



SACRAMENTO - SAN JOAQUIN

**DELTA CONSERVANCY**

*A California State Agency*

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March 5, 2013

Jonathan Bishop, Chief Deputy Director  
State Water Resources Control Board  
Monitoring Council Co-Chair  
Representing Cal/EPA

Dale Hoffman-Floerke, Deputy Director  
Department of Water Resources  
Monitoring Council Co-Chair  
Representing the Natural Resources Agency

Dear Co-Chairs of California Monitoring Council:

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy (Delta Conservancy) urges you to support the water quality web portals to meet the goals of the California Senate Bill 1070. The Delta Conservancy supports the Monitoring Council's comprehensive monitoring program strategy, its workgroups, and the portals to integrate monitoring, assessment and reporting. These efforts are consistent with our mission and goal of protecting and improving water quality as well as our belief that it is important to bring water quality data to a single location in support of access of data and information by the public and resource managers.

The Delta Conservancy is California's newest State conservancy, created by the Legislature as part of a comprehensive Delta Reform Act of 2009. The Legislature created the Conservancy to act as a primary state agency to implement ecosystem restoration in the Delta and support efforts that advance environmental protection and the economic well being of Delta residents. The Legislature directed that the Conservancy work in collaboration and cooperation with federal and state agencies and local governments and interested parties in protecting and enhancing habitat and protecting and improving water quality in the Delta.

We appreciate that the California Monitoring Council and the State Water Board have made significant strides in implementing comprehensive monitoring programs and improving the efficiency and effectiveness of water quality, associated ecosystem monitoring, assessment, and reporting. It is critical that this effort continue and the monitoring council support the maintenance of the web portals.

The Delta Conservancy is convening an ecosystem restoration network to facilitate coordination of the current and expected restoration activities in the Delta. The Delta Restoration Network (DRN) has several objectives including tracking the restoration data. We are currently working with agencies and entities in the Delta to develop a tracking system for ecosystem restoration data.



Our overall goals for this tracking system are to develop the ability to integrate metrics and measures, synthesize data, and measure progress toward restoration objectives. We believe that the recent enhancement of the Wetland Tracker and the development of the new EcoAtlas, provide a viable platform for future tracking of restoration efforts in the Delta.

For these reasons, it is critical the California Monitoring Council and the State Water Board continue to support the Wetland Portal and the migration of Wetland Tracker into EcoAtlas as these portals are essential in meeting the Delta restoration tracking needs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Campbell Ingram', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Campbell Ingram, Executive Officer  
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy