehensive two-dimensional and three-dimensional geographical information for the Qiantang River basin, including the locations of water related government agencies, NGOs, industrial and mining pollution sources, livestock and poultry farms, aquatic populations, drinking water protected areas, water quality monitoring sites and other geographic information. It provides the general public an intuitive and easy way to access information about their river and pollution sources. In addition, the platform uses the Ushahidi data platform, enabling the general public to use cell phones, Twitter and email to report pollution sources directly.</p> <p>h) Legislation Update – During October 21, 2010 briefing with her staff, it was relayed that Senator Kehoe offered to carry legislative changes that would enhance implementation of the Monitoring Council’s comprehensive strategy. Potential legislative changes were discussed among non-state agency representatives at the Monitoring Council’s December 8, 2010 meeting. Proposed legislative language was submitted by Monitoring Members Sarge Green, Linda Sheehan, and Steve Weisberg on behalf of Monitoring Council in January 2011.</p>
<p>Attachments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter recommending Leah Walker and John Norton as replacement Monitoring Council Members + biographical sketches • USEPA Wetland Program Plans Memo (October 2, 2010) • Water Boards / Department of Fish & Game Five-Year Wetland Conservation Program Plan
<p>Contact Person:</p>	<p>Jon Marshack jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov, 916-341-5514</p>

<p>ITEM:</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Approx. Time:</p>
<p>Title of Topic:</p>	<p>HEALTHY STREAMS PARTNERSHIP – STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK</p>	<p>90 minutes</p>
<p>Purpose:</p>	<p>Review stakeholder input and recommendations on how to proceed with Healthy Streams Partnership. Also review recommendations for accessing and linking</p>	

	portals to support stakeholder needs.	
Desired Outcome:	Discuss recommendations and identify next steps	
Background:	<p>The Healthy Streams Partnership (HSP) was formed to utilize the information from the SWAMP bioassessment and toxicity monitoring programs to draw attention to identifying and protecting healthy streams (rather than continuing to focus resources only on identifying impairments). To achieve this goal and to support the Monitoring Council's vision and strategy, the HSP assumed the role of a Monitoring Council workgroup and initiated development of a Healthy Streams portal. To gauge interest in the HSP and the Healthy Streams Portal (as well as the other existing My Water Quality portals) and to determine stakeholder needs, SWAMP hired Dennis Bowker to interview stakeholders, produce a summary of their input, and recommend next steps.</p> <p>Also mentioned will be potential partnerships with a parallel effort by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, called the Healthy Watersheds Initiative.</p>	
Attachment Links:	<p>a) Briefing summary of outreach results for the Healthy Streams Partnership</p> <p>b) USEPA, Healthy Watersheds Initiative handout</p>	
Contact Person:	Karen Larsen	klarsen@waterboards.ca.gov , 916-319-9769

LUNCH	Approx. Time:
On your own - restaurants on J, K, L, 9 th and 10 th Streets	60 minutes

ITEM:	4	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	HEALTHY STREAMS PARTNERSHIP AND STREAM & RIVER ECOSYSTEM HEALTH PORTAL DEVELOPMENT	90 minutes
Purpose:	<p>a) Review recent monitoring and assessment activities of three SWAMP projects that contribute information to a new <i>My Water Quality</i> portal for stream and river ecosystem health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perennial Streams Assessment (Pete Ode, Department of Fish & Game) • Stream Pollution Trends (Brian Anderson, UC Davis Marine Pollution Studies Laboratory at Granite Canyon) • Statewide Toxicity (Brian Anderson) <p>b) Review initial Stream and River Ecosystem Health Portal mockup (Meredith Williams and Cristina Grosso, Aquatic Science Center at SFEI)</p>	
Desired Outcome:	<p>a) Information and feedback on monitoring and assessment efforts</p> <p>b) Approval of initial portal mockup</p>	
Background:	<p>In December 2009, the Monitoring Council asked SWAMP to develop a mockup of a stream ecosystem health portal based on SWAMP's statewide monitoring programs. In June, 2010, a mockup of a Healthy Streams Portal was presented for review and comment and the Monitoring Council decided that the Healthy Streams Partnership of SWAMP should proceed with developing the portal.</p>	

	That mockup was intended to show the kinds of information that would eventually be able to be presented, reflecting a multiple-indicator perspective. The Aquatic Science Center was awarded a contract by the State Water Board to develop the initial working portal. The workgroup met in December, 2010 and January and March of 2011 and decided to focus the initial portal release on the three statewide SWAMP monitoring and assessment efforts mentioned above.	
Contact Person:	Karen Larsen	klarsen@waterboards.ca.gov , 916-319-9769

ITEM:	5	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	BIOACCUMULATION OVERSIGHT GROUP AND SAFE TO EAT FISH AND SHELLFISH PORTAL	60 minutes
Purpose:	Review recent monitoring and assessment activities of the SWAMP Bioaccumulation Oversight Group (BOG), <i>Contaminants in Fish from the California Coast, 2009: Summary Report on Year One of a Two-Year Screening Study</i> and update of Safe to Eat Fish and Shellfish portal (Jay Davis, Aquatic Science Center at SFEI)	
Desired Outcome:	Information and feedback on monitoring and assessment efforts and portal update	
Background:	<p>The Safe to Eat Fish and Shellfish portal was released to the public in December 2009. It presents information on the efforts of the Bioaccumulation Oversight Group to assess contaminants in aquatic organisms and their potential impact on human health. Current data sets available through portal include fish consumption advisories from Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), a two year statewide survey of contaminants in sport fish from lakes and reservoirs, and data from the Fish Mercury Project and a few other data sets.</p> <p>Statewide survey sampling of contaminants in coastal sport fish was conducted in 2009 and 2010. Data from the first year of this study have been assessed and the resulting information was recently added to the portal. Information from the second year of this study will be available in Spring 2012. Sampling of a statewide survey of contaminants in sport fish from rivers and streams is currently underway, with results available in 2013.</p>	
Attachment Links:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contaminants in Fish from the California Coast, 2009: Summary Report on Year One of a Two-Year Screening Study • Safe to Eat Fish and Shellfish portal 	
Contact Person:	Jon Marshack	jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov , 916-341-5514

ITEM:	6	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	SUPPORTING THE DELTA STEWARDSHIPS COUNCIL'S DELTA PLAN USING THE MONITORING COUNCIL'S COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY AND WEB PORTALS	20 minutes
Purpose:	Inform the Monitoring Council, the Delta Stewardship Council, and the Delta	

	Science Program of the overlap of opportunities and responsibilities associated with the implementation of CA SB1070 and the Delta Plan	
Desired Outcome:	Delta Stewardship Council and Delta Science Program incorporate Monitoring Council portals and workgroups into the development of the adaptive management plan for Delta habitat restoration and water quality improvements. That, as appropriate, Delta Plan performance measures are tracked and communicated via the portals.	
Background:	<p>The Delta Stewardship Council was created in legislation to achieve the state mandated coequal goals for the Delta.</p> <p>"Coequal goals' means the two goals of providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem. The coequal goals shall be achieved in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place." (CA Water Code §85054).</p> <p>The Delta Stewardship Council is required by law to use the best available science and adaptive management as the basis for the Delta Plan. The Delta Plan must include</p> <p>“a science-based, transparent, and formal adaptive management strategy for ongoing ecosystem restoration and water management decisions” (CA Water Code §85308(f)).</p> <p>The scientific body of knowledge of the Delta and California’s water conditions is constantly growing and changing, but Delta-related resource management decisions are often made with incomplete information. Adaptive management provides the necessary flexibility to manage complex natural resources. In addition, ongoing water management and ecosystem restoration covered actions will be required to adhere to the adaptive management framework. Proponents of proposed covered actions must describe how they intend to apply the adaptive management framework, including a commitment for communicating to the public the information learned during the monitoring and assessment of implemented actions. The Monitoring Council’s strategy, workgroups and portals can enhance the ability of the Delta Stewardship Council to meet their legislative mandates.</p>	
Contact Person:	Valerie Connor	vconnor@sfcwa.org , 916-476-5053

ITEM:	7	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	MEETING WRAP-UP	10 minutes
Purpose:	<p>a) Summarize meeting</p> <p>b) Plan agenda for August 24, 2011 Council meeting – potential items include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed report on Data Management Workgroup and CEDEN development • Central Valley Monitoring Directory • Grant Project Monitoring – potential formation of Committee of the Monitoring Council 	

Desired Outcome:	Develop agenda items for next meeting	
Contact Person:	Jon Marshack	jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov , 916-341-5514

June 3, 2011