

California Wetland Monitoring Workgroup  
November 16, 2010 Meeting Minutes  
SFEI, Oakland

**Attendees:**

In attendance:

Bill Orme, State Water Board  
Cara Clark, MLML  
Chad Roberts, Humboldt Bay Hrbr  
Chris Potter, Resources Agency  
Cliff Harvey, State Water Board  
Eric Stein, SCCWRP  
Melissa Scianni, USEPA  
Ross Clark, Coastal Commission  
Tom Cavanaugh, USACE  
Sacramento

On phone:

Cori Farrar, USACE LA  
Genevieve Sparks, C.V. RWQCB

**Membership and Co-chairs**

Engaging additional groups

• **Action Items:**

- Chris Potter developing outreach PowerPoint presentations. Chris will present them at the next meeting.
- Bill Orme will outreach to SWAMP to try and get their participation on CWMW.
- Chris Potter will reach out to Eric Gilles at SLC to try and get more involvement.
- Resources Agency (Chris Potter) can reach out to Carl Wilcox to get more DFG management/staff involvement.

Co-Chairs

- Tom C. will be new federal co-chair. EPA will assist with outreach to other federal agencies (e.g. NMFS, FWS, NPS) to participate on CWMW.
- Will choose State and JPA co-chairs at Feb meeting.

**WRAMP**

• Strategy Document:

- Council endorsed WRAMP tenants document.
- This document addresses implementation of WRAMP and serves to address EPA's Wetland Program Plan Memo for grant purposes.

- Each state agency's role in implementation is addressed in document. CalEPA roles have been filled in. Need other agencies to go through document and fill in their roles.
- As of now, the only agency that makes commitments in document is CalEPA. Makes recommendations for other agencies. Other agencies may want to make more firm commitments.
- Process for approval: Once there is a version all agencies have commented on, State Board will send to EPA for comment. Then it will go to Council for endorsement.
- **Action Items:**
  - Chris Potter will add in Natural Resources activities and will work with Ross Clark on Coast Commission activities and Gail on DWR activities.
  - SFEI will work on data management (i.e. Portal/CEDEN) connections. Eric will follow up with SFEI to identify point person.
  - Bill Orme and Eric Stein will work on SWAMP connection.
  - Bill Orme and Paul Jones will work on addressing how plan relates to EPA funding decisions.
- CWMW Progress Report
  - Council preparing report for Legislature on activities. Council wants update from each workgroup.
  - **Action Item:** Send comments to Eric Stein on draft by COB Wednesday. Eric Stein will send to Jon by Thursday.
- WRAPP
  - State Board has completed round of stakeholder meetings. Preparing NOP for EIR and CEQA scoping meetings. Should come out Nov or Dec.
- State of the State's Wetlands Report
  - Report released by Secretary on October 18. Posted on NRA homepage and on Portal.

### CRAM Training

- L2 committee needs to retain control over training process, including curriculum and QA. They will have yearly training coordination meeting.
- L2 committee will need to coordinate with L1 and CWMW re. larger WRAMP training.

- Cliff has submitted proposal to Training Academy for regulatory agency training re. use and interpretation of CRAM. Presents concept for 6 regional trainings.
- **Action Items:**
  - L2 committee will develop WRAMP training process that will be submitted to CWMW for review.
  - Chris, Cliff, and Josh will follow up with Jeff Lux re. WRAMP training program through UCD Extension.
  - L2 committee will develop draft curriculum for regulatory agency training and will bring to CWMW for review at Feb meeting.

### **Implementation of WRAMP in large scale projects**

- Corps would like management level training.
  - **Action Item:** Corri and Tom will get back to the group via re. Corps WRAMP executive training/meeting needs.
- DWR Coordination
  - DWR needs CRAM/WRAMP management level training.
  - Ongoing discussions with BDCP and Central Valley Flood Protection projects.
  - **Action Item:** Gail will start discussions with management about a meeting/training.
- Willits Bypass
  - EPA, Corps, DFG, and Regional Board 1 coordinating on watershed based assessment framework for informing the mitigation package for the project. Project needs to be permitted by Feb 2012.
- High-Speed Rail
  - SWRCB and EPA will be meeting with HSRA re. advanced mitigation planning.
- **Action Item:** Tom, Paul/Melissa, Chris, Chad, Josh and Eric to develop an executive briefing presentation on WRAMP

## **CRAM Reference Network & QA Audit Teams**

- **Action Items:**

- L2 committee will review and comment on draft audit form. Will report out to larger group at next meeting.
- Continue to explore funding strategy
- Bill Orme and Eric Stein will talk with SWAMP re. QA

## **L1 and L2 Committee Update**

- L1: no additional updates
- L2:
  - Working on CRAM module for seasonal estuaries.
  - Vernal pool subgroup working on revisions to existing vernal pool CRAM module.

## **Updates**

- CWMW Action Item Tracking Log: Cliff and Melissa will transfer action items to action log. Log will be posted on ftp site.
- NWCA: Chad, Chris, and Cara will be field testing USARAM this month. Cara will attend training in NC in January. MLML under contract to conduct CA assessments. Assessments will take place summer 2011.
- Southern CA regional assessment: Intensification of NWCA, CIAP work, and RB 4,8,&9 SWAMP depressional wetland intensification. Will validate depressional CRAM, demonstrate ambient assessment under SWAMP, and develop L3 indicators (inverts, algae, water/sediment chemistry/toxicity). Will also be running NWCA protocols.
- S&T Plots: Grant from EPA to develop technical foundation for developing state S&T program. Will pilot test approach in two regions of state.

## **Future Meetings**

- Group decided to meet quarterly. Subcommittees will continue to meet on their current schedule.
- Meeting dates/locations:
  - Feb 15 @SWRCB
  - May 17 @SCCWRP
  - Aug 16 @ SFEI
  - Nov 15 @ SCCWRP