

California Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network Participant:

Join the California Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network and Southern California Coastal Water Research Project biologist Chris Solek, from your own workspace for a 1-hour Webinar session “An Introduction to the California Rapid Assessment Method for California Wetlands”. The webinar will be on Tuesday, September 21, 2010 from 11:30 AM -12:30 PM. Please see the instructions below to join the webinar.

An Introduction to the California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM) for California Wetlands

Christopher Solek is a biologist specializing in wetland and riverine assessment and monitoring. He received his B.S. in Wildlife Biology from U.C. Davis in 1992, a M.S. in Biological Sciences from California State Polytechnic University Pomona in 2002, and a Ph.D. in Environmental Science, Policy, and Management from U.C. Berkeley in 2007. He joined Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) in April 2007 and is currently involved with developing and implementing monitoring/assessment programs for southern California wetlands. He also works with the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project's Scientific Advisory Panel

The California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM) is a standardized, cost-effective tool for assessing the health of wetlands and riparian habitats. CRAM software guides users through assessments that take less than one-half field day to complete. CRAM is applicable to all wetland types. It is designed for assessing ambient conditions within watersheds, regions, and throughout the State. It can also be used to assess the performance of compensatory mitigation projects and restoration projects.

<http://www.cramwetlands.org/>

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Attendee access code: 509 515 4

For assistance

1. Go to <https://waterboards.webex.com/waterboards/mc>
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You can contact me at:

eburres@waterboards.ca.gov

1-213 576 6788

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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.

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

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.