

CALIFORNIA WATER QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL

Monitoring Council Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, August 28, 2013 – 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Training Room 1 East/West – First Floor
Joe Serna Jr. Cal/EPA Headquarters Building
1001 I Street, 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 California 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, click on this link <https://waterboards.webex.com/waterboards/j.php?ED=29256303&UID=0&PW=NMjExOGFhMzM5&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 in 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 WebEx meeting. Participation by teleconference only is available by dialing (888) 764-9721 and entering the attendee access code 363 618 0.

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ITEM:	1	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	INTRODUCTIONS AND HOUSEKEEPING	20 minutes
Purpose:	1) Introductions (in the room and on the phone) a) Welcome Beth Christman, the new Monitoring Council Member representing Citizen Monitoring Groups b) Welcome Bruce Burton, the new Monitoring Council Member representing the Department of Public Health c) Welcome Kris Jones, the new Monitoring Council Coordinator from the Natural Resources Agency 2) Review draft notes from May 29, 2013 Monitoring Council meeting 3) Review agenda for today's meeting	
Desired Outcome:	a) Approve May 29, 2012 Monitoring Council meeting notes b) Preview what will be covered today and overall meeting expectations c) Adjust today's agenda, as needed	
Attachment Links:	Draft notes from May 29, 2013 Council meeting	
Contact Person:	Jon Marshack	jon.marshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514

ITEM:	2	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES	40 minutes
Purpose:	<p>These are expected to be brief informational items that could be expanded into more detailed discussions for future meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) MPA/ASBS monitoring coordination letter (Sara Aminzadeh) b) Ocean ecosystem health metrics (Jonathan Bishop, Steve Weisberg) c) Ocean Ecosystem Health Workgroup – Ocean Protection Council/Ocean Science Trust “Roadmap” Effort (Kris Jones) d) Safe to Drink Portal progress (Bruce Burton) e) Other announcements and updates related to the Monitoring Council’s mission pursuant to Senate Bill 1070 (Kehoe, 2006) 	
Desired Outcome:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Approve MPA/ASBS monitoring coordination letter b & c) Information and comment 	
Background:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) At the Monitoring Council’s May 29, 2013 meeting, during the discussion of ASBS monitoring, Sara Aminzadeh was tasked with drafting a supportive letter from the Monitoring Council to the Ocean Protection Council regarding ASBS and MPA coordination, requesting that some of the funds for MPA monitoring be dedicated to integration between MPA and ASBS programs. b) Also at the May 29 meeting, Jonathan Bishop and Steve Weisberg were tasked with initiating discussions on the development of ocean ecosystem health metrics. Steve Weisberg offered SCCWRP services for coordination. Paul Helliker offered to assist with respect to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Office of Spill Prevention and Response. c) In June and July, meetings were held with Natural Resources Agency staff to discuss leadership and support for an Ocean Ecosystem Health Workgroup and portal. The Ocean Protection Council and Ocean Science Trust are developing a plan to move forward. d) A mockup of the Safe to Drink Portal was to be presented to the Monitoring Council for approval at this meeting. A number of factors have conspired to postpone this until the Monitoring Council’s December 12 meeting. 	
Attachment Links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a & b) Draft notes from May 29, 2013 Council meeting (see item #5) d) Draft notes from May 29, 2013 Council meeting (see item #2f) 	
Contact Persons:	<p>Kris Jones Jon Marshack</p>	<p>kristopher.jones@water.ca.gov, (916) 376-9756 jon.marshack@waterboards.ca.gov, (916) 341-5514</p>

ITEM:	3	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	CALIFORNIA WATER PLAN SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS FRAMEWORK	60 minutes
Purpose:	<p>On behalf of Fraser Shilling of UC Davis, Abdul Khan of the Department of Water Resources (DWR) will present the Sustainability Indicators Framework, which is</p>	

	part of the California Water Plan 2013 Update	
Desired Outcome:	Review and comment, specifically on how this effort would best be coordinated with related Monitoring Council and workgroup efforts. Fraser Shilling asks “that the Monitoring Council consider how to help develop a consistent water reporting system for California as a component of an overall annual and real-time sustainability reporting system for the state.”	
Background:	<p>The Framework is intended to support measurement of water sustainability in California, under the auspices of the inter-agency Water Plan. The Framework contains over 80 proposed indicators to measure sustainability, but local agencies could use a sub-set, or different indicators. The goal is a standard approach to developing, using, and reporting indicators of water sustainability to be used in Water Plan, Integrated Regional Water Management, water quality programs of the Water Boards and other agencies, and other forms of reporting on water sustainability.</p> <p>The 2009 Water Plan laid the ground-work for a set of indicators to measure sustainability. The DWR team was looking for an approach and came across DWR-sponsored indicator work that Dr. Fraser Shilling (UC Davis) had carried out in the Bay Area, Sacramento River Basin, and Southern California. They decided to pilot a similar approach at the state and regional scales. The Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority agreed to partner in this process as the regional scale entity. The USEPA became interested in the project because it aligned with their desire to develop comprehensive indicator systems for sustainability at the state scale. Dr. Shilling developed the system in collaboration with DWR and EPA partners, with input from the Water Plan Tribal Advisory Council and Public Advisory Council. The indicators will be reported in an online decision-support tool, which can be viewed now, but won't be complete until September, 2013.</p> <p>Fraser Shilling has also been involved with the Monitoring Council's Healthy Streams Partnership to guide the California Project of USEPA's Healthy Watersheds Initiative. That project is developing a multi-metric analysis to gauge health of California's watersheds, specifically to identify healthy watersheds and watersheds that are vulnerable to environmental and human-induced factors.</p>	
Attachment Links:	Online decision-support tool	
Contact Person:	Fraser Shilling Abdul Khan	fmshilling@ucdavis.edu ; (530) 752-7859 abdul.khan@water.ca.gov ; (916) 651-9660

ITEM:	4	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	CALIFORNIA ESTUARIES PORTAL (BETA)	60 minutes
Purpose:	Stephanie Fong of the State and Federal Contractors Water Agency (SFCWA) will present the beta version of the California Estuaries Portal to be linked from the My Water Quality website	
Desired Outcome:	Approval to publicly launch the portal	

Background:	At the May 2013 Monitoring Council meeting, Stephanie Fong of SFCWA presented a mock-up of the California Estuaries Portal, that presented monitoring data and assessment information on the health of California's estuaries, with an initial focus on the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary. The Monitoring Council provided positive feedback on the efforts of the workgroup and the web-based tools they are using. However, there was concern that the portal may be too data centric, and that the plan for the portal was more complex than others. It was recommended that the workgroup begin building the portal; however, the Monitoring Council requested that workgroup return for additional critique at a later date.	
Attachment Links:	Draft notes from May 29, 2013 Council meeting (see item #3)	
Contact Persons:	Stephanie Fong	SFong@sfcwa.org , (916) 400-4840

LUNCH	Approx. Time:
On your own. Cafe on first floor. Other restaurants in close proximity to building.	60 minutes

ITEM:	5	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	ROCKY INTERTIDAL PORTAL (BETA)	60 minutes
Purpose:	Jon Marshack will present a beta version of the Rocky Intertidal Portal	
Desired Outcome:	Approval to make the portal live for public viewing	
Background:	At the September 2009 Monitoring Council meeting, Mary Elaine Helix of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) presented information on the activities of Multi-Agency Rocky Intertidal Network (MARINE) to monitor California's rocky intertidal ecosystems. The Monitoring Council decided that MARINE's data was the most ready for future portal development of those organizations addressing aquatic ecosystem health. In August 2011, Jayson Smith of Cal State University, Fullerton (now of Cal Poly, Pomona) presented a mockup of a Rocky Intertidal (Tide Pool) Portal based on the work of MARINE. It was intended that the content of this portal be a component of a broader ocean ecosystem portal. But with the need to enter into a contract to migrate the content of the Rocky Intertidal Portal from Cal State Fullerton to a Water Board server and delays in establishing an ocean ecosystem workgroup and portal, it has become clear that release of this information should no longer be delayed. The proposed portal may be viewed using the link below.	
Attachment Links:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rocky Intertidal Portal (beta version) • Notes from August 24, 2011 Council meeting (see item #3) 	
Contact Persons:	Jon Marshack	jon.marshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514

ITEM:	6	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	DELTA SCIENCE PLAN	60 minutes

Purpose:	Rainer Hoenicke of the Delta Stewardship Council's Science Program will present information on the Delta Science Plan currently under development	
Desired Outcome:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback on comments submitted by the Monitoring Council Coordinators and determine what additional comment should be made. • What is the appropriate role of the Monitoring Council, its workgroups and portals in the Delta Science Plan? 	
Background:	<p>In 2009, legislation was passed that established a new oversight and coordination entity in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. It also tasked this entity with developing a management plan and included certain requirements for that plan. Implementation of the Delta Reform Act and the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan requires science support to achieve the legislation's coequal goals of water supply reliability and protecting, restoring and enhancing the Delta ecosystem. The Delta Stewardship Council, in its Delta Plan, recommends that a Delta Science Plan be developed to organize and integrate ongoing science and shared learning in the Delta. The Delta Plan further recommends that the Delta Science Plan address, among other items, effective governance for science in the Delta, strategies for addressing uncertainty and conflicting scientific information, the prioritization of research, near-term science needs and financial needs to support science.</p> <p>A first draft of the Delta Science Plan was released in June 2013 with a comment deadline of July 18. With insufficient time to bring this issue to the Monitoring Council before the comment deadline and understanding the substantial overlap between the goals of the Delta Science Plan and the Monitoring Council's Comprehensive Monitoring Program Strategy for California, the Monitoring Council Coordinators prepared and submitted comments to the Delta Stewardship Council calling for more integration between these two efforts.</p>	
Attachment Links:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Delta Science Plan • Comment Letter from Monitoring Council Coordinators 	
Contact Person:	Rainer Hoenicke	rainer.hoenicke@deltacouncil.ca.gov ; (916) 445-4825

ITEM:	7	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	TRIENNIAL AUDIT OF THE MONITORING COUNCIL'S STRATEGY	45 minutes
Purpose:	Jon Marshack will present information on SB 1070's requirement for a triennial audit of the effectiveness of implementing the Monitoring Council's strategy	
Desired Outcome:	Begin to plan how, when, and by whom this audit should occur	
Background:	<p>The Monitoring Council's implementing legislation, SB 1070 (Kehoe, 2006), requires that the Monitoring Council's efforts be periodically audited.</p> <p>(h) (1) Commencing December 1, 2008, the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency shall conduct a triennial audit of the effectiveness of the monitoring program strategy developed pursuant to subdivision (e). The audit shall include, but need not be limited to, an assessment of the following matters:</p> <p>(A) The extent to which the strategy has been implemented.</p>	

	<p>(B) The effectiveness of the monitoring and assessment program and the monitoring council with regard to both of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Tracking improvements in water quality. (ii) Evaluating the overall effectiveness of programs administered by the state board or a regional board and of state and federally funded water quality improvement projects. <p>(2) The Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency shall consult with the Secretary of the Resources Agency in preparing the audit, consistent with the memorandum of understanding entered into pursuant to subdivision (a).</p> <p>The Memorandum of Understanding, entered into by the Secretaries of Cal/EPA and the Natural Resources Agency, also addresses this audit.</p> <p>Under this MOU, the responsibilities of the Secretaries of Cal/EPA and Resources (collectively "the Secretaries") include, but are not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. The Secretary of Cal/EPA, commencing December 1, 2008, will conduct a triennial audit of the completeness and effectiveness of the comprehensive monitoring program strategy that has been recommended by the Monitoring Council. The Secretary of Cal/EPA will consult with the Secretary of the Resources Agency in conducting the audit. <p>Considering that the Monitoring Council has received no formal endorsement (and no formal rejection) of the Comprehensive Monitoring Program Strategy from the agency secretaries, it is unclear how this audit should be initiated.</p> <p>SB 1070 and the MOU start the audit clock on December 1, 2008 the date of the Monitoring Council's initial recommendations to the agency secretaries. However, pursuant to the legislation, the Monitoring Council did not submit its recommended strategy to the agency secretaries until December 28, 2010.</p>
<p>Attachment Links:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CA Senate Bill 1070 (Kehoe, 2006) • Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishing the Monitoring Council
<p>Contact Person:</p>	<p>Jon Marshack jon.marshack@waterboards.ca.gov, (916) 341-5514</p>

<p>ITEM:</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>Approx. Time:</p>
<p>Title of Topic:</p>	<p>MEETING WRAP-UP</p>	<p>15 minutes</p>
<p>Purpose:</p>	<p>Plan agenda for December 12, 2013 Monitoring Council meeting in Sacramento. Potential items include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Confirm Monitoring Council meeting dates for 2014 – currently the 4th Wednesday of every 3rd month – Feb 26, May 28, Aug 27, Nov 26 2) Update on the USEPA Healthy Watersheds Initiative, California Project to assess watersheds throughout the state and identify healthy watersheds 3) Update on potential state stewardship for California's portion of the National Hydrography Dataset and the National Wetlands Inventory (Jonathan Bishop and Dale Hoffman-Floerke) 4) Safe to Drink Portal mockup review and request to build the site 5) Development of Monitoring Council recommendations to improve grant project monitoring, data management, assessment, and reporting 6) Water Board new effort to gather groundwater monitoring data in support of a 	

	<p>future groundwater strategic workplan (Eric Oppenheimer, John Borkovich)</p> <p>7) Delta Science Plan – comments on future drafts</p> <p>8) Ocean Ecosystem Health (Liz Whiteman)</p> <p>a) Plans for Ocean Ecosystem Workgroup and new Ocean Health Portal</p> <p>b) Marine Protected Area (MPA) Monitoring Enterprise</p> <p>9) Triennial audit of the Monitoring Council's strategy</p> <p>10) Department of Fish & Game monitoring (Glenda Marsh, Adam Ballard, Robert Holmes, Josh Grover, Chad Dibble, Pete Ode, Tom Lupo)</p> <p>a) Coordination</p> <p>b) Financial support</p> <p>c) Flow</p> <p>d) Data Management – CEDEN for water quality data?</p> <p>e) Monitoring Council endorsement of collaboration?</p> <p>11) Possibility of holding an annual conference. A representative from the Maryland Monitoring Council should be invited to participate by phone (see May 2012 notes, Item 2d)</p>	
Desired Outcome:	Develop agenda for the next meeting	
Contact Persons:	Kris Jones	kristopher.jones@water.ca.gov , (916) 376-9756
	Jon Marshack	jon.marshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514

ADJOURN

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