

California Wetland Monitoring Workgroup  
August 14, 2012 Meeting Minutes  
State Water Board, Sacramento

**Attendees**

In attendance:

Bill Orme, State Water Board  
Cliff Harvey, State Water Board  
Craig Wilson, DFG  
Eric Stein, SCCWRP  
Jon Marshack, Monitoring Council  
Josh Collins, SFEI  
Kevin O'Connor, MLML  
Lori Webber, State Water Board  
Melissa Scianni, USEPA  
Meredith Williams, SFEI  
Ross Clark, MLML  
Tom Cavanaugh, USACE Sacramento  
Xavier Fernandez, SFB RWQCB

On phone:

Ben Livsey, SFB RWQCB  
Caitlin Sweeny, SFEP  
Chris Solek, SCCWRP  
Christina Grosso, SFEI  
Genevieve Sparks, CV RWQCB  
Gail Kuenster, DWR  
Kevin O'Connor, MLML  
Paul Jones, USEPA  
Rebecca Loeffler, Caltrans  
Rich Sumner, USEPA

**Eco Atlas and New Wetlands Portal**

- Updates will be completed by September, the website will be kept password protected until the November Monitoring Council meeting.
- In May CWMW sent a letter to the Council addressing CWMW data management recommendations. The letter was sent to the Data Management Workgroup for input.
- Purpose of the letter was to inform the Council of our intention to move forward with EcoAtlas as a WRAMP implementation tool.
- Will need Council to address state stewardship of NHD and NWI.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- Change letter to a workgroup report. Modify to clarify: 1) How Atlas meets the specific needs of programs and policies by agency in the context of WRAMP (user interface for WRAMP). 2) Tool may be useful for other agencies to achieve their missions, but not being designed for that now. If other agencies find utility in tool, we can work with them. 3) Will work with Data Management Workgroup to provide them more information. Josh, Meredith, Eric.
- Meredith and Eric to provide update to the Monitoring Council at the August meeting
- Everyone should review EcoAtlas before our Nov 6 meeting. Meredith will email passwords and deadlines. Comments can be sent directly to Meredith.

## **WRAMP Implementation**

### **State Board Recommendations**

- L2 working on document for the State Board that outlines funding options for WRAMP implementation. Includes: tasks, staffing needs, costs, and funding sources. Focused on 401 and Policy implementation.
- Develop a “picture” of the program with prioritized list of tasks and costs associated with each task – included a phased implementation proposal. Put into context of what we want to accomplish.
- Document could be turned into a budget proposal for the State Board.
- Could be modeled after the SWPPP practitioner program.

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

- L2 will finish the draft document and send to CWMW for review and discussion at November meeting.

### **Coordination White Paper**

- Postponed until next meeting

### **Level 1 Committee**

- Doing a lot of work on individual pieces, but don't have comprehensive L1 strategy.
- Core elements of strategy: statewide mapping standards, Status & Trends, project tracking
- CARI: intensification of NWI and NHD, have detailed mapping protocols and classification, accommodates different resolutions/level of detail.
- Starting to develop L1 committee through S&T and CARI projects, but need to develop more fully so ready to apply for EPA 104(b)(3) grant funding. Will need to identify state agency that will help lead L1 committee.
- Strategy should be consistent with the DFG/SWRCB joint strategy document

### **Level 2 Committee**

- CRAM FAQ: Document intended to answer questions regarding CRAM use in the 404/401 regulatory context. Need to get input from 401 and 404 staff on questions and answers.
- SWAMP Update: SWAMP is considering adopting CRAM and will be taking vote on formal adoption in next few months. They could also endorse method without formally adopting. CWMW would like CRAM to be “SWAMP compatible” but we don't need SWAMP to take on additional costs for running the CRAM program (e.g. training, data management). L2 committee will draft and send letter to SWAMP clarifying what we are asking.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- Melissa will send FAQ questions to 404/401 staff for input. Comments should be provided back to Melissa.
- L2 committee will draft and send to SWAMP regarding CRAM endorsement.

**Updates**

- State Board WRAPP: 45 day comment period planned for September with a public hearing 30 days after comment period starts. Draft Policy Phase I being reviewed by interagency coordination committee now. Originally going to have Policy document and dredge/fill regulations, have since been combined.
- Placer and South Sacramento HCP meetings: Had discussions about moving L1,2,3 framework into monitoring plan for HCPs.
- North Coast WRAMP demonstration: Have CIAP funding for study at Mark West Creek. Will be using Eco Atlas and watershed profiles.
- L3 Estuary Protocols: EPA grant to Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission. Will be developing framework for selecting L3 indicators and guidance for conducting assessments for a subset of L3 indicators.

**Next Meeting Agenda**

EcoAtlas: address comments, demonstration, workgroup update, stewardship  
S&T TAC document review  
L2: update and implementation recommendations to state board  
Coordination White Paper  
Annual Report to Council (send 2011 report in advance)  
Schedule 2013 meetings

**2012 Meeting Dates**

Feb 14, May 15, Aug 14, Nov 6  
All meetings at the State Board in Sacramento