

**CALIFORNIA WATER QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL**  
**Monitoring Council Meeting Agenda**  
**Wednesday, August 29, 2012 – 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM**

Conference Room 550 – Fifth Floor  
 Joe Serna Jr. Cal/EPA Headquarters Building  
 1001 I Street, Sacramento



**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 California 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/meetings](http://www.mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring_council/meetings).

Remote access to the meeting will be available via WebEx. To join the WebEx on-line meeting, click on this link <https://waterboards.webex.com/waterboards/j.php?ED=188078287&UID=0&PW=NMDc1Y2ZiYWY0&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 in up to 15 minutes before the meeting starts to allow WebEx to set up the meeting connection. WebEx will automatically set up Meeting Manager the first time you join a WebEx meeting. Participation by teleconference only is available by dialing (888) 764-9721 and entering the attendee access code 363 618 0.

For a map to the Cal/EPA Building, visit: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPABldg/location.htm>. For security purposes, all visitors are required to sign in and receive a badge at the Visitor Center off the lobby upon entering the building. Valid picture identification may be required due to the security level. All visitors must be escorted above the second floor. Please allow up to 15 minutes for this process. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact the State Water Board's Office of Employee Assistance, at (916) 341-5881.

<b>ITEM:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Approx. Time:</b>
<b>Title of Topic:</b>	<b>INTRODUCTIONS AND HOUSEKEEPING</b>	10 minutes
<b>Purpose:</b>	1) Introductions 2) Review draft notes from November 30, 2011 Monitoring Council meeting 3) Review agenda for today's meeting	
<b>Desired Outcome:</b>	a) Approve <a href="#">May 2012 Monitoring Council meeting notes</a> b) Preview what will be covered today and overall meeting expectations c) Adjust today's agenda, as needed	
<b>Attachment Links:</b>	<a href="#">Draft notes from May 30, 2012 Council meeting</a>	
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Jon Marshack	<a href="mailto:jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov">jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov</a> , 916-341-5514

<b>ITEM:</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Approx. Time:</b>
<b>Title of Topic:</b>	<b>ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES</b>	40 minutes
<b>Purpose:</b>	These are expected to be brief informational items that could be expanded into more detailed discussions for future meetings:	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Update on Healthy Watersheds Initiative, California Project (Karen Larsen)</li> <li>b) Monitoring and Assessment for Climate Change (Max Gomberg)</li> <li>c) Outreach strategy and publicity to increase portal usage (Sara Aminzadeh)</li> <li>d) Potential Monitoring Council meeting dates in 2013 (Jon Marshack)</li> </ul>
<b>Desired Outcome:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information and feedback</li> <li>• Agreement on 2012 Monitoring Council meeting dates and locations</li> </ul>
<b>Background:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) In mid-2011, USEPA's Healthy Watershed Initiative offered to provide USEPA-funded contractor support for Healthy Streams portal development that identifies healthy watersheds in California based on a systematic integration of a number of existing data sets. At the November 2011 meeting, the Monitoring Council reviewed a Draft Technical Approach developed by USEPA's contractor, Cadmus Group. At the February 29 meeting, the Monitoring Council was given a presentation on a draft summary of proposed indicators for use in the California Healthy Watersheds integrated assessment. The Monitoring Council offered a number of constructive comments and recommendations to refine the list of indicators.</li> <li>b) The state is currently updating its Climate Adaptation Strategy and is focusing on gathering better data on climate change impacts. A brief overview of these research and data collection efforts will be provided.</li> <li>c) Through the Coastkeeper Alliance and in commemoration of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Clean Water Act, Sara Aminzadeh has been working with legislative staff to add the <i>My Water Quality</i> button link to legislators' websites.</li> <li>d) If the current pattern of meetings is continued – the last Wednesday of every third month – Monitoring Council meetings would be scheduled for:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• November 28, 2012 (already calendared)</li> <li>• February 27, 2013</li> <li>• May 29, 2013</li> <li>• August 28, 2013</li> <li>• November 27, 2013 (day before Thanksgiving)</li> </ul> <p>Monitoring Council Members and Alternates should check their calendars to determine whether they will be able to attend meetings on these dates.</p> </li> </ul>
<b>Attachment Links</b>	a) <a href="#">Notes from the February 29 Monitoring Council meeting</a> (see Item 4)
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Jon Marshack <a href="mailto:imarshack@waterboards.ca.gov">imarshack@waterboards.ca.gov</a> , (916) 341-5514

<b>ITEM:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Approx. Time:</b>
<b>Title of Topic:</b>	<b>MONITORING EFFECTIVENESS OF WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS – DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES</b>	
<b>Purpose:</b>	Tracie Billington will update the Monitoring Council on efforts to monitor grant project effectiveness and improve data accessibility	

<p><b>Desired Outcome:</b></p>	<p>Review and comment; develop recommendations for improving coordination and data access.</p>
<p><b>Background:</b></p>	<p>This is follow-up to a discussion at the August 2011 Monitoring Council meeting regarding grant monitoring and data management at the State Water Board. The Monitoring Council asked for a presentation on similar efforts at the Department of Water Resources.</p> <p>In <a href="#">SB 1070</a>, California Water Code Section 13181(a) states, in part:</p> <p>(6) Among other things, the memorandum of understanding shall describe the means by which the monitoring council shall formulate recommendations to accomplish both of the following:</p> <p>...</p> <p>(B) Ensure that water quality improvement projects financed by the state provide specific information necessary to track project effectiveness with regard to achieving clean water and healthy ecosystems.</p> <p>Water Code Section 13181(e) states, in part:</p> <p>In accordance with the requirements of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. Sec. 1251 et seq.) and implementing guidance, the state board shall develop, in coordination with the monitoring council, all of the following:</p> <p>...</p> <p>(4) Methodology for compiling, analyzing, and integrating readily available information, to the maximum extent feasible, including, but not limited to, data acquired from discharge reports, volunteer monitoring groups, local, state, and federal agencies, and recipients of state-funded or federally funded water quality improvement or restoration projects.</p> <p>The <a href="#">MOU</a> between Cal/EPA and the Natural Resources Agency that formed the Monitoring Council included the following task for the two agency secretaries:</p> <p>The Secretaries will establish policies and procedures to ensure that water quality improvement projects, including bond-funded grant projects financed by the state, include the ability to track project effectiveness with respect to specific water quality and ecosystem health.</p> <p>The <a href="#">MOU</a> also included the following task for the Monitoring Council:</p> <p>In an effort to: ... 2) ensure that water quality improvement projects financed by the state provide specific information necessary to track project effectiveness with regard to achieving clean water and healthy ecosystems, the Monitoring Council responsibilities under this MOU include, but are not limited to, the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Report, on or before December 1, 2008, to the Secretaries of Cal/EPA and Resources, and the public its recommendations for: ... tracking the effectiveness of water quality improvement projects financed by the state in achieving clean water and healthy ecosystems; and, for ensuring that collected data are maintained and available for use by decision makers and the public. The Monitoring Council shall consult with and consider input from the U.S. EPA in preparing these recommendations.</li> </ol> <p>The Monitoring Council' <a href="#">Comprehensive Monitoring Program Strategy</a> recommendations discuss grant project monitoring (Section 2.2.6 beginning on page 29) and presents the following recommendation (page 46):</p> <p>monitoring of state- and federally-funded water quality and ecosystem improvement projects be coordinated and enhanced to ensure that the effectiveness of such projects is evaluated and that the generated data are available for use in larger-scale assessments. The Monitoring Council will enlist the support and cooperation of granting agencies to evaluate options and</p>

	<p>implement the necessary changes.</p> <p>There are many grant programs administered by various departments, boards, agencies and conservancies that also fund water quality improvement projects. Statutes establishing these programs often have specific requirements for monitoring and reporting project effectiveness. Information on water quality improvement projects administered by the State Water Resources Control Board was <a href="#">presented to the Monitoring Council in August 2011</a> (see Item 4).</p> <p>A number of factors make measuring effectiveness of grant-funded water quality improvement projects difficult. In most cases, direct water quality monitoring cannot be used because the post-project time frame for monitoring is often very short, and the amount of sampling required to statistically demonstrate improvement is cost prohibitive. And individual projects are often too small to result in measureable water quality and/or ecosystem changes.</p> <p>For the Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) Grant Program, the Natural Water Quality Committee has developed specific recommendations to assist grantees with effectiveness monitoring of grant projects. Those recommendations are discussed in Section 2.2.6 of the Monitoring Council's <a href="#">Comprehensive Monitoring Program Strategy</a>.</p>		
<b>Attachment Links:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Notes of August 2011 Monitoring Council Meeting</a> (see Item 4)</li> <li>• <a href="#">SB 1070</a> (see Section 13181(a)(6) and (e)(4))</li> <li>• <a href="#">MOU</a> between Cal/EPA and the Natural Resources Agency (see Sections IV.2. and V.4.)</li> <li>• Monitoring Council' <a href="#">Comprehensive Monitoring Program Strategy</a> (see Section 2.2.6 beginning on page 29 and Recommendation on page 46)</li> </ul>		
<b>Contact Persons:</b>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="418 1129 738 1192">Tracie Billington</td> <td data-bbox="738 1129 1495 1192"><a href="mailto:tracieb@water.ca.gov">tracieb@water.ca.gov</a>, (916) 651- 9226</td> </tr> </table>	Tracie Billington	<a href="mailto:tracieb@water.ca.gov">tracieb@water.ca.gov</a> , (916) 651- 9226
Tracie Billington	<a href="mailto:tracieb@water.ca.gov">tracieb@water.ca.gov</a> , (916) 651- 9226		

<b>ITEM:</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Approx. Time:</b>
<b>Title of Topic:</b>	<b>WETLAND LOCATION, EXTENT, AND PROJECT MAPPING AND DATA MANAGEMENT</b>	40 minutes
<b>Purpose:</b>	Eric Stein and Steve Steinberg will provide an update on the efforts of the Wetland Monitoring Workgroup and the Data Management Workgroup, respectively, to address wetland mapping and data management needs.	
<b>Desired Outcome:</b>	Greater understanding of the mapping and data management needs and actions of the Wetland Monitoring Workgroup and potential involvement by the Data Management Workgroup relative to the California Aquatic Resources Inventory (CARI) and EcoAtlas.	
<b>Background:</b>	At the May 30 Monitoring Council meeting, Jon Marshack handed out copies of a recent <a href="#">letter from the Wetland Monitoring Workgroup to the Monitoring Council</a> recommending the use of CARI as the basemap for wetland monitoring and assessment. The Monitoring Council decided to forward the letter to the Data Management Workgroup for review and possible recommendations. The Data Management Workgroup met twice since then and believes that it does not have sufficient information from which to develop recommendations. The Wetland Monitoring Workgroup was informed of these developments at their August 14	

	meeting and will be working directly with the Data Management Workgroup to provide additional information. The Wetlands and Data Management workgroups will address the Monitoring Council at a future meeting to present policy issues related to CARI and the EcoAtlas that will need to be addressed at the Council level.	
<b>Attachment Links:</b>	<a href="#">Letter from the Wetland Monitoring Workgroup - Recommendations on Wetland Data Management</a>	
<b>Contact Persons:</b>	Eric Stein Steve Steinberg	<a href="mailto:erics@sccwrp.org">erics@sccwrp.org</a> ; (714) 755-3233 <a href="mailto:steves@sccwrp.org">steves@sccwrp.org</a> ; (714) 755-3260

<b>ITEM:</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Approx. Time:</b>
<b>Title of Topic:</b>	<b>NATIONAL MUSSEL WATCH PROGRAM, CALIFORNIA PILOT</b>	40 minutes
<b>Purpose:</b>	Dominic Gregorio will present information regarding the California pilot of the National Mussel Watch monitoring program. Jay Davis will address how this effort fits with the Bioaccumulation Strategy discussed at the May 30 Monitoring Council meeting.	
<b>Desired Outcome:</b>	Direction on the coordination of National Mussel Watch monitoring, assessment, and reporting with other California bioaccumulation monitoring efforts	
<b>Background:</b>	<p>At the May 30 Monitoring Council meeting, Jay Davis presented information about the Bioaccumulation Strategy being developed by the Bioaccumulation Oversight Group (BOG). Steve Weisberg requested a future Monitoring Council agenda item focusing on the NOAA National Mussel Watch program that was piloted in California. The following questions were provided to guide this presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does this effort fit with California’s program?</li> <li>• How are we using the data?</li> </ul>	
<b>Attachment Links:</b>	<a href="#">Notes of May 2012 Monitoring Council Meeting</a> (see Item 4)	
<b>Contact Persons:</b>	Dominic Gregorio Jay Davis	<a href="mailto:dgregorio@waterboards.ca.gov">dgregorio@waterboards.ca.gov</a> ; (916) 341-5488 <a href="mailto:jay@sfei.org">jay@sfei.org</a> ; (510) 746-7368

<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>Approx. Time:</b>
On your own. Cafe on first floor. Other restaurants in close proximity to building.		50 minutes

<b>ITEM:</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Approx. Time:</b>
<b>Title of Topic:</b>	<b>ESTUARIES MONITORING WORKGROUP AND PORTAL PROPOSAL</b>	60 minutes
<b>Purpose:</b>	Val Connor will provide a summary of workgroup actions to date and plans for development of a California Estuaries Portal, initially focusing on the San Francisco / San Joaquin Bay-Delta Estuary. Amye Osti will demonstrate the	

	<p>workgroup’s internal working website and progress on pulling together Delta condition information pursuant to Water Rights Decision D-1641.</p> <p>The workgroup will present a status report and proposed next steps to the Council to ensure they have a solid foundation to begin portal development. This workgroup has significant overlap, in terms of charge, with several other workgroups and portals. Council guidance on integration would be useful at this time.</p>	
<b>Desired Outcome:</b>	Feedback from Council on the approach being used by the workgroup	
<b>Background:</b>	<p>At the October 2010 meeting, the Monitoring Council accepted a proposal to form the California Estuaries Monitoring Workgroup (CEMW) that will develop a California Estuaries ecosystem health portal. The Monitoring Council agreed to an initial emphasis on the San Francisco Bay-Delta, with the inclusion of a statewide focus.</p> <p>Initially, the Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) was assumed to be well positioned to lead this effort, with participation from the San Francisco Bay and Delta regional monitoring programs, the Bay-Delta Science Program, and the Delta Stewardship Council. The State and Federal Contractors Water Agency (SFCWA) agreed to provide initial funding for portal development. After much deliberation, SFCWA and The Bay Institute agreed to jointly lead the workgroup, with oversight from the IEP Coordinators.</p> <p>The CEMW has been organizing over the past 18 months. The workgroup has developed a charter, a set of operating guidelines and a workgroup internal website (NOT a portal) to facilitate workgroup activities. The CEMW is initially focused on the Sacramento / San Joaquin Bay-Delta and Estuary. The workgroup is attempting to implement the Council’s strategy and guidance, but have deviated from it when necessary to continue making progress.</p>	
<b>Attachment Links:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Notes from the October 13, 2010 Monitoring Council meeting</a> (see Item 6)</li> <li>• <a href="#">CEMW Charter</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">CEMW Rolls and Responsibilities Guidance</a></li> </ul>	
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Val Connor	<a href="mailto:vconnor@sfcwa.org">vconnor@sfcwa.org</a> , (916) 476-5053

<b>ITEM:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Approx. Time:</b>
<b>Title of Topic:</b>	<b>COLLABORATIVE REGIONAL MONITORING PROGRAMS IN NORTHERN AND CENTRAL CALIFORNIA</b>	160 minutes
<b>Purpose:</b>	<p>Each of these monitoring programs will provide a short introduction, followed by a panel discussion guided by the questions below</p> <p><b>Programs</b> (presenters/representatives)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. San Francisco Bay Regional Monitoring Program (Rainer Hoenicke)</li> <li>2. Central Coast Long-Term Environmental Assessment Network, CCLEAN (Dane Hardin, Karen Worcester)</li> <li>3. Sacramento River Watershed Program (Mary Lee Knecht, Holly Jorgensen, Meghan Sullivan, Stephanie Fong)</li> </ol>	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Klamath Basin Monitoring Program (Chantell Royer-Krider, Clayton Creager)</li> <li>5. Delta Regional Monitoring Program (Meghan Sullivan, Stephanie Fong)</li> <li>6. San Joaquin River Regional Monitoring Program (Parry Klassen, Rudy Schnagl)</li> <li>7. Central Coast Agricultural Waiver Cooperative Monitoring Program (Kirk Schmidt, Karen Worcester)</li> <li>8. Central Valley Agricultural Waiver Monitoring Program (Susan Fregien, Parry Klassen)</li> <li>9. Sierra Streams Institute/Friends of Deer Creek (John Norton)</li> <li>10. San Francisco Bay Stormwater Regional Monitoring Coalition (Armand Ruby)</li> <li>11. Monterey Bay Regional Monitoring Coalition (Dane Hardin, Karen Worcester)</li> </ol> <p><b>Questions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What caused the coordination to occur?</li> <li>b. Why has it been successful?</li> <li>c. Has the coordination resulted in tools that would benefit coordination efforts by others?</li> <li>d. Would a tool like the <a href="#">Central Valley Monitoring Directory</a> have been helpful in getting the coordination going?</li> <li>e. How are the data being managed and made available?</li> <li>f. What are measures of success?</li> <li>g. How are portals fitting into your programs?</li> <li>h. What agency data are being integrated?</li> <li>i. What is the role of citizen volunteer monitoring?</li> <li>j. What do you need from the Monitoring Council?</li> </ol>
<b>Desired Outcome:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elucidate the reasons why some collaborative regional monitoring efforts are successful</li> <li>• Can those successes benefit or be transferred to other monitoring efforts and if so, how?</li> </ul>
<b>Background:</b>	<p>An agenda item on successful regional monitoring programs, highlighting programs in Southern California, was part of the May 2012 Monitoring Council meeting. This item was held as a consolidated panel discussion, to enhance direct sharing of information between monitoring programs, and to include additional monitoring programs that are not yet fully developed.</p> <p>This item will similarly focus on collaborative regional monitoring programs in Northern and Central California.</p>
<b>Attachment Links:</b>	<p><a href="#">Central Valley Monitoring Directory brochure</a></p>
<b>Contact Person:</b>	<p>Jon Marshack      <a href="mailto:jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov">jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov</a>, (916) 341-5514</p>

<b>ITEM:</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Approx. Time:</b>
<b>Title of Topic:</b>	<b>MEETING WRAP-UP</b>	10 minutes
<b>Purpose:</b>	<p>Plan agenda for November 28, 2012 Monitoring Council meeting in Sacramento. Potential items include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Annual reports from each workgroup</li> <li>2) Safe to Drink workgroup and portal development proposal</li> <li>3) Possibility of holding an annual conference. A representative from the Maryland Monitoring Council should be invited to participate by phone (see <a href="#">May 2012 notes</a>, Item 2d)</li> <li>4) Water Board new effort to gather groundwater monitoring data in support of potential future programmatic actions (Eric Oppenheimer, John Borkovich)</li> <li>5) Department of Pesticide Regulation monitoring (David Duncan) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) What monitored where – SWAMP comparability? Quantitation limits?</li> <li>b) How data assessed – thresholds from water quality objectives, criteria &amp; guidelines?</li> <li>c) How data managed – connection with CEDEN?</li> <li>d) Pesticides as stressors – stressors portal?</li> </ol> </li> <li>6) Department of Fish &amp; Game monitoring (Glenda Marsh, Adam Ballard, Robert Holmes, Josh Grover, Chad Dibble, Pete Ode) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Coordination</li> <li>b) Financial support</li> <li>c) Flow</li> <li>d) Data Management – CEDEN for water quality data?</li> <li>e) Monitoring Council endorsement of collaboration?</li> </ol> </li> <li>7) Ocean Ecosystem Health <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) monitoring (Ken Schiff)</li> <li>b) Marine Protected Area (MPA) Monitoring Enterprise (Liz Whiteman)</li> <li>c) Plans for Ocean Ecosystem Workgroup and new Ocean Health Portal</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	
<b>Desired Outcome:</b>	Develop agenda items for the next meeting	
<b>Contact Person:</b>	Jon Marshack	<a href="mailto:jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov">jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov</a> , (916) 341-5514