



Monitoring Council Strategic Planning

February 23, 2016

Governance

1. Should the Monitoring Council membership and organizational structure remain the same or should it be modified?

Governance - Response

- 💧 Co-Chairs do not truly represent entire agencies
- 💧 Encourage more departments to participate and bring resources to the table by giving them a voice within the Council structure
 - 💧 Department of Fish and Wildlife
 - 💧 Delta Stewardship Council, esp. Delta Science Program
 - 💧 Department of Pesticide Regulation
 - 💧 Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire)
 - 💧 Federal partners?
- 💧 CalEPA Undersecretary Burns has offered letters of support/recommendation

Governance

2. If the Council should be modified, in what manner?
3. What structure would improve chances for success, i.e., more departments participating?

💧 Response options:

- 💧 Form a separate Steering Committee
- 💧 Add members to the existing Council

Focus

4. Should a statewide focus be maintained, or should a more opportunistic focus be adopted that better addresses regional monitoring efforts and issues as they arise?
5. Should efforts continue to be divided into theme areas by beneficial uses and water body types?
6. Should the Council continue to pursue efforts in all of the theme areas, or should the focus be narrowed to those shown to be successful?

Focus - Responses

- 💧 Assume a more pragmatic focus, taking on issues as they arise
 - 💧 harmful algal blooms, constituents of emerging concern
 - 💧 issues with a regional focus
- 💧 Align with issues important to the Administration
 - 💧 delta, drought, climate change
- 💧 Tap into existing collaborative structures
 - 💧 Interagency Ecological Program
 - 💧 Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee
- 💧 Stop focusing on topics shown to be unsuccessful
 - 💧 All waters and all uses need not be addressed

Focus

7. Should the Council's efforts be expanded to include water supply information
 - 💧 Include water supply and flow where needed to address issues at hand
 - 💧 Encourage engagement by Department of Water Resources and the State Water Board's Division of Water Rights

Focus

8. Should portal development continue to be the Council's driver to improve monitoring, assessment, and reporting?
 - 💧 Portal development has not been successful in driving workgroup participation and improvement in monitoring and assessment
 - 💧 Portals should address workgroups' reporting functions
 - 💧 Provide data and tools to decision makers and public

Focus

9. Who is the audience?

- 💧 First – agency managers and decision makers
- 💧 Second – the public

Focus

10. How can the Monitoring Council and its workgroup efforts become indispensable to organizations that can supply funding?
 - 💧 Address the needs of agency managers
 - 💧 Provide data and tools to aid decision making
 - 💧 Work to improve data management, access to data, and data synthesis
 - 💧 Foster formation of work teams for project-related collaboration to develop needed products

Additional Focus

- 💧 Continue to support citizen monitoring/science through the Council's Monitoring Collaboration Network

Additional Questions

11. Is new legislation needed to refine and bolster the Monitoring Council effort?
12. What can Council Members do to increase support for the Council's efforts?
13. Could a name change improve participation?
 - 💧 more inclusive of biological and water supply/flow
 - 💧 e.g., "California Water Monitoring Council"