

CALIFORNIA WATER QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL

**California Estuary Monitoring Workgroup
Meeting Notes**

Wednesday, November 12th – 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Delta Conservancy Conference Room
1450 Halyard Drive, Suite 6, West Sacramento



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

REMOTE ACCESS: There will be web conferencing available via WebEx during this meeting. Please see instructions at the end of the agenda. Call-in number **888-861-1254** Participant access code: **737615#** is also available.

| | | |
|------------------|--|--|
| Item | 1 | |
| Title of Topic: | Introduction and Announcements | |
| | 1) Introductions 2) Review notes from last CEMW meeting 3) Review agenda for today | |
| Desired Outcome: | Approve meeting notes | |
| Attachment: | 091014 Notes.pdf | |
| Notes: | Val Connor, Dave Contreras, Kelsey Cowin, Jessica Davenport, Linda Dorn, Stephanie Fong, Tony Hale, Daniel Huang, Thomas Jabusch, Kris Jones, Juliet Lamont, Patrick Morris, Kevin O’Connor, Amye Osti, Dave Osti, Shaun Philippart, Jon Rosenfield, Sam Safi, Katrina Schneider, Hildie Spautz, Tina Swanson, Betsy Wells | |

| | | |
|-----------------|---|--|
| Item | 2 | |
| Title of Topic: | Liaison Reports | |
| Background: | The Monitoring Council and the Council’s workgroups are actively working on several items (SB 1070). This agenda item is for the routine update on key activities or decisions made by other workgroups or the Council, followed by a brief discussion of how the activities would impact the CEMW. | |

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CA WQMC: Kris Jones 2. CA Wetland Monitoring Workgroup: Kristal Davis Fadtke and Kris Jones 3. Healthy Streams Partnership: Lori Webber 4. Data Management Workgroup: Tony Hale 5. BOG workgroup for "Is it safe to eat fish?": Kris Jones 6. Safe to Swim Workgroup: Kris Jones 7. Ocean/Rocky Intertidal Workgroup: Kris Jones |
| Desired Outcome | Information Exchange and ideas to integrate existing Portals |
| Contact Person: | Kris Jones Kristopher.Jones@water.ca.gov |
| Notes: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council is still reviewing the Triennial audit, but is expected to be confirmed at the next Council Meeting in December. 2. The CA Wetland Monitoring Workgroup met on November 4th. The meeting was focused on the group's strategic planning efforts, business plan development, and committee organization. The group also heard a presentation on the Restoration Hub from Campbell Ingram of the Delta Conservancy and announced a new version of Eco Atlas. 3. Healthy Streams Partnership: No Update 4. The Data Management Workgroup has elected new co-chairs Tony Hale (SFEI) and Gary Darling (DWR). The group has been focused on outreach to the different workgroups on identifying what type of data management goals and tools would be most useful. The group has also helped draft the White Paper resulting from the Delta Science Program Data Summit earlier this year. A draft should be finalized in the next month or two. 5. BOG workgroup for "Is it safe to eat fish?": No update 6. Safe to Swim Workgroup: No Update <p>Ocean/Rocky Intertidal Workgroup: No Update</p> |
| | 7. |

| | | |
|-----------------|---|--|
| Item | 3 | |
| Title of Topic: | State of the Estuary Report Coordination | |
| Background: | <p>Since we've modeled the Estuaries Portal after the 2011 SOTB Report and are trying to collaborate on making the next report an estuary report for 2015, the Habitat Section Workplan has been adjusted slightly to allow for support of the SOTER in 2015 and coordination with other Portal groups is underway to try to include these Delta indicators in the STOER for 2015.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is it safe to eat fish and shellfish? (Bioaccumulation Oversight Group help) 2. Is it safe to swim? (Healthy Streams Portal help) 3. Is tidal marsh extent adequate? (Josh Collins developing) <p>At this meeting, Hildie will update the group on new items and timelines for coordination. Possible areas for indicator collaboration include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Quality (Erin/Stephanie) • Water Quantity (?) • Habitat (Kristal) • Fish (Hildie) | |

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phytoplankton/Chl a (Tiffany, Stephanie, Hildie) • Invertebrates/Foodweb (April, Betsy) • Birds (Hildie) • Stewardship (?) |
| Desired Outcome | Update on process and timelines |
| Contact Person: | Hildie Spautz Hildegarte.Spautz@wildlife.ca.gov |
| Attachment: | Handout to be distributed by Nov. 5th |
| Notes: | <p>Peer Input Proposal- Comprehensive ecological indicators for the Delta have not been previously reported. There is a need for outreach to Delta Scientists to review indicator choice and the technical aspects of indicator development. Hildie Spautz presented her recommendations to coordinate and ensure adequate participation and review by Delta scientists.</p> <p>Water Quality- Information from the safe to swim and safe to eat portals will be pulled together as a text section by SFEI.</p> <p>Water Quantity- Tina Swanson presented her possible indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flow Indicator- alteration • Delta Inflow- percent change in total delta inflow compared to unimpaired delta inflow • San Joaquin River Inflow as a contribution to total inflow- the present difference between actual vs unimpaired flow • Amount of diverted water through the delta- measure the difference between inflow and outflow, what amount of water does not make it out of the delta • Seasonal delta inflow from spring <p>Habitat- SFEI will be calculating habitat indicators for tidal marsh habitat (extend and patch size) based of the new Delta Landscapes Report. They are also trying to decide between an indicator on floodplain or riparian habitat.</p> <p>Fish- The Bay Institute has been hired to produce a fish indicator for the delta that parallels what has been done for the bay. They want to identify and describe potentially relevant sampling programs (strengths and weaknesses) and determine what indicators could be developed in the short and long term. They will then prioritize the list and develop indicators based on time and budget.</p> <p>Phytoplankton- There will not be a quantitative indicator, but a narrative that discusses nutrient issues such as Harmful Algal Blooms. An outline should be available by December.</p> <p>Invertebrates- EMP benthic monitoring data on abundance/density and diversity is available to develop a proto-indicator or sidebar. Betsy Wells will discuss with Tina Swanson and determine how much time she will have available to meet SOTER timelines.</p> <p>Birds- Hildie Spautz will be expanding the breeding water fowl indicator for the 2011</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <p>report into the delta in addition to possible sidebar addition on tricolor black bird, CA black rain, and Sand Hill Cranes. There will be an outline on the indicators available in December.</p> <p>Stewardship- There will be no stewardship indicator for the delta for the 2015 report.</p> |
|--|--|

| | | |
|-----------------|--|--|
| Item | 4 | |
| Title of Topic: | Worker Bee Update | |
| Background: | <p>Worker Bee section leads have initial workplans developed and are implementing them for Phase II Portal development. Draft 1-page workplans identify resources needed and used, provide a way to track progress, and identify interim deliverables or milestones.</p> <p>We will get updates from the Attribute Section Leads:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water: Erin Foresman 2. Living Resources: Shaun Philippart 3. Habitat: Kristal Davis Fadtk/Hildie Spautz 4. Ecological Processes: Hildie Spautz 5. Stewardship: (in need of lead) <p>Update from CWQMC presentation on SOTER coordination and possible changes to the Portal templates will also be discussed.</p> | |
| Desired Outcome | Information share and general direction from larger CEMW as needed. | |
| Contact Person: | Stephanie Fong sfong@sfcwa.org | |
| Attachment: | none | |
| Notes: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water- The water page text is currently on ASANA, if workgroup members have comments please post them to the site. Stephanie Fong will be discussing a timeline with 34 North to mock up some sample pages on high priority TMDLs. 2. Living Resources will be meeting in December to discuss progress. The Delta Juvenile Fish Monitoring Database has been set up and the Fish group will be discussing how to visualize their data with 34 North. 3. Habitat- With the release of the Delta Landscape report, there is a possibility to fill in the greyed out Delta on the Wetlands Portal. Kevin O'Connor and Ross Clark will be meeting in December with the Bar-built estuary group to discuss how to organize the state wide habitat data. 4. Ecological Processes- The focus of this subgroup has been on assisting the SOTER. 5. Stewardship- Sac Regional will consider leading this subgroup and developing a workplan to move forward. The subgroup should contact Peter Vorster to discuss recycled water data. | |

| | | |
|-----------------|---|--|
| Item | 5 | |
| Title of Topic: | Wrap up and schedule additional December meeting | |
| Background: | Recap of any suggestions/decisions made, tasks assigned along with due dates for those tasks, and next steps. | |
| Contact Person: | Stephanie Fong sfong@sfcwa.org | |
| Notes: | The group will be meeting on December 17 th for an additional meeting. | |

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| Parking Lot: Items not addressed during this meeting, but should be brought back for discussion at a later date. This list is not prioritized. | |
| Title of Topic: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance measures • Climate change • Jellyfish in the zooplankton story • Other living resources (e.g., mammals, plants, etc) | |
| Important Dates: | Likely Contact Person: |
| Update to the State of Science Report | Darcy Austin |
| Future MAST Report? | Matt/Larry/Gregg |
| Future IEP Newsletter? | Bill/Randy/? |