

CALIFORNIA WATER QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL

Monitoring Council Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, May 30, 2012 – 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 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.

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=182885242&UID=0&PW=NNTYwZWViYTE5&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. Audio participation by teleconference is available by dialing (888) 764-9721 and entering the attendee access code 363 618 0.

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 draft notes from November 30, 2011 Monitoring Council meeting 3) Review agenda for today's meeting	
Desired Outcome:	a) Approve February 2012 Monitoring Council meeting notes b) Preview what will be covered today and overall meeting expectations c) Adjust today's agenda, as needed	
Attachment Links:	Draft notes from February 29, 2012 Council meeting	
Contact Person:	Jon Marshack	jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov , 916-341-5514

ITEM:	2	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES	30 minutes
Purpose:	a) Healthy Streams Portal update (Jon Marshack) b) State and federal budget update (Jonathan Bishop, Stephani Spaar, Leah Walker)	

	c) Other announcements by Monitoring Council Members, Alternates, or staff	
Desired Outcome:	Information and feedback	
Background:	At the February 2012 Monitoring Council meeting, the Healthy Streams Portal was approved for public release after modifications to accommodate comments provided at the meeting and later by email from Monitoring Council Members. Publicity for the release of this portal is being coordinated between the State Water Board, the Department of Water Resources, and the California Coastkeeper Alliance. Public release is expected in early June.	
Attachment Links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft notes from February 29, 2012 Council meeting (see Item 3) • Healthy Streams Portal Fact Sheet 	
Contact Person:	Jon Marshack	jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514

ITEM:	3	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	BIOACCUMULATED CONTAMINANTS IN COASTAL SPORT FISH	45 minutes
Purpose:	Jay Davis of the San Francisco Estuary Institute/Aquatic Science Center (SFEI/AQC) will present the results of a two year screening level study of bioaccumulated contaminants in sport fish along the California coast	
Desired Outcome:	Information and feedback	
Background:	<p>The Bioaccumulation Oversight Group, a theme-specific workgroup of the Monitoring Council and part of the State Water Resources Control Board's Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP), is about to release findings from California's largest-ever statewide survey of contaminants in sport fish on the California coast. The report, <i>Contaminants in Sport Fish from the California Coast, 2009-2010</i>, represents a major step forward in understanding the extent of chemical contamination in the coastal food web. The report presents new data from sampling that focused on the North and Central coasts in 2010. These data combine with the results from 2009 to provide a comprehensive assessment of the entire coast. The study has provided information that will be valuable in prioritizing areas in need of further study, support development of consumption guidelines and cleanup plans, and provide information the public can use to be better informed about the degree of contamination of popular fishing spots.</p> <p>Release of this report is expected in late May 2012. At the same time, the data from this study will be made available through the <i>My Water Quality</i> portal "Is it safe to eat fish and shellfish from our waters?"</p>	
Attachment Links:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once released, the full report, fact sheet, and media release will be posted on the SWAMP website • Data and a summary assessment from this study will be available on the Safe to Eat Portal, on the Recent Conditions and Data & Trends pages 	
Contact Person:	Jay Davis	jay@sfei.org , (510) 746-7368

ITEM:	4	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	BIOACCUMULATION OVERSIGHT GROUP STRATEGY	45 minutes
Purpose:	Jay Davis (SFEI/AQC), Chair of the Bioaccumulation Oversight Group (BOG) will present a draft of this workgroup's strategy document.	
Desired Outcome:	Review and approval of the direction of the strategy	
Background:	<p>For the past five years, the BOG has systematically conducted surveys of sport fish tissue contaminants in California lakes and reservoirs, coastal waters, and streams and rivers with a focus on potential threats to public health. This year's sampling efforts will begin to address potential aquatic life and wildlife threats through survey level sampling small fish and Western Grebes from California lakes and reservoirs. SWAMP management believes that the BOG could benefit from a formal strategy to plan future monitoring, assessment and reporting efforts and to expand participation in those efforts by organizations not currently represented. In response, last year the BOG began development of a "Strategy for Coordinated Monitoring, Assessment, and Communication of Information on Bioaccumulation in Aquatic Ecosystems in California." The general goals of the Bioaccumulation Strategy are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote coordinated, long-term statewide monitoring and assessment to generate the data needed to support water quality protection and restoration (TMDLs, etc.) and 2. Communicate to the public and provide public access to information on fish contamination that the public can use to reduce their exposure to contaminants and participate in management processes in an informed manner. <p>The Strategy document will highlight recent accomplishments, remaining issues, goals and objectives for the future, how the BOG is organized and how that will change in the future, recommendations, reporting goals, cost implications, workgroup membership, potential partners, and a revised charter addressing the changing roles and an expanded workgroup.</p>	
Attachment Links:	Summary of Draft Bioaccumulation Strategy	
Contact Person:	Jay Davis	jay@sfei.org , (510) 746-7368

ITEM:	5	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	BIOLOGICAL OBJECTIVES DEVELOPMENT	45 minutes
Purpose:	Karen Larsen (State Water Board) and Ken Schiff (SCCWRP) will present information on the Water Boards' development of biological water quality objectives and an implementation plan designed to directly protect the biological integrity of California waters	
Desired Outcome:	Information	
Background:	State Water Board staff is developing a statewide policy that will establish narrative water quality objectives to protect biological communities and an	

	<p>implementation plan to describe how compliance with the narrative objectives will be measured. The State Water Board's Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) already requires the use of standard field and laboratory protocols and data management procedures for all bioassessment monitoring required or funded by the Water Boards. However, the tools for interpreting biological data (i.e., indices of biological integrity or observed/expected models) are not consistent statewide. The new policy will establish a statewide network of reference sites as well as consistent scoring tools to measure compliance with the narrative objective. This effort supports the Monitoring Council's objectives by establishing consistent monitoring protocols and thresholds for assessing biological condition in California streams. These new tools also will be used to display biological data available in the California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN) through the Healthy Streams Portal.</p>	
Attachment Links:	<p>Biological Objectives page of the State Water Board website</p>	
Contact Persons:	<p>Karen Larsen Ken Schiff</p>	<p>klarsen@waterboards.ca.gov, (916) 319-9769 kens@sccwrp.org, (707) 755-3202</p>

LUNCH	Approx. Time:
Lunch will be provided at SCCWRP. A donation of \$10 is requested to cover costs.	60 minutes

ITEM:	6	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	REGIONAL MONITORING PROGRAMS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	
Purpose:	<p>Each of these monitoring programs will provide a short introduction, followed by a panel discussion guided by the questions below</p> <p>Programs (presenters/representatives)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. San Gabriel River Regional Monitoring Program (Nancy Steele, Kristy Morris) 2. Los Angeles River Watershed Monitoring Program (Nancy Steele, Kristy Morris) 3. Stormwater Monitoring Coalition in Southern California (Ken Schiff) 4. So Cal Bight (Ken Schiff) 5. Santa Clara River (Michael Lyons, Phil Markle, Brock Bernstein) 6. San Diego River (Brock Bernstein, Bruce Posthumus) 7. San Diego Region coastal estuaries (Brock Bernstein, Bruce Posthumus) <p>Questions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What caused the coordination to occur? b. Why has it been successful? c. Has the coordination resulted in tools that would benefit coordination efforts by others? d. Would a tool like the Central Valley Monitoring Directory have been helpful in getting the coordination going? 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. How are the data being managed and made available? f. What are measures of success? g. How are portals fitting into your programs? h. What agency data are being integrated? i. What do you need from the Monitoring Council?
Desired Outcome:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elucidate the reasons why some collaborative regional monitoring efforts are successful • Can those successes benefit or be transferred to other monitoring efforts and if so, how?
Background:	<p>An agenda item on successful regional monitoring programs, highlighting the San Francisco Bay RMP, was originally scheduled to be part of the February 2012 Monitoring Council meeting. However, this item was postponed, due to the unexpected illness of the main presenter. This item was intended to be the first of several such presentations, each focusing on a single monitoring program. The Monitoring Council instead decided that such presentations should be consolidated into panel discussions, 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 focus on collaborative regional monitoring programs in Southern California. At the August Monitoring Council meeting, a similar agenda item will focus on Northern California monitoring programs.</p>
Attachment Links:	Central Valley Monitoring Directory brochure
Contact Person:	Jon Marshack jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514

ITEM:	7	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	MEETING WRAP-UP	20 minutes
Purpose:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Summarize meeting 2) Plan agenda for August 29, 2012 Monitoring Council meeting in Sacramento – potential items include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Successful collaborative monitoring programs in northern and central California <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) San Francisco Bay Regional Monitoring Program ii) Central Coast Long-Term Environmental Assessment (CCLEAN) iii) Sacramento River Watershed Program iv) Klamath Basin Monitoring Program v) Delta Regional Monitoring Program vi) San Joaquin River Regional Monitoring Program b) Ocean Ecosystem Health <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) monitoring (Ken 	

	Schiff) ii) Marine Protected Area (MPA) Monitoring Enterprise (Liz Whiteman) iii) Plans for new Ocean Ecosystem Workgroup and Ocean Health Portal c) Safe to Drink workgroup and portal development proposal d) Status of developing a common base map for California water resources (Greg Smith of DWR, Tom Lupo of DFG, and Josh Collins of SFEI) e) Department of Water Resources grant project effectiveness monitoring f) Outreach strategy and publicity to increase portal usage	
Desired Outcome:	Develop agenda items for the next meeting	
Contact Person:	Jon Marshack	jmarshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514

May 18, 2012