

CALIFORNIA WATER QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL

Council Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, February 10, 2010 – 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Large Conference Room
Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP)
3535 Harbor Blvd., Suite 110, Costa Mesa



IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!

Meetings of the Monitoring Council are open to the public. Times indicated in the agenda are approximate. The order of agenda items is subject to change. Actions of the Monitoring Council are advisory to the Secretaries of the California Environmental Protection Agency and the Natural Resources Agency.

Handouts, presentations, and related meeting and Monitoring Council information will be available prior to or after the meeting at http://www.mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring_council/.

Remote access to the meeting will be available via WebEx. To join the WebEx on-line meeting, go to <https://waterboards.webex.com/waterboards/j.php?ED=103037387&UID=0&PW=NMjFIYzE4NDUx&RT=Mim0>; enter your name and email address; enter the meeting password "cwqmc"; click "Join Now" and follow the instructions that appear on your screen. You may log on up to 15 minutes before the meeting starts to allow WebEx to set up the meeting connection. WebEx will automatically set up Meeting Manager on your computer the first time you join a meeting. Participation by teleconference only is available by calling (888) 764-9721 and entering the attendee access code 3636180.

For a map to SCCWRP, driving directions, and accommodations information, visit www.sccwrp.org/view.php?id=39. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project at (714) 755-3200.

ITEM:	1	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	INTRODUCTIONS AND HOUSEKEEPING	15 minutes
Purpose:	1) Introductions 2) Review notes from December 7, 2009 Council meeting 3) Review agenda for today's meeting	
Desired Outcome:	a) Approve December 7, 2009 Monitoring Council meeting notes b) Adjust today's agenda, as needed	
Attachments:	Draft notes from December 7, 2009 Council meeting	
Contact Person:	Jon Marshack	jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514

ITEM:	2	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES	20 minutes
Purpose:	a) New Co-Chair from the Natural Resources Agency (all) b) Agriculture representative on the Monitoring Council c) Briefing with Cal/EPA Secretary Linda Adams (Jonathan Bishop & Jon Marshack)	

	d) State budget update (Jonathan Bishop) e) Outreach to state government organizations update (all)	
Desired Outcome:	a) Information and comment	
Background:	a) As of February 3, Joe Grindstaff, Monitoring Council Co-Chair from the California Natural Resources Agency and his alternate Terry Macaulay will become employees of the Delta Stewardship Council. Because the Delta Stewardship Council is independent of the Natural Resources Agency, Joe and Terry can no longer represent the Natural Resources Agency on the Monitoring Council. Dale Hoffman-Floerke, Chief of the Division of Environmental Services at the Department of Water Resources has been named as the new Co-Chair from Natural Resources. b) In April 2009 Parry Klassen indicated that he was stepping down as the agriculture representative on the Monitoring Council, due to other time commitments. c) At previous meetings, the Monitoring Council agreed that the two agency secretaries should be briefed on the direction of the draft comprehensive monitoring program strategy prior to briefing and seeking input from key legislators (e.g., SB 1070 authors Senators Kehoe and Alquist). Secretary Adams also asked for a briefing upon having received the Monitoring Council's 2009 Annual Progress Report. Cal/EPA Secretary Linda Adams was briefed by Jonathan Bishop and Jon Marshack on January 21. Secretary Adams was pleased with the direction that the Monitoring Council was taking and the Safe-to-Swim and Safe-to-Eat internet portals that were demonstrated in the briefing.	
Attachments:	a) 2009 Annual Progress Report (final version)	
Contact Person:	Jon Marshack	jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514

ITEM:	3	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL DATA EXCHANGE NETWORK	30 minutes
Purpose:	a) Update Council on the CEDEN progress and short and long-term vision for the system b) Demonstrate the website and simple query tool mock-up of the CEDEN system	
Desired Outcome:	Review and comment	
Background:	CEDEN is a system designed to facilitate integration and sharing of data collected by many different participants. It is a growing statewide cooperative effort of various groups involved in the water and environmental resources of the State of California. This network is open to federal, state, county and private organizations interested in sharing data throughout the state. The purpose of the CEDEN network is to allow the exchange and integration of water and environmental data between groups and to make it accessible to the public.	
Contact Person:	Karen Larsen	klarsen@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 319-9769

ITEM:	4		Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	SAFE TO DRINK GROUNDWATER PORTAL		45 minutes
Purpose:	Review a mock-up of a new Safe-to-Drink portal focusing on groundwater and based on the GeoTracker GAMA (Groundwater Ambient Monitoring Program) database and web-based map tool.		
Desired Outcome:	Approval of the portal mock-up and direction to produce a working draft portal		
Background:	<p>GeoTracker GAMA presents a very different perspective on interaction with the Monitoring Council than do the other three initial work group and portal development efforts. The development of GeoTracker GAMA is governed by its own statute, AB 599, the Groundwater Quality Monitoring Act of 2001. AB 599 required that the State Water Board, in coordination with an Interagency Task Force (ITF) and a Public Advisory Committee (PAC) integrate existing monitoring programs and design new program elements, as necessary, to establish a comprehensive statewide groundwater quality monitoring program. The internet accessible GeoTracker GAMA database and its web interface were developed as a result of AB 599 that specified its database be “compatible with GeoTracker.” To meet these legal requirements, State Water Board Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment (GAMA) staff and its software-as-a-service contractor (EcolInteractive) had a well established system prior to the development of the Monitoring Council’s initial recommendations. GAMA staff believes that the GeoTracker GAMA database and its associated information can be successfully shared in a beneficial manner by making best use of existing GAMA database functionality with some integration into the Monitoring Council’s portal architecture.</p> <p>In May 2009, John Borkovich made a presentation on GeoTracker GAMA. The Monitoring Council asked that a more detailed mock-up of a Safe-to-Drink portal be developed for review and approval. The Council asked that the portal revolve around major questions and present higher level (e.g., statewide) statistics based on the available data. Specific recommendations were included in item #4 of the May 22, 2009 meeting notes.</p>		
Attachments:	a) AB 599, the Groundwater Quality Monitoring Act of 2001 b) May 22, 2009 Monitoring Council meeting notes (see item #4)		
Contact Person:	John Borkovich	jborkovich@waterboards.ca.gov, (916) 341-5779	

ITEM:	5		Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	WETLAND PORTAL		45 minutes
Purpose:	Demonstration of a draft wetland ecosystem health portal based on the Wetland Tracker database and web tool of the California Wetland Monitoring Workgroup (CWMW).		
Desired Outcome:	a) Approval for public release of the wetland portal.		

	b) Agreement that portals developed from pre-existing workgroup websites may have a look and feel that differs from already approved and published web Monitoring Council web portals, as long as specific concepts and elements are retained.	
Background:	<p>The CWMW has developed a proposed California Wetlands web portal, based on the workgroup's existing Wetland Tracker database and website. The portal would link from aquatic ecosystem health main page that divides this topic along water body types. A mock-up of the wetland portal was presented to the Monitoring Council in May 2009. See item #5 of the May 22, 2009 Monitoring Council meeting notes.</p> <p>The proposed California Wetlands portal may be viewed at http://dev.californiawetlands.net.</p>	
Attachments	May 22, 2009 Monitoring Council meeting notes (see item #5)	
Contact Person:	Martha Sutula	marthas@sccwrp.org , (714) 755-3222

LUNCH	Approx. Time:
Lunch will be provided at SCCWRP. A donation of \$10 is requested to cover costs.	45 minutes

ITEM:	6	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	WETLAND MONITORING PROGRAM STRATEGY	60 minutes
Purpose:	Presentation of a wetland monitoring program strategy proposed by the CWMW.	
Desired Outcome:	<p>a) Agreement in concept to the proposed wetland strategy</p> <p>b) Approval to incorporate the wetland monitoring program strategy into the Monitoring Council's comprehensive monitoring program strategy as a prime example of the degree of coordination that can be achieved by the Monitoring Council's theme-based workgroups.</p>	
Background:	<p>At the May 2009 Monitoring Council meeting, Eric Stein gave a presentation on the work of the CWMW to develop a wetland monitoring strategy, which synthesizes recommendations for establishing a coordinated wetland monitoring program for the State. The CWMW asked that their wetland monitoring strategy be incorporated into the Monitoring Council's comprehensive strategy to achieve broader agency and stakeholder buy-in prior to State Water Board adoption of a California wetland monitoring program, as part of the wetland protection policy. At the meeting, the Monitoring Council agreed in general with CWMW wetland monitoring strategy development concept.</p>	
Attachments:	<p>a) Tenets of a State Wetland and Riparian Monitoring Program</p> <p>b) May 22, 2009 Monitoring Council meeting notes (see item #5)</p>	
Contact Person:	Eric Stein	erics@sccwrp.org , (714) 755-3233

ITEM:	7		Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	GUIDELINES FOR WORKGROUPS AND WEB PORTAL DEVELOPMENT		60 minutes
Purpose:	Review draft guidelines		
Desired Outcome:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Review and comment b) Agreement to include within the comprehensive monitoring program strategy. 		
Background:	<p>At the September 27, 2009 meeting, then Monitoring Council tasked Jon Marshack with developing draft guidelines for web portal development.</p> <p>An outline of guidelines for workgroup formation and function has been added to assist in the formation of new workgroups or the refocusing of existing workgroups to facilitate portal development and associated coordination of monitoring and assessment efforts within their theme.</p>		
Attachments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Draft Guidelines for Web Portal Development b) Workgroup Formation & Function Outline 		
Contact Person:	Jon Marshack	jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514	

ITEM:	8		Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	COMPREHENSIVE MONITORING PROGRAM STRATEGY		90 minutes
Purpose:	The Monitoring Council		
Desired Outcome:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Agreement on the organization and content of the strategy document b) Agreement on recommendations to be contained in the strategy document c) Confirm schedule for finalizing document 		
Background:	<p>The last draft of the strategy was circulated for review in September 2009 was discussed at the September and December 2009 meetings. The draft strategy was discussed in a briefing with Cal/EPA Secretary Linda Adams on January 21, 2010. Concurrence with the direction that the strategy is taking was obtained. Briefings with Natural Resources Secretary Lester Snow and key legislators are planned in order to obtain further concurrence on the direction of the strategy. The Monitoring Council expressed the desire to have such input before finalizing the strategy document for the two agency secretaries.</p> <p>The Monitoring Council agreed at the December 2009 meeting that the SWAMP monitoring and assessment strategy, being updated by the State Water Board staff, will be integrated into the Monitoring Council's strategy as an appendix. Also included will be an updated assessment framework. See item #3 in the draft notes from the December 7, 2009 Monitoring Council meeting.</p> <p>The Wetland Monitoring Workgroup has submitted a proposed wetland monitoring strategy document (agenda item #6, above) with the hope that it can be appended to and referenced within the comprehensive monitoring strategy</p>		

	document as an example of the progress that can be achieved by a theme-based workgroup. The guidelines for workgroups and for web portal development (agenda item #7, above) are also intended to be incorporated into the comprehensive monitoring program strategy.	
Attachments:	a) Draft Comprehensive Monitoring Program Strategy b) December 7, 2009 Monitoring Council meeting draft notes (see item #3)	
Contact Person:	Brock Bernstein	brockbernstein@sbcglobal.net , (805) 646-8369

ITEM:	9	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	MEETING WRAP-UP	10 minutes
Purpose:	a) Summarize meeting b) Plan agenda for next Monitoring Council meeting on April 14, 2010 in Sacramento	
Desired Outcome:	Develop agenda items for April 14 meeting.	
Contact Person:	Jon Marshack	jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514

January 27, 2010