

My Water Quality Wetlands Portal & EcoAtlas Release

California Water Quality Monitoring Council
7 March 2013

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For today

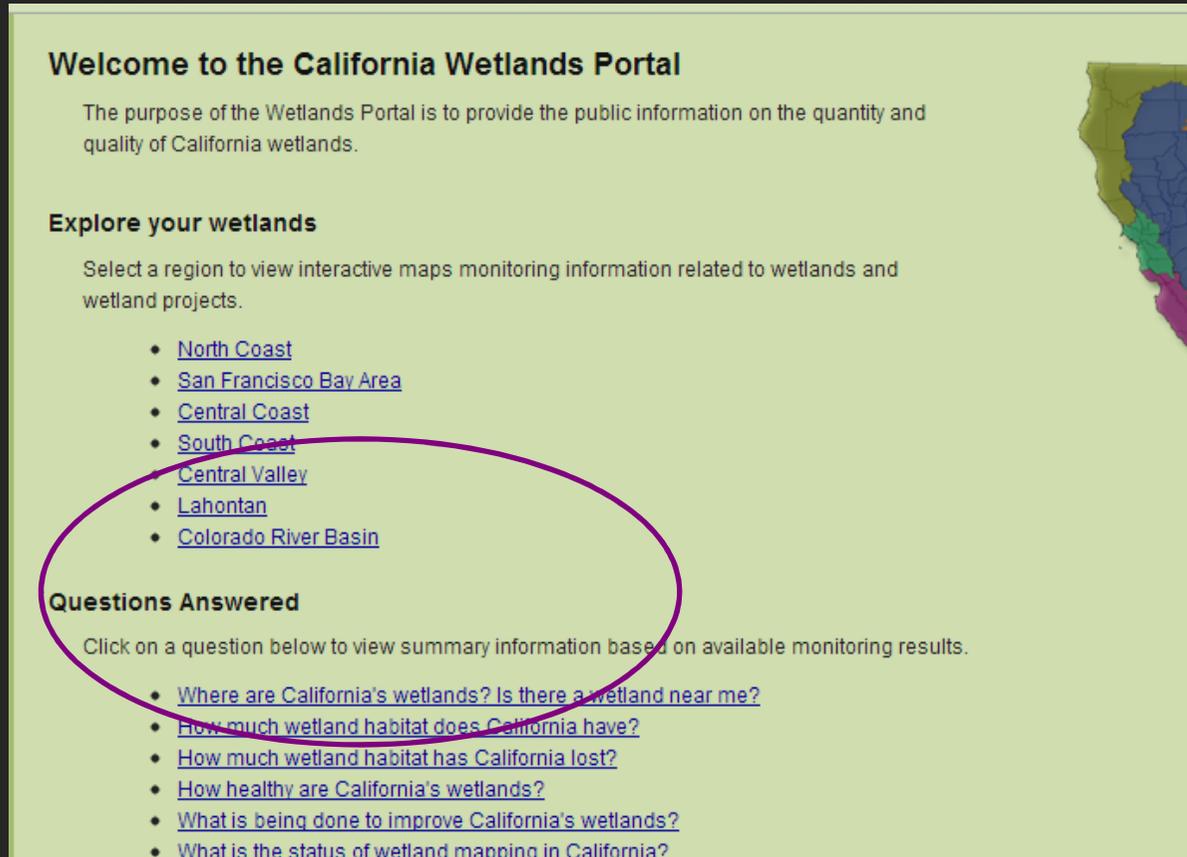
➤ MWQ Ecosystem Health Wetlands Portal

- Content Overview
- Demonstration
- Request for approval

➤ EcoAtlas

- Performance update
- Demonstration
- Release plan

MWQ Wetlands Portal - current version



Welcome to the California Wetlands Portal

The purpose of the Wetlands Portal is to provide the public information on the quantity and quality of California wetlands.

Explore your wetlands

Select a region to view interactive maps monitoring information related to wetlands and wetland projects.

- [North Coast](#)
- [San Francisco Bay Area](#)
- [Central Coast](#)
- [South Coast](#)
- [Central Valley](#)
- [Lahontan](#)
- [Colorado River Basin](#)

Questions Answered

Click on a question below to view summary information based on available monitoring results.

- [Where are California's wetlands? Is there a wetland near me?](#)
- [How much wetland habitat does California have?](#)
- [How much wetland habitat has California lost?](#)
- [How healthy are California's wetlands?](#)
- [What is being done to improve California's wetlands?](#)
- [What is the status of wetland mapping in California?](#)

- Different domain than other portals, not as accessible
- Inconsistent look and feel
- Content doesn't reflect most recent work and thinking of the CMMW

Goals for new portal

- Represent the range of wetlands in the state
- Make content more engaging and interactive
- Make content accessible
- Reflect the current best knowledge
- Identify data gaps and wetland monitoring challenges
- Introduce a new base map

California Aquatic Resources Inventory (CARI) - a new base map for aquatic resources

- Portal uses CARI v. 0
 - Proof of concept
 - CARI standards and data set will be reviewed by other workgroups
- Best available data - variable, but viable
- Wetland extent quantification is based on CARI data

Continued Monitoring Council support helpful

Demonstration

State of California
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
CALIFORNIA WATER QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL

Skip to: [Content](#)

Home | [Safe to Drink](#) | [Safe to Swim](#) | [Safe to Eat Fish](#) | [Ecosystem Health](#) | [Stressors & Processes](#) | [Contact Us](#)

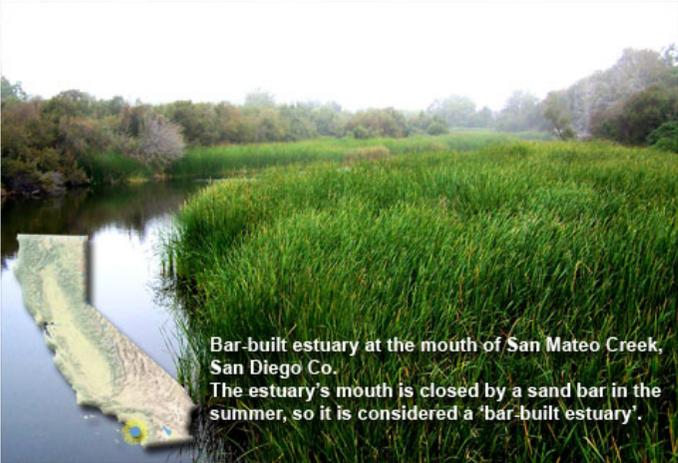
Office of Governor
Edmund G. Brown Jr.
[Visit his Website](#)

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WETLANDS

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California Wetlands



Bar-built estuary at the mouth of San Mateo Creek, San Diego Co.
The estuary's mouth is closed by a sand bar in the summer, so it is considered a 'bar-built estuary'.

Click on an image above for more information

← 4/9 →

Wetlands have both aquatic and terrestrial characteristics. Wetlands form along the shallow margins of lakes, estuaries, and rivers, and in areas with high groundwater or shallow surface water, such as springs, wet meadows, ponds, and freshwater and tidal marshes. They often go through wet and dry cycles, and therefore support a unique array of life specially adapted to these conditions. Wetlands provide important habitat for birds, fish, and other wildlife. They support local food webs, contribute to flood protection, groundwater recharge, shoreline protection, and water filtration: all important [ecosystem services](#).

California has lost more than 90% of its [historical wetlands](#) and today, many

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

[What is the extent of wetlands in California?](#)

- [Where did our natural resources come from?](#)
- [Where are they?](#)
- [How much have we lost?](#)
- [What types are there?](#)
- [How do we classify them?](#)
- [What services do they provide?](#)
- [What is the status of wetlands in California?](#)

[How healthy are our wetlands?](#)

- [How do we know if they are healthy?](#)
- [How do we assess their health?](#)
- [What studies have been done on wetland conditions?](#)

[How are our wetlands protected?](#)

- [What regulations are in place?](#)
- [Where are wetlands being restored near me?](#)

- 15+ pages
- Interactive content throughout
- Well-linked to other tools, program pages, and portals

Future Portal Evolution

- Close Gaps
 - Project tracking
 - CARI
- Continue to use the EcoAtlas engine to drive maps, reduce cost, and add content

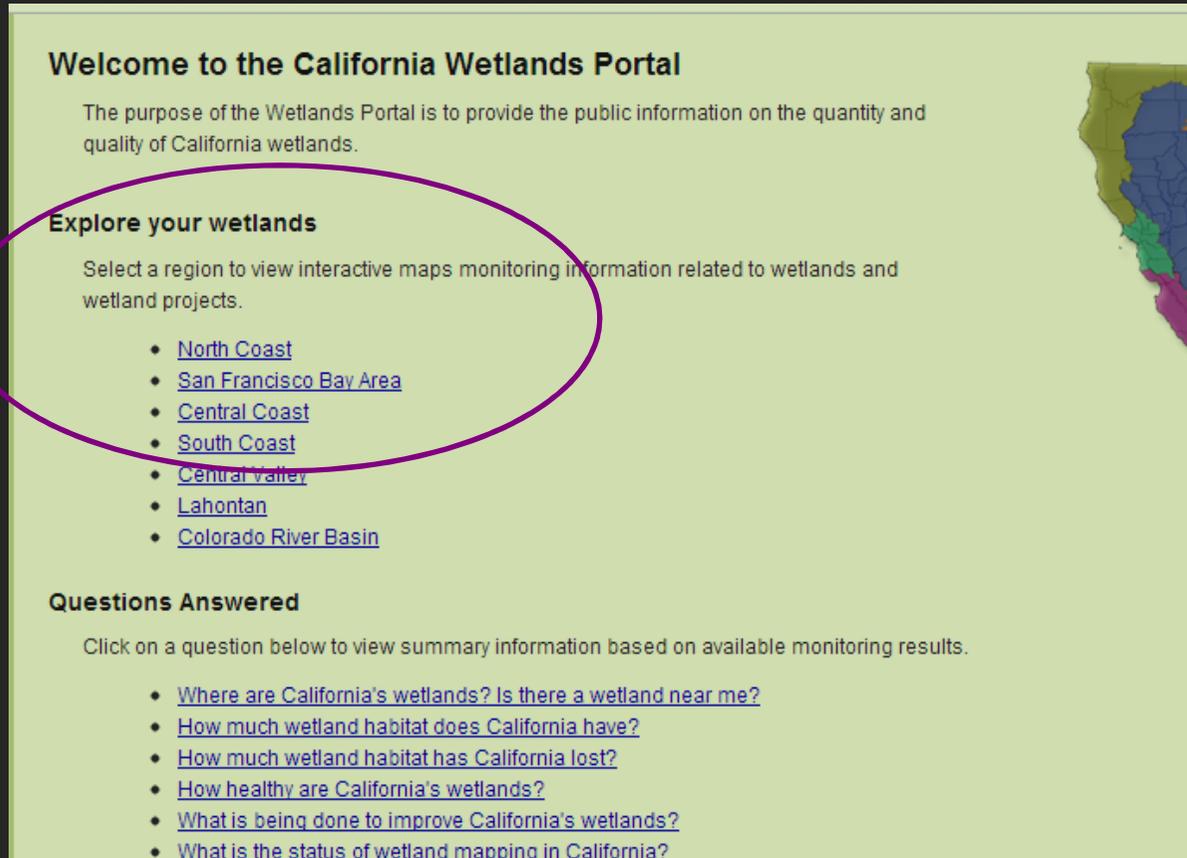
Portal questions and concerns?



or



EcoAtlas - current version



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Goals for the upgrade:

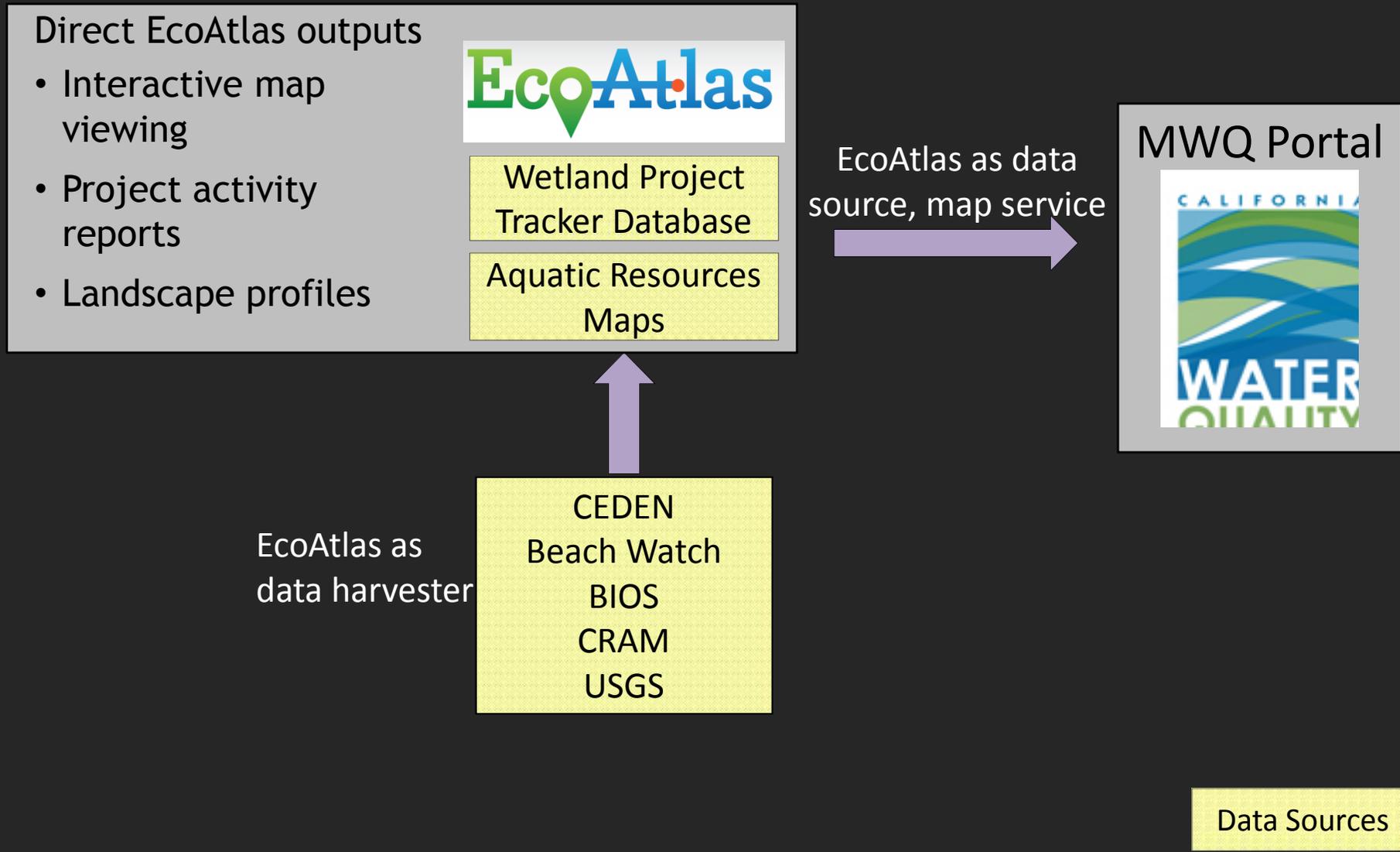
- Better alignment with CWMW needs
- Leverage available technology improvements

Roles of EcoAtlas

- Multi-agency support tool - serving many masters
 - User groups: CRAM, landscape profile, project tracking
- Data repository
- Information management system
- Facilitates information aggregation for decision making
- Data source for other web sites

Data exchanges:

EcoAtlas: Data warehouse, data aggregator, information service



Programmatic links

Existing

- Strong link to 401 Program
- Eelgrass mitigation project tracking

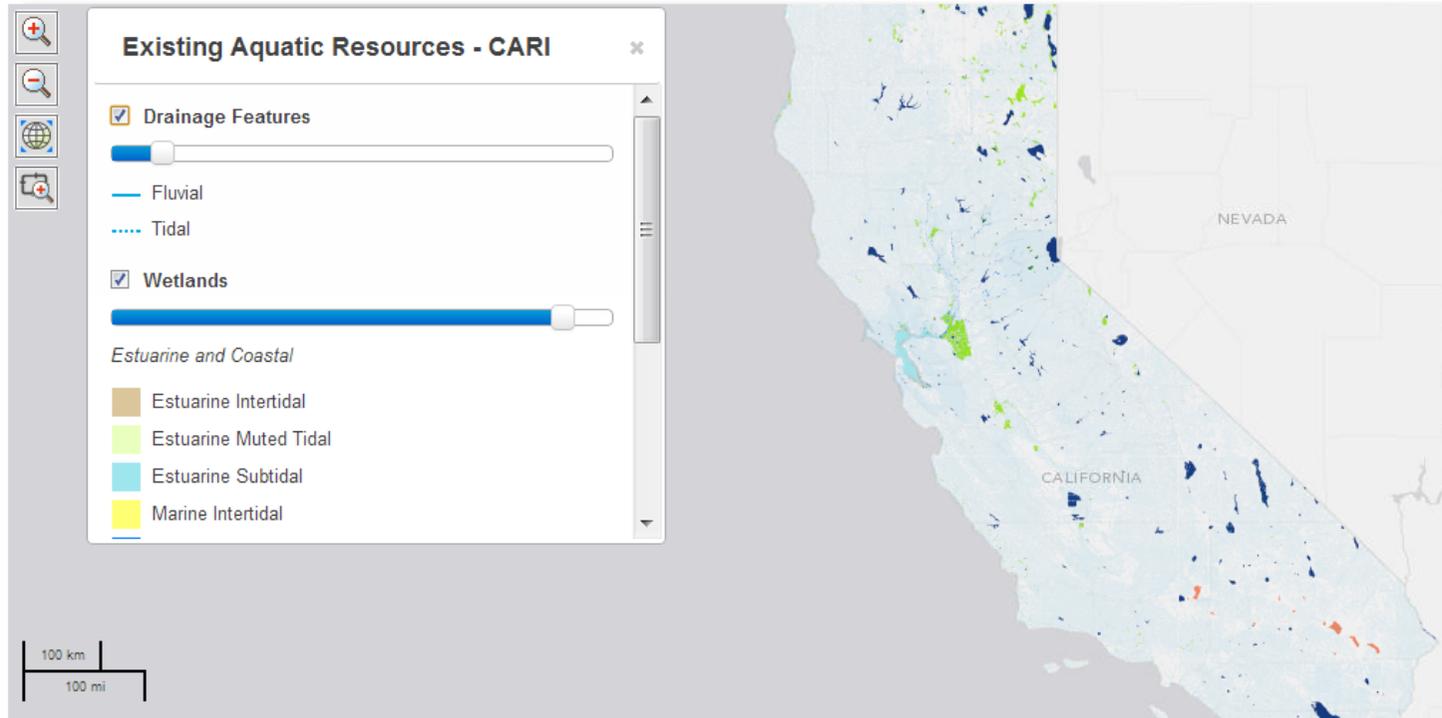
Emerging

- Under consideration as means of tracking projects for the CVJV and SFBJV
- Aligned with needs of Delta Conservancy and Delta Restoration Network (DRN)

Demo

Interactive Map

[Layers](#) ▾ [Legends](#) ▾ [Background](#) ▾ [Overlays](#) ▾



Active Development

- Landscape profile
 - Additional layers and content for use in watershed scale regulation
 - Uploadable user-defined spatial extents
 - Layers and content for HCP/NCCP
- Project tracking
 - Mitigation relationships
 - Online data entry
 - Summary reports
- Web services for data exchanges
 - CARI v.0

EcoAtlas is relevant to other programs

- Possible interface with 404 program
- Lake and streambed alteration agreements 1600

Release Plan

Tasks in support of March 29 “go-live” date

- Retire the existing californiawetlands.net (Portal + Wetland Tracker)
- Release MWQ Wetlands Portal
- Make ecoatlas.org public
- Launch new CRAM website - new modules, training tracking, better data tools

What can the Monitoring Council do?

- Support the Portal release
- Support CARI
- Encourage development of additional web services