

## **California Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network Participant:**

Join the California Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network and Friends of Deer Creek's Joanne Hild, from your own workspace for a 1-hour Webinar session on Friends of Deer Creek Citizen Monitoring: Linking Science, Water and People. The webinar will be on January 27, from 11:00 AM -12:00 PM (noon). Please see the instructions below to join the webinar.

## **Friends of Deer Creek Citizen Monitoring: Linking Science, Water and People**

Friends of Deer Creek was formed in 1996 By a group of concerned local citizens and property owners, when Nevada City was replacing the historic Pine Street Bridge. Working closely with the city, we successfully protected the creek during construction. Since this project, we have continued to be valued partners of the city in our shared goal of protecting and restoring the creek. With a focus on scientific investigation and methods, we have been working for the past ten years to find solutions to Deer Creek's problems and to return our creek to its place as a fully restored gem at the heart of the community. Our highly-trained group of staff and volunteers is now recognized throughout the state as a model for how individual citizens can join together to protect their watershed.

This Webinar will focus on the work done by Friends of Deer Creek, their challenges, successes, and the future of their programs. It is hoped that others can benefit from the experiences they have achieved and products that they have produced.

- Gathering ten years of monthly water quality and twice yearly benthic macroinvertebrate data, along with annual physical habitat assessments.
- Working with Nevada County Department of Environmental Health to identify and remediate bacteria sources, and to protect the public.
- Working with Deer Creek property owners and city, county, state, and federal agencies to find science-based solutions to Deer Creek's problems.
- Assessing heavy metal contamination at abandoned mine sites in Nevada City for the EPA Brownfields program, and planning for remediation.
- Surveying recreational users of the watershed to determine exposure to heavy metal contamination.
- Collecting and analyzing stormwater samples to determine whether mercury is transported downstream over dams trapped in the algae-sediment mixture
- Training and processing laboratory samples for watershed groups in neighboring watersheds
- Training local volunteers to use science to monitor the health of Deer Creek.
- Writing The Bug Book, a benthic macroinvertebrate identification manual intended for use in our monitoring program that will be published for use in college classes and by monitoring groups throughout the state.

## **Joanne Hild:**

Joanne Hild, Executive Director, Biologist, has her MS in Zoology from University of Massachusetts in Amherst and her BS in Biology from Tufts University. She has been working as one of Friends of Deer Creek's River Scientists since February 2000 and has served as

Executive Director since 2004. Joanne has overseen the growth of the organization from its beginnings as a community monitoring group to the regional scientific leadership role it currently enjoys. She has served as project manager for our heavy metal and bacteria studies as well as our monitoring program and is currently working with the board of directors to plan for a program expansion to become a regional scientific institute.

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Topic: WQMCN -Friends of Deer Creek Citizen Monitoring: Linking Science, Water and People

Date: Wednesday, January 27, 2010

Time: 10:30 am, Pacific Standard Time (San Jose, GMT-08:00)

Meeting Number: 747 592 938

Meeting Password: wqmwebinar

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To start the online meeting

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Teleconference information

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Call-in toll-free number (Verizon): 1-866-761-8603 (US) (Please use \*6 to mute your phone as soon as you log in.)

Call-in number (Verizon): 1-517-652-7895 (US)

Attendee access code: 509 515 4

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<https://waterboards.webex.com/waterboards/systemdiagnosis.php>

User Help: 866-792-4977(CIWQS Help Center)

We have set up a web page for the California Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network at

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/monitoring\\_council/collaboration\\_network/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/monitoring_council/collaboration_network/index.shtml).

Materials (if available), including past webinars (audio and videotaped) will be posted on the website. The taped webinars and associated materials are located under 'Monthly Webinars'.

Please provide me with your participant information (organization name and website) for that portion of the web page. We hope to use this web page to help you network with each other and with the larger monitoring community. So, feel free to give us your ideas on how to make it better.

New participants can join the webinar listserv by signing up on the web at

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email\\_subscriptions/swrcb\\_subscribe.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml).

Enter your email address and name, place a check mark next to "Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network - Webinar Sessions", then click the "subscribe" button.

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Many of us in the water quality monitoring community have been looking for a California forum for sharing our ideas, successes and common concerns. In response to that need, the California Water Quality Monitoring Council is partnering with the Water Board's Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program, the Nonpoint Source Program and US Environmental Protection Agency to launch a monthly conference call to support the activities of regional monitoring programs.

The Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network will begin as a voluntary monthly conference call that members of the monitoring community can participate in as topics meet their interests. The conference call format and content will vary in response to input from participants. Sessions are planned to share technical and support tools for monitoring, assessment and reporting; to encourage discussion on common concerns like information management; and to provide a forum for networking.

It is envisioned that the Collaboration network will help support a state framework to coordinate consistent and scientifically defensible methods and strategies for improving water quality monitoring, assessment, and reporting.