

California Wetland Monitoring Workgroup  
January 14, 2010 Meeting Minutes  
SCCWRP, Costa Mesa

**Attendees:**

In attendance:

Bill Orme, State Water Board  
Chris Solek, SCCWRP  
Cori Farrar, USACE LA  
Dan Swenson, USACE LA  
Eric Stein, SCCWRP  
John Oram, SFEI  
Jon Marshack, State Water Board  
Josh Collins, SFEI  
Karen Bane, Coastal Conservancy  
Kevin O'Connor, MLML  
Martha Sutula, SCCWRP  
Melissa Scianni, USEPA  
Paul Jones, USEPA  
Scott Clemons, WCB/RHJV  
Tom Cavanaugh, USACE Sac  
Tony Chappelle, WCB

On phone:

Ben Livsey, SF RWQCB  
Bill Kirchner, USFWS  
Chad Roberts, Humboldt Bay Hrbr  
Dist  
Chris Potter, Resources Agency  
Gail Kuenster, DWR  
Eric Gillies, CA SLC  
Peter von Langen, C.C. RWQCB  
Ross Clark, CA Coastal Commission  
Teri Gaines, DWR  
Terry Fleming, USEPA

**Meeting Minutes from 10/13/2009** (Eric Stein)

- Minutes approved with no changes.
- Copies of all presentations and documents should be posted on the public website.

**Wetland Classification** (Josh Collins)

- A wetland classification system is being developed to support the SB Wetland & Riparian Policy (including ambient surveys, and projects).
- **Action Item:** Josh provided two documents produced by the TAT presenting the procedure and criteria for choosing a state classification system. CWMW members should provide comments on these documents to Josh.
- **Action item:** The following recommendations regarding classification will be included in the CWMW Strategy Document:
  - Create common system
  - System needs to be used across all agencies to inform decisions
  - Recommendation on stewardship
  - How will map be made avail to public.

## **State Monitoring Strategy**

### **Strategy and Data Management (Eric Stein)**

- CWMW needs to provide a strategy document to the Council by January 28 so that it can be included on the February 10 meeting agenda. The final Council Strategy Document is currently scheduled to be completed by the end of March.
- **Action Item:** The strategy and data management memos will be merged into one document. The final strategy document needs to better highlight: accomplishments to date, federal partnerships, and Council goals. Eric will work with Chris and Josh on the revisions.
- **Action Item:** Strategy Documents needs to include cost estimates for initial program development, level 1, and level 2. Karen will work with Eric and Josh to revise the numbers.
- **Action Item:** The final document will need to be circulated and reviewed by the CWMW prior to January 28.

### **Level 1 &2 Committee Reports**

- Postponed until next meeting.

### **Corps Monitoring and Performance Criteria (Dan Swenson)**

- The Corps is working to develop guidance on setting mitigation ratios and performance standards. These will not involve set numbers, but rather uniform language for standards and procedures for making decisions regarding ratios.
- Draft products are expected by spring 2010. The Corps will share the administrative draft copies of the documents with state and federal agencies for input. The final draft products will go out for public review.
- **Action Item:** There will be a standing agenda item for updates on the various state and federal monitoring, assessment, and mapping efforts.

### **EPA 2011 National Wetland Condition Assessment (Jones, Fleming)**

- States can decide to what level they want to participate in the NWCA. States need to decide by July 2010. Funds will be provided via 106 money through SWAMP.
- **Action Item:** Bill Orme will put together a draft recommendation for how CA should participate, who should be involved, and how participation can build a foundation for the future.

**Updates**

- CIAP Status (Collins): The work plan is completed but will need to revisit priority list if any additional money is added (currently \$740k total).
- Document Sharing (All). Can establish a wetland folder on the MLML SWAMP ftp site for sharing internal documents. Jon will set up ftp site. Eric and Melissa will work on documents on folder organization. Have update on ftp site at next meeting.
- State of State's Wetland Report (Potter): Several comments were received on the report, which are being incorporated into next draft of report. The next draft will be shared with CWMW (expected in a few weeks). One folder will be dedicated to the report on the ftp site and the comment letters will be added to this folder. Agenda item at next meeting to discuss Report and comments.
- CRAM peer review (Orme): The materials have been sent to reviewers and the State Board should have comments back within 40 days. Staff will need to brief the Board and then comments and response to comments can be released to the public (expected around mid March).
- Resources Agency Revised Workplan (Potter): EPA provided additional money to fully fund this grant and the paperwork is being submitted.

**Next Meeting**

Next Meeting will be on Tuesday, January 9 from 9-4 at the State Water Board.

Items to cover at the January meeting:

- Classification
- Report on Level 1 & 2 Committees
- Wetland Strategy Document

**Potential Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

Examination of CRAM peer review

Review of CIAP Workplan

State agency comments on the WDP report

**2010 Meeting Dates**

January 14 @ SCCWRP

March 9 @ State Water Board

May 18 @ SFEI

July 15 @ SCCWRP

September 16 @ State Water Board

November 16 @ SFEI