

California Water Quality Monitoring Council

Data Management Workgroup Agenda

November 2, 2016 — 1:00pm to 4:00pm

Conference Room 240
Joe Serna Jr. Cal/EPA Headquarters Building
1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA



IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

Conference WebEx information is provided on the last page of this agenda.

For security purposes, all visitors are required to sign in, receive a badge at the Visitor Center off the lobby upon entering the building. Valid picture identification may be required due to the security level. Please allow up to 15 minutes for this process. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact the State Water Board's Office of Employee Assistance, at (916) 341-5881.

For information and resources concerning this meeting, we welcome you to visit the Data Management Workgroup collaboration site: <http://sfei.li/dmwg>

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| ITEM: # | 1 | Approx.Time: |
| Title of Topic: | Introductions, announcements, agenda review, and minutes approval | 5 mins |
| Purpose: | Decision: Share information and review materials. | |
| Attachment Link: | Notes from July 6, 2016 meeting Notes from Sept 7, 2016 meeting | |
| Contact Person: | Gary Darling Tony Hale | gary.darling@water.ca.gov tonyh@sfei.org , (510) 746-7381 |

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| ITEM: # | 2 | Approx.Time: |
| Title of Topic: | Planning for AB 1755 | 60 mins |
| Purpose: | Decision: We would like to decide how the DMWG itself sees its role in helping to fulfill the mandate of AB 1755, The Open and Transparent Water Data Act, with respect to advising on the implementation of the platform. | |

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| <p>Background:</p> | <p>In September 2016, the legislation AB 1755 passed into law. It mandates that DWR, in close consultation with the Monitoring Council among other entities, implement a data-sharing platform to promote sound decisions about water-related data – both water supply and water quality – throughout California:</p> <p>“This bill would enact the Open and Transparent Water Data Act. The act would require the department, in consultation with the California Water Quality Monitoring Council, the state board, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife, in accordance with a specified schedule, to create, operate, and maintain a statewide integrated water data platform that, among other things, would integrate existing water and ecological data information from multiple databases and provide data on completed water transfers and exchanges.</p> <p>“The act would require the department, in consultation with the California Water Quality Monitoring Council, the state board, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife, to develop protocols for data sharing, documentation, quality control, public access, and promotion of open-source platforms and decision support tools related to water data and to submit to the Legislature a report on those protocols. The act would require a recipient of state funds through a grant or contract for research or a project relating to the improvement of water or ecological data to adhere to those protocols or be ineligible for state funding.”</p> <p>There are many open questions regarding the ways by which DWR would actively consult with the Monitoring Council. However, one way would be to utilize the convened representatives on the DMWG Steering Committee to empower the DMWG itself – this body – to accomplish some of the legwork involved in addressing technical questions, establishing implementation priorities, and/or facilitating the deliberations about key deliverables such as data interchange standards.</p> | |
| <p>Desired Outcome:</p> | <p>Identify what resources we currently have at our disposal to aid in the effort. What deficiencies – of information, labor, materials – would we need to fill before we could meaningfully contribute to the effort? What conflicts would we likely encounter as we conduct our work in service of this mandate?</p> | |
| <p>Attachment Link:</p> | <p>Assembly Bill No. 1755: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB1755</p> | |
| <p>Contact Person:</p> | <p>Tony Hale</p> | <p>tonyh@sfei.org, (510) 746-7381</p> |

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| <p>ITEM: #</p> | <p>3</p> | <p>Approx.Time:</p> |
| <p>Title of Topic:</p> | <p>Steering Committee Meeting Review</p> | <p>30 mins</p> |
| <p>Purpose:</p> | <p>Information: Review steering committee meeting notes and share any questions about the progress of the committee and its direction</p> | |
| <p>Background:</p> | <p>The Steering Committee met on Sept 9, 2016 with representation from several divisions of DWR, SWRCB, Delta Stewardship Council (Delta Science</p> | |

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| | <p>Program), the Delta Conservancy, and GovOps. Each group demonstrated their support for continued discussion and planning to promote more effective data sharing.</p> <p>The attached notes relate the meeting in some detail, noting the steps for follow-up. The next meeting for the Steering committee will be announced soon.</p> |
| Desired Outcome: | After this meeting, we should have an improved focus on how we might productively interact with the assembled Steering Committee in light of the changed outlook derived from AB 1755. |
| Attachment Link: | Delta Stewardship Council, Environmental Data Summit white paper, Enhancing the Vision for Managing California's Environmental Information Notes from 9/9/16 Steering Committee meeting |
| Contact Person: | Tony Hale tonyh@sfei.org , (510) 746-7381 |

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| ITEM: # | 4 | Approx.Time: |
| Title of Topic: | Presentation from Lori Sprague, scientist with USGS, on the forthcoming article "Challenges of Using Multi-Source Water-Quality Data in the United States" | 35 mins |
| Purpose: | Information exchange with federal partners regarding the application and valuation of data standards | |
| Background: | <p>Lori Spague of USGS has jointly authored a paper with others from USGS and US EPA which will soon appear in the journal <i>Water Research</i>. She will share with us highlights from the article. (It cannot yet be distributed, but is forthcoming.)</p> <p>Abstract: Combining water-quality data from multiple sources can help counterbalance diminishing resources for stream monitoring in the United States and lead to important regional and national insights that would not otherwise be possible. Individual monitoring organizations understand their own data very well, but problems can arise when their data are combined with data from other organizations that have used different methods for reporting the same common metadata elements. In this study, we surveyed more than 25 million nutrient records collected by 488 organizations in the United States since 1899 to identify major inconsistencies in metadata elements that limit the utility of multi-source data. Nearly 15 million of these records had missing or ambiguous information for one or more key metadata elements, including (in decreasing order of records affected) sample fraction, chemical form, units, precise numerical value, parameter name, and remark codes. As a result, metadata harmonization to make use of these multi-source data will be time</p> | |

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| | <p>consuming, expensive, and inexact. Different data users may make different assumptions about the same ambiguous data, potentially resulting in different conclusions about important environmental issues. The value of these ambiguous data is estimated at \$US16 billion, a substantial collective investment by water-resource organizations in the United States. These data could be preserved for uses beyond their original intent by developing and implementing standardized metadata practices for future and legacy water-quality data throughout the United States. .</p> | |
| Desired Outcome: | <p>Learn how our efforts to apply data standards in the domain of California’s water resources might dovetail with national efforts to quantify and value such work.</p> | |
| Contact Person: | Lori Sprague, USGS | lsprague@usgs.gov |

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| ITEM: # | 5 | Approx.Time: |
| Title of Topic: | Subcommittee Factsheets and Appendices | 20 mins |
| Purpose: | <p>Information: Review final drafts of Fact Sheets before they are delivered to the Steering Committee</p> | |
| Background: | <p>For the past year, three Data Management Workgroup subcommittees have been preparing informational products designed to fill information gaps left by the “Vision Document” that is seeking to advance data sharing by and among the state agencies. Those subcommittees were charged with defining and describing the value of the following instruments/technologies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Data management plans b. Web services c. Data federation d. Open Data <p>The work generated a number of materials and drafts, with each culminating in a brief Fact Sheet: https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B50RAGKbBDBCbkRidmxqLWo1REU</p> <p>During this year, these concepts have been presented to the Interagency Ecological Program’s Data Utilization Workgroup, California Estuaries Monitoring Workgroup, the Delta Stewardship Council, and the California Water Quality Monitoring Council who each expressed considerable interest in fostering further advancement of the concepts.</p> <p>The Steering Committee has had an opportunity to review the Fact Sheets,</p> | |

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| | with the exception of the Open Data Fact Sheet. | |
| Desired Outcome: | <p>After this meeting, we should ideally have three or four products that are presentable to a broad audience. We will distribute any revisions to the Steering Committee.</p> <p>Each subcommittee will have 5 minutes to present its updates, questions, and any other material.</p> | |
| Attachment Link: | Delta Stewardship Council, Environmental Data Summit white paper, Enhancing the Vision for Managing California's Environmental Information | |
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| ITEM: # | 6 | Approx.Time: |
| Title of Topic: | Flash Round! 5-minute updates on topics related to the workgroup | 20 mins |
| Purpose: | Informational: What is happening in the community? Examples might include progress updates on portal development efforts, potential connections to related projects, upcoming presentations and conferences, and new innovations we should assess. | |
| Desired Outcome: | Information and planning: This item allows for anyone to contribute news about developments that haven't been covered earlier in the meeting. We are looking for news related to water quality, ecosystem health, and data management. Please confine your update to 5 minutes. | |
| Contact Person: | Tony Hale | tonyh@sfei.org , (510) 746-7381 |

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| ITEM: # | 7 | Approx.Time: |
| Title of Topic: | Next meeting and items to agendize | 10 minutes |
| Purpose: | Identify topics and responsibilities for inclusion in our next workgroup meeting. | |
| Background: | Previously the DMWG selected the 1 st Wednesday of odd months for its meeting time. | |
| Desired Outcome: | Agendize topics for next meeting as appropriate. | |

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| Contact Person: | Tony Hale | tonyh@sfei.org , (510) 746-7381 |
| | Gary Darling | gary.darling@water.ca.gov , (916) 651-9207 |

Meeting information

CONFERENCE DETAILS

Conference Title: Data Management Workgroup

Date: Wednesday, Nov 2, 2016

Time: 1:00 PM Pacific

WEB ACCESSJoin as Attendee: <https://stateofcaswrcbweb.centurylinkccc.com/CenturylinkWeb/DMWG>

First time CenturyLink CCC user? Run system test:

<http://wwna2.globalmeet.com/w/GMTest/index.html?loc=en>**AUDIO ACCESS**

Dial-in (toll free): 1-877-820-7831

Additional Access: 1-720-279-0026

Access Code: 955685

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