

CALIFORNIA WATER QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL
Monitoring Council Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, December 10, 2014 – 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Second Floor, Klamath Room
 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?MTID=m135a61453d5ae4eaa499dedf264bfbcd>, enter your name and email address, enter the meeting password "cwqmc", click "Join" and follow the instructions that appear on your screen. Please log in a few 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. Audio connection is by teleconference by dialing (888) 764-9721 and entering the attendee access code 363 618 0. Existing audio equipment may limit the available quality of the connection.

For a map to the Cal/EPA Building, visit: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPABldg/location.htm>. For security purposes, all visitors are required to sign in and receive a badge at the Visitor Center to the left of the lobby upon entering the building. Valid picture identification may be required due to the security level. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact the State Water Board's Equal Employment Opportunity Office at (916) 341-5881.

ITEM:	1		Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	INTRODUCTIONS AND HOUSEKEEPING		10 minutes
Purpose:	1) Introductions (in the room and on the phone) 2) Review draft notes from September 3, 2014 Monitoring Council meeting 3) Review agenda for today's meeting		
Desired Outcome:	a) Approve September 3, 2014 Monitoring Council meeting notes b) Preview what will be covered today and overall meeting expectations c) Adjust today's agenda, as needed		
Attachment Link:	Draft notes from September 3, 2014 Council meeting		
Contact Persons:	Kris Jones Jon Marshack	kristopher.jones@water.ca.gov , (916) 376-9756 jon.marshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514	

ITEM:	2		Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES		30 minutes
Purpose:	These are expected to be brief informational items that could be expanded into		

	<p>more detailed discussions for future meetings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Welcome Greg Gearheart, new Alternate for Co-Chair Jonathan Bishop (Jonathan Bishop) b) Monitoring Council Governance changes for Drinking Water Program (Jon Marshack) c) Welcome Karen Larsen as new Member representing Drinking Water Program (Jon Marshack) d) Departure of Co-Chair Paul Helliker (Stephani Spaar) e) Potential workgroup for harmful algal blooms (HABs) and cyanotoxins (Jon Marshack) f) Presentation to the Delta Stewardship Council (Jon Marshack) g) Monitoring Council Meeting dates for 2015 (Jon Marshack)
<p>Desired Outcome:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information and comment • Approve proposed Governance changes • Authorize formation of a Harmful Algal Bloom and Cyanotoxin Workgroup • Approve meeting dates for 2015
<p>Background:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Greg Gearheart – With Karen Larsen’s move to the Division of Drinking Water, Greg Gearheart has been selected as the new Deputy Director of the State Water Board’s Office of Information Management and Analysis. Monitoring Council Co-Chair Jonathan Bishop has selected Greg to be his Alternate on the Monitoring Council. b) Governance – The existing Monitoring Council Governance document names one Member to represent the California Department of Public Health, largely due to fact that the Department housed the Drinking Water Program. Pursuant to Governor Brown’s direction and recent legislation, California’s Drinking Water Program moved from the Department of Public Health on July 1, 2014 to form the new Division of Drinking Water within the State Water Resources Control Board. Proposed changes to the Governance document would reassign this Monitoring Council Member from representing the Department of Public Health to instead represent the Division of Drinking Water. c) Karen Larsen – Karen Larsen, former Monitoring Council Co-Chair representing Cal/EPA has accepted an Assistant Deputy Director position within the new Division of Drinking Water. As head of the Division of Drinking Water, Deputy Director Cindy Forbes has selected Karen to represent the Division on the Monitoring Council. A nomination letter was sent to the Agency Secretaries on October 9, 2015. d) Paul Helliker – On November 17, Department of Water Resources Director Mark Cowin released a memorandum stating that Monitoring Council Co-Chair Paul Helliker had resigned from his position as Deputy Director of Delta and Statewide Water Management at DWR. e) HABs & Cyanotoxins – There is increasing interest in the effects of harmful algal blooms and the toxic chemicals that they produce, including impacts on marine life, swimming safety, domestic animals, and drinking water systems. A recent shut down of the drinking water system for the city of Toledo, Ohio

	<p>due to a harmful algal bloom in Lake Erie has heightened awareness of this issue. A number of groups have formed in California to study HABs and cyanotoxins. Recently, the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program of the State Water Board committed funding to study HABs in California waters. The Monitoring Council's Comprehensive Monitoring Program Strategy included consideration of forming one or more workgroups to address the question, "What stressors and processes affect our water quality?" The Monitoring Council will be asked to consider whether a workgroup of the Council should be formed to coordinate monitoring, assessment, and reporting of HABs and cyanotoxins.</p> <p>f) Delta Stewardship Council – On October 30, Jon Marshack addressed the Delta Stewardship Council to inform them about the Monitoring Council, our strategy to address problems related to uncoordinated monitoring and assessment and access to water quality and aquatic ecosystem health data, our workgroups, the progress we have made, and the challenges we face. The Delta Stewardship Council meeting was held on the third morning of the biennial Bay-Delta Science Conference in Sacramento. Posters on the Estuary and Wetland workgroups, portals, and tools were displayed during the conference.</p> <p>g) 2015 Meetings – Monitoring Council Members, Alternates, and EPA Liaison were polled via email regarding potential dates for meetings in 2015. Proposed quarterly meeting dates were selected for late in the month to avoid potential conflicts. The following dates were tentatively selected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday, February 23, 2015 – Sacramento • Friday, May 29, 2015 – Costa Mesa • Thursday, August 27, 2015 – Sacramento • Monday, November 30, 2015 – Sacramento 	
Attachment Links:	<p>b) Proposed amendments to the Monitoring Council's governance document</p> <p>c) Letter to Agency Secretaries Recommending Karen Larsen to represent the Division of Drinking Water on the Monitoring Council</p> <p>d) DWR Organizational Changes – memorandum from Mark Cowin of the Department of Water Resources</p>	
Contact Persons:	<p>Jon Marshack</p> <p>Kris Jones</p>	<p>jon.marshack@waterboards.ca.gov, (916) 341-5514</p> <p>kristopher.jones@water.ca.gov, (916) 376-9756</p>

ITEM:	3	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	DEVELOPING MONITORING COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS	
Purpose:	Discussion of the scope of this topic	
Desired Outcome:	Direction on the desired scope of future Monitoring Council recommendations	
Background:	One aspect of the enabling legislation, SB 1070 , specifically Water Code Section 13181(a)(6)(B), requires the Monitoring Council to provide recommendations to the Agency Secretaries to "Ensure that water quality improvement projects financed by the state provide specific information necessary to track project	

	<p>effectiveness with regard to achieving clean water and healthy ecosystems.” To date, the Monitoring Council has heard from the Water Boards and the Department of Water Resources regarding their efforts to improve the effectiveness of monitoring and reporting for water quality improvement projects, but Monitoring Council recommendations have yet to be developed. Recently, staff of the Delta Science Program have questioned whether potential recommendations from the Monitoring Council should also include habitat restoration projects, such as those funded through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecosystem Restoration Program (CDFW) • Bay-Delta Conservation Plan • State Coastal Conservancy • SF Bay Conservation and Development Commission • Joint Ventures habitat restoration (waterfowl) • So Cal Wetland Recovery Project (SCCWRP) • Recently approved Proposition 1 Water Bond 	
Attachment Link:	CA Senate Bill 1070 (Kehoe, 2006)	
Contact Person:	Jon Marshack	jon.marshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514

ITEM:	4	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL, ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SUMMIT WHITE PAPER	60 minutes
Purpose:	Staff of the Delta Science Program of the Delta Stewardship Council will present an overview of the white paper entitled, <i>Enhancing the Vision for Managing California’s Environmental Information</i> , which arose from the two-day Environmental Data Summit held in early June 2014 in Davis and Sacramento.	
Desired Outcome:	Information and comment	
Background:	<p>The Environmental Data Summit brought together leaders from academia, government agencies, non-profit organizations, and the private sector representing California’s varied interests in the effective management of environmental data. This document is intended to be consistent with and support national trends, enhance California’s existing initiatives and lay the foundation for creating the capacity to facilitate access to data and metadata across organizational boundaries and develop shared web services.</p> <p>On November 17, Members of the Monitoring Council and other key individuals were sent a preliminary draft of the white paper and asked to provide comments to Delta Science Program staff by December 1. After comments have been received and reviewed, the Delta Science Program will prepare and post a public review draft on or about December 8.</p>	
Attachment Link:	2014 Environmental Data Summit website	
Contact Persons:	George Isaac	george.isaac@deltacouncil.ca.gov , (916) 445-0533

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:	DATA VISUALIZATION – ECOATLAS	60 minutes
Purpose:	Cristina Grosso from the San Francisco Estuary Institute/Aquatic Science Center will demonstrate EcoAtlas, including new enhancements, and will provide an overview of its uses, future applications, and the sustainability of the tool.	
Desired Outcome:	Information and comment	
Background:	<p>EcoAtlas was originally developed by the SFEI/ASC as a data visualization tool to track water quality certification projects in the San Francisco Bay Region. The California Wetland Monitoring Workgroup has enhanced EcoAtlas by adding a number of key features to display the quantity and quality of California wetlands, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The California Aquatic Resources Inventory (CARI) base map • Standardized wetland mapping and classification protocols • Wetland condition information based on the California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM) • Wetland restoration project location, boundary and activity information <p>EcoAtlas is also able to overlay other information layers, including sediment and water column toxicity data from CEDEN and land use information. The Landscape Profile Tool allows EcoAtlas to generate dynamic summaries of aquatic resource information within a user-defined area or watershed. A number of governmental and non-governmental organizations are evaluating additional applications for EcoAtlas, including tracking wetland restoration projects in the Delta and waterfowl habitat enhancements in the San Francisco Bay and Central Valley areas. Statewide water quality certification information will be delivered to EcoAtlas by an online 401 tool being developed for the State Water Board.</p>	
Attachment Link:	EcoAtlas website	
Contact Person:	Cristina Grosso	cristina@sfei.org , (510) 746-7371

ITEM:	6	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	DATA VISUALIZATION – SAN JOAQUIN RIVER PORTAL	60 minutes
Purpose:	Parry Klassen and Amye Osti will present the recently released San Joaquin River Portal	
Desired Outcome:	Information and comment	
Background:	<p>Swimming safety, salmon migration and salt are some of the issues addressed by a new website launched by the Coalition for Urban/Rural Environmental Stewardship (CURES). The website links public data bases with San Joaquin River water quality information, flow, water temperature, or pesticide detections. The website was developed by CURES with grants from the U.S. EPA and the</p>	

	State and Federal Contractors Water Agency (SFCWA). The website is intended to serve as an information tool for the public, water managers or researchers seeking access to data on water quality monitoring from the San Joaquin River. Aspects of the portal were adapted from Monitoring Council guidance on My Water Quality portal development.	
Attachment Links:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CURES Launches Website on San Joaquin River Monitoring Data – press release from the Coalition for Urban/Rural Environmental Stewardship • San Joaquin River Portal website 	
Contact Persons:	Parry Klassen Amye Osti	pklassen@unwiredbb.com , (559) 646-2224 amy@34north.com , (310) 305 -8289

ITEM:	7	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	TRIENNIAL AUDIT REPORT	60 minutes
Purpose:	Jon Marshack and Kris Jones will present drafts of the first triennial audit report and cover letter to the Agency Secretaries that have been accepted by a subcommittee of the Monitoring Council consisting of Jonathan Bishop, Paul Helliker and Sarge Green.	
Desired Outcome:	Final approval of the first triennial self-audit of implementation of the Monitoring Council's <i>Strategy</i> and a cover letter transmitting the report to the Secretary for Environmental Protection.	
Background:	<p>SB 1070, specifically California Water Code Section 31383(h), and the MOU that created the Monitoring Council require that the Secretary of Cal/EPA, in consultation with the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency, conduct a triennial audit of implementing the Monitoring Council's A Comprehensive Monitoring Program Strategy for California (2010). Cal/EPA Secretary Matthew Rodriquez requested that the Monitoring Council perform a self-audit.</p> <p>The content of this report was discussed at Monitoring Council meetings on December 12, 2013, February 19, 2014, May 28, 2014, and September 3, 2014, and specific direction was given to staff. At the September 3 meeting, a subcommittee of the Monitoring Council, consisting of Co-Chairs Jonathan Bishop and Paul Helliker and Member Sarge Green, were selected to guide development of the final versions of the report and cover letter.</p>	
Attachment Links:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft of the First Triennial Audit Report, showing changes made since the September 3 meeting • Draft of the First Triennial Audit Report, clean copy • Draft Cover Letter to Cal/EPA Secretary Rodriquez • Draft notes from September 3, 2014 Council meeting (see Item 4) • Notes from May 28, 2014 Council meeting (see Item 6) • Notes from the February 19, 2014 Monitoring Council meeting (see Item 5) • Notes from the December 12, 2013 Monitoring Council meeting (see Item 6) 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CA Senate Bill 1070 (Statutes of 2006, specifically Water Code §13181(h)) • Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishing the Monitoring Council (see section IV, 4 on page 4) • Comprehensive Monitoring Program Strategy (see page 22) • Monitoring Council's 2008 Initial Recommendations report (see page 11 and Appendix 3) 	
Contact Persons:	Jon Marshack Kris Jones	jon.marshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514 kristopher.jones@water.ca.gov , (916) 376-9756

ITEM:	8	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	NEXT MEETING AGENDA	15 minutes
Purpose:	<p>Plan agenda for February 23, 2014 Monitoring Council meeting in Sacramento. Potential items include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Wetlands Status and Trends (S&T) Program (Eric Stein) 2) Ocean Workgroup and Portal progress report (Liz Whiteman) 3) Data visualization – San Diego River report cards (Lilian Busse, Brock Bernstein) 4) Delta Indicators for Estuary Portal (Hildie Spoutz) 5) Data quality standardization efforts of the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (Melissa Morris) 6) Stream Pollution Trends 2014 Report (Bryn Phillips, Brian Anderson) 7) Business Plans from Workgroups – content and format 8) Presentations from organizations within the Natural Resources agency (e.g., those identified in SB 1070) and next steps for outreach 9) Possibility of holding an annual conference 	
Desired Outcome:	Develop agenda for the February 23 meeting	
Contact Persons:	Kris Jones Jon Marshack	kristopher.jones@water.ca.gov , (916) 376-9756 jon.marshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514

ADJOURN