

CALIFORNIA WATER QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL
Monitoring Council Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, February 19, 2014 – 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Klamath Room – Second 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?MTID=m10ac2c44ca162e71649f19409a90fad9>, 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. Participation by teleconference only is available by dialing (888) 764-9721 and entering the attendee access code 363 618 0. *Note: Users of Mozilla Firefox version 26 or Google Chrome version 32 may need to enable the WebEx Plug-in; for detailed instructions see https://support.webex.com/webex/meetings/en_US/chrome-firefox-join-faq.htm. Users of Internet Explorer versions 10 or 11 may need to run in compatibility mode.*

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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 December 12, 2013 Monitoring Council meeting 3) Review agenda for today's meeting		
Desired Outcome:	a) Approve December 12, 2013 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 December 12, 2013 Council meeting		
Contact Persons:	Jon Marshack	jon.marshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514	
	Kris Jones	kristopher.jones@water.ca.gov , (916) 376-9756	

ITEM:	2	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES	30 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) Potential state stewardship for California's portion of the National Hydrography Dataset (Kris Jones) b) Participation in the National Water Quality Monitoring Council's 2014 Conference, April 28 – May 2, Cincinnati, Ohio (Jon Marshack) c) Drinking Water Program Migration to the State Water Board (Karen Larsen) d) Delta Stewardship Council's Data Summit (Karen Larsen) e) Other announcements and updates related to the Monitoring Council's mission pursuant to Senate Bill 1070, Statutes of 2006
Desired Outcome:	Information and comment
Background:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) State Stewardship for NHD – At the Monitoring Council's December 12 meeting (see Item 2b), Stephani Spaar presented information regarding the ongoing efforts to establish a state steward for California's portion of the National Hydrography Dataset and the National Wetlands Inventory (for full background, see State Stewardship for NHD and NWI summary document). Over the past several years, multiple attempts have been made within the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to serve as the steward for the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD); however, all requests for funding have been unsuccessful. Due to the lack of success for stewardship within DWR, recent efforts have focused on a multi-agency approach for stewardship of NHD in California. A meeting was held in October 2013 to discuss joint stewardship of NHD, and the interagency group determined that it would be beneficial to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for California NHD stewardship among interested state and federal agencies; the MOU would define and assign various roles and responsibilities among the signatories, thereby ensuring that the burdens of stewardship would not fall primarily on a single agency. On January 29th, the Monitoring Council Coordinator (Kris Jones) attended the second meeting to discuss joint stewardship of the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) and to further develop the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to establish joint stewardship. b) National Monitoring Conference – The National Water Quality Monitoring Council, co-chaired by USEPA and USGS, holds a national monitoring conference every two years. California has participated in past conferences and made oral and poster presentations on the Monitoring Council, its workgroups, and the My Water Quality portals. The 9th National Monitoring Conference will be held April 28 to May 2, 2014 in Cincinnati, Ohio. A number of Monitoring Council-related abstracts have been accepted for presentation, including an oral presentation on the Triennial Audit and posters on three of the My Water Quality portals. c) Drinking Water Program Migration – The Administration has proposed to transfer the Drinking Water Program from the Department of Public Health to the State Water Board on July 1, 2014. The proposal is described in a White Paper circulated in the summer of 2013. Cal/EPA and the California Health and Human Services Agency held a public meeting in January and a Drinking Water Reorganization Task Force has met to provide input on the proposed transfer.

	d) Delta Stewardship Council's Data Summit – The Delta Stewardship Council is planning to hold a Data Summit later this year with the objective of building on existing and emerging data management systems to enable the Bay-Delta region's environmental and project-implementation data to be easily accessed, visualized, and processed from diverse data management systems by agencies, scientists, interested public, academia, and citizen scientists, resulting in enhanced discovery and accumulation of knowledge. There is an obvious nexus with the efforts of the Monitoring Council and its workgroups.	
Attachment Links	a) State Stewardship for NHD and NWI – Kris Jones updated summary b) Working Together for Clean Water, the 9th National Monitoring Conference c) Drinking Water Program Proposal – via the State Water Board website	
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ITEM:	3	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT OF WATERSHED HEALTH	50 minutes
Purpose:	Lori Webber will provide a summary of this report , prepared by Cadmus Group under contract from USEPA's Healthy Watersheds Initiative	
Desired Outcome:	Information and comment on how the Monitoring Council's Healthy Streams Partnership could build on this effort and augment the Healthy Streams Portal	
Background:	<p>In mid-2011, USEPA's Healthy Watersheds Initiative offered to provide USEPA-funded contractor support for a new project to identify healthy watersheds throughout California based on a systematic integration of a number of monitored and modeled parameters. The Monitoring Council's Healthy Streams Partnership guided the contractor, Cadmus Group, and the resulting report was published by USEPA in October, 2013. Results of the assessment are envisioned to be presented in the Healthy Streams Portal.</p> <p>At the November 2011 meeting, the Monitoring Council reviewed a Draft Technical Approach developed by Cadmus. At the February 2012 meeting, the Monitoring Council was given a presentation on a draft summary of proposed indicators for use in the assessment and provided feedback. Cadmus provide preliminary results of the project in March 2013 and the Monitoring Council responded that the final report should stress the strengths and limitations of the analysis, identify where California needs to augment its monitoring efforts to allow future assessments to more accurately reflect watershed health and vulnerability, and identify where models perform poorly. Lori Webber provided a brief update at the Monitoring Council's May 2013 meeting.</p>	
Attachment Links:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • California Integrated Assessment of Watershed Health – report by Cadmus • Notes from the March 2013 Monitoring Council meeting (see Item 6) • Notes from the February 2012 Monitoring Council meeting (see Item 4) 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notes from the November 2011 Monitoring Council meeting (see Item 6) 	
Contact Person:	Lori Webber	lori.webber@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5556

ITEM:	4		Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	INDICATORS AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES		60 minutes
Purpose:	Fraser Shilling will discuss how the use of indicators and performance measures has changed over the last decade and how different state and federal agencies are employing them at different scales to understand condition and to convey scientific information to broad audiences		
Desired Outcome:	Information and comment on how indicators can be used in the My Water Quality portals and to enhance the efforts of the Monitoring Council's theme-specific workgroups to bring data and information together from multiple agencies and organizations, especially the California Water Plan Sustainability Indicators Framework and the California Integrated Assessment of Watershed Health		
Background:	<p>In the August 2013 Monitoring Council meeting, Abdul Kahn of the Department of Water Resources (DWR) presented the Sustainability Indicators Framework, which is part of the California Water Plan 2013 Update. Fraser Shilling, who developed the Water Plan Sustainability Indicators for DWR, was originally scheduled to present that item. At the end of Abdul's presentation, the Monitoring Council requested additional information regarding the nature of the report, including for whom it was intended, and asked that this topic be scheduled for a later Monitoring Council meeting.</p> <p>Dr. Shilling is a member of the Monitoring Council's Healthy Streams Partnership which guided the USEPA's California Integrated Assessment of Watershed Health (see Item 3, above). That effort brought together numerous indicators in a multimetric assessment. Dr. Fraser is also developing indicators for use in state forest and range assessments by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire). The California Biodiversity Council has recently convened an Indicators Workgroup to help find common ground among various indicator projects, including those of DWR, Cal Fire, the State Wildlife Action Plan 2015 Update by the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Forest Management Plans by Region 5 of the U.S. Forest Service. Dr. Shilling first described the use of indicators in the California Watershed Assessment Manual (2007) and since then has used them in five regional-scale projects and in the state's Water Plan Update 2013.</p>		
Attachment Links:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • California Water Plan Sustainability Indicators Framework, Exec. Summary • Notes from the August 2013 Monitoring Council meeting (see Item 3) • California Watershed Assessment Manual (2007) 		
Contact Person:	Fraser Shilling	fmshilling@ucdavis.edu , (530) 752-7859	

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:	TRIENNIAL AUDIT OF THE MONITORING COUNCIL'S STRATEGY	160 minutes
Purpose:	<p>Representatives of the following workgroups of the Monitoring Council will present brief summaries of their triennial progress reports, for which there was insufficient time during the December 12, 2013 meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Management Workgroup (Steve Steinberg and David Harris) • Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network (Erick Burres) <p>Jon Marshack and Kris Jones will present a draft outline of the First Triennial Audit Report, followed by discussion among the Monitoring Council Members, Alternates, and EPA Liaison.</p>	
Desired Outcome:	Guidance on the development of the first Triennial Self-Audit of implementation of the Monitoring Council's comprehensive monitoring program strategy	
Background:	<p>This is a continuation of Item 6 from the December 12, 2013 Monitoring Council meeting. At that meeting, the Monitoring Council heard presentations and reviewed progress reports from the seven theme-specific workgroups, followed by a discussion of common themes, concerns and recommendations. There was insufficient time to hear reports from two additional workgroups, the Data Management Workgroup and the Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network. Their presentations were postponed until this meeting.</p> <p>Monitoring Council Coordinators Jon Marshack and Kris Jones outlined the workgroup progress reports in a summary table that ranks each of six performance measures against rating benchmarks from the Monitoring Council's Comprehensive Monitoring Program Strategy and 2008 Initial Recommendations reports. Also in the summary table, explicit needs and additional necessary collaborators were identified by each workgroup. The summary table and individual workgroup progress reports are proposed to be appended to the Monitoring Council's Triennial Audit Report.</p> <p>A draft outline of the First Triennial Audit Report has also been prepared by the Coordinators, based on input from all nine workgroups and discussions with the Monitoring Council Co-Chair Alternates, Karen Larsen and Stephani Spaar. The outline identifies goals, accomplishments, challenges, unaddressed mandates of SB 1070 and the implementing MOU, sustainability, and, finally, next steps and recommendations. The Coordinators propose that the next steps and recommendations be highlighted in the cover letter to the Triennial Audit Report. The proposed recipients of the report include the Secretaries of Cal/EPA and the Natural Resources Agency and key legislators.</p>	
Attachment Links:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Outline of the First Triennial Audit Report • Workgroup Progress Reports – Summary Table – updated <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Data Management Workgroup – updated ○ California Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network • Performance Measures and Rating Benchmarks • Notes from the December 12, 2013 Monitoring Council meeting (see Item 6) • Notes from November 28, 2012 Council Monitoring meeting (see Item 7) 	

	<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) 	
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ITEM:	6	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	MEETING WRAP-UP	20 minutes
Purpose:	<p>Plan agenda for May 28, 2014 Monitoring Council meeting in Costa Mesa. Potential items include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Triennial audit of the Monitoring Council's strategy implementation – report approval (Jon Marshack and Kris Jones) 2) Development of Monitoring Council recommendations to improve grant project monitoring, data management, assessment, and reporting 3) Ocean Ecosystem Health (Liz Whiteman) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Plans for Ocean Ecosystem Workgroup and new Ocean Health Portal b) Marine Protected Area (MPA) Monitoring Enterprise and coordination with ASBS monitoring 4) Department of Fish & Wildlife monitoring (Adam Ballard, Robert Holmes, Josh Grover, Chad Dibble, Pete Ode, Tom Lupo) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Coordination b) Financial support c) Flow d) Data Management – CEDEN for water quality data? e) Monitoring Council endorsement of collaboration? 5) Data quality standardization efforts of SWAMP – “Data Comparability” 6) New Water Board QA website 7) 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) 	
Desired Outcome:	Develop agenda for the May 28, 2014 meeting	
Contact Persons:	Kris Jones Jon Marshack	kristopher.jones@water.ca.gov , (916) 376-9756 jon.marshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514

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