

CALIFORNIA WATER QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL
Monitoring Council Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, December 13, 2016 – 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM

Second Floor, Klamath Room
 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, notes, and related Monitoring Council meeting 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 Global Meet Century Link. To join the on-line meeting, click on this link <https://stateofcaswrcbweb.centurylinkccc.com/CenturylinkWeb/JonMarshack>. Enter as a guest by typing your first and last name and email address into the boxes provided. Please log in a few minutes before the meeting starts to allow Global Meet to set up the meeting connection software on your computer by clicking on the "Launch Application" button if prompted to do so. Audio connection is via teleconference. Enter your phone number and click "Connect Me" to have GlobalMeet call your phone and add you to the meeting. Alternatively click "Dial-In" and then call (877) 820-7831 with guest passcode 586740. Existing audio equipment in our meeting room may limit the quality of the connection.

For a map to the Cal/EPA Headquarters 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 to the left of the lobby upon entering the building. Valid picture identification may be required due to the security level. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact the State Water Board's Equal Employment Opportunity Office at (916) 341-5881.

ITEM:	1	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	INTRODUCTIONS AND HOUSEKEEPING	10 minutes
Purpose:	1) Introductions (in the room and on the phone) 2) Review draft notes from August 23, 2016 Monitoring Council meeting 3) Review agenda for today's meeting	
Desired Outcome:	a) Approve August 23, 2016 Monitoring Council meeting notes b) Preview what will be covered today and overall meeting expectations c) Adjust today's agenda, as needed	
Attachment Links:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft notes from August 23, 2016 Monitoring Council meeting 	
Contact Person:	Jon Marshack	jon.marshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514

ITEM:	2	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	PUBLIC FORUM	10 minutes

Purpose:	Any member of the public may address and ask questions of the Monitoring Council relating to any matter within the Council’s jurisdiction under California Senate Bill 1070 (Statutes of 2006) provided the matter is not on the agenda.	
Desired Outcome:	Information and potential agenda topics for a future meeting. No decisions can be made regarding items that have not received prior public notice.	
Attachment Link:	California Senate Bill 1070 (Statutes of 2006)	
Contact Person:	Jon Marshack	jon.marshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514

ITEM:	3	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES	20 minutes
Purpose:	<p>These are expected to be brief informational items that could be expanded into more detailed discussions at future meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Filling the Public Member vacancy on the Monitoring Council (Jon Marshack) b) Confirm meeting dates for 2017 (Jon Marshack) c) Sacramento River Watershed Data Portal (Holly Jorgensen and Amye Osti) d) AB 1755, Open and Transparent Water Data Act (Jon Marshack) e) Data Management Workgroup fact sheets (Tony Hale) f) Harmful algal bloom request letter to the Agency Secretaries and enclosed issue paper (Jon Marshack) g) CEQ/CA Water Data Challenge (Greg Gearheart) h) Support for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy’s proposal for a National Environmental Information Exchange Network grant (Kris Jones and Shakoora Azimi-Gaylon) i) Other brief announcements and updates related to the Monitoring Council’s mission pursuant to Senate Bill 1070, Statutes of 2006 	
Desired Outcome:	Information and comment	
Background:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Monitoring Council Public Member Vacancy – Sara Aminzadeh, who represented public interests on the Council, resigned in late January 2016. Her alternate, Travis Pritchard, has continued to act in her absence. At the August 23 meeting, the Monitoring Council authorized staff to announce the vacancy. A vacancy announcement was distributed on November 9, with applications requested by December 15. b) 2017 Meeting Dates – As a result of an email poll of Monitoring Council Members and Alternates, the following dates have been selected for 2017 Council meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 28 – Sacramento • May 23 – Costa Mesa • August 29 – Sacramento • November 28 – Sacramento 	

- c) **Sacramento River Watershed Data Portal** – Since 1996, the Sacramento River Watershed Program (SRWP) has served as a forum for watershed stakeholders to share information, measure cumulative progress, and maintain a shared vision of the watershed. In 2015 the SRWP entered into an agreement with the State Water Board to develop a data portal customized for the Sacramento River Watershed. There is an immense need for programs and projects that improve watershed health in the region along with a desire and need to demonstrate the linkages between the implementation of successful watershed management efforts and improved watershed health. A key constraint to effective watershed management is the lack of accessible information and data to support timely and science-based decision making. The Sacramento River Watershed (SRW) Portal provides a base for regional monitoring efforts and provides a foundation for collaborative efforts connecting watershed stakeholders to data and information, funding, projects, and each other. Data is managed at the regional level and shared with all stakeholders for larger watershed assessment and analysis. The SRW Portal builds on the platform developed for managing data for other instances including the My Water Quality and CA Estuaries and supports the Monitoring Council's vision of broader data access through theme-based portals.
- d) **AB 1755, Open and Transparent Water Data Act** – AB 1755 was one of the bills targeted by the Monitoring Council's [legislative priorities for 2016](#). In the [final version](#) of the legislation, signed by the Governor on September 23, the Department of Water Resources is designated to create, operate, and maintain a statewide integrated water data platform and to develop standardized data sharing and documentation protocols. The legislation calls for those actions to be carried out in consultation with the Monitoring Council, the State Water Board, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- e) **Data Management Workgroup Fact Sheets** – To increase awareness and develop common understating of key data management concepts, the Data Management Workgroup has developed a set of draft fact sheets on the following topics: [data management plans](#); [web services](#); [data federation](#); and [open data](#). The impetus for developing these fact sheets were recommendations outlined in the Delta Stewardship Council's Environmental Data Summit white paper, [Enhancing the Vision for Managing California's Environmental Information](#). They may also help with the interagency consultations required by [AB 1755](#). These fact sheets have been shared with the Data Management Steering Committee for comment.
- f) **Harmful Algal Bloom Request Letter to the Agency Secretaries and enclosed Issue Paper** – At the August 23 meeting, the Monitoring Council instructed staff to work with the Council Co-Chairs to develop an issue paper on HABs to accompany a request letter to the Agency Secretaries. The [letter and issue paper](#) were sent on November 4.
- g) **CEQ/CA Water Data Challenge** – The State Water Board, California Departments of Water Resources and California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Government Operations Agency and the California Department of Technology have teamed up with the White House Council on Environmental Quality to launch the [California Water Data Challenge](#). The Challenge is a competition to develop innovative, data-based tools that help California address its ongoing drought and assure a reliable, sustainable water system for the future. The California Water Data Challenge invites

	<p>individuals and teams to develop apps, websites, data visualizations and other tools that leverage publicly-available datasets in novel ways to support creative solutions to California’s water challenges, as outlined in the Brown administration’s California Water Action Plan. The deadline for entries is Monday, Dec. 5, and awards will be announced on Friday, Dec. 9.</p> <p>h) <i>Delta Conservancy NEIEN Grant Proposal</i> – The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy has applied for a National Environmental Information Exchange Network grant to establish quality-control standards, tools, and general access to continuous data for the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary. This is an extension of the Conservancy’s DEDUCE (Delta Environmental Data for the Understanding of a California Estuary) Project, for which the Monitoring Council had provided a support letter. At the request of the Conservancy, Monitoring Council Co-Chair Karen Larsen provided a letter of support for the proposed extension project.</p>	
Attachment Links:	<p>a) Monitoring Council Public Member Vacancy Announcement</p> <p>c) Sacramento River Watershed Data Portal flyer</p> <p>d) Assembly Bill 1755, chaptered September 23, 2016 Legislative Priorities Spring 2016 fact sheet Monitoring Council Background Information Regarding Strengthened Legislation</p> <p>e) Delta Stewardship Council’s Environmental Data Summit white paper, Enhancing the Vision for Managing California’s Environmental Information Data Management Workgroup fact sheets: Data Management Plans; Web Services; Data Federation; Open Data</p> <p>f) Draft notes from August 23, 2016 Monitoring Council meeting (see item #4) Harmful Algal Blooms Deserve Greater Governmental Attention and Coordination – letter with attached issue paper from the Monitoring Council Co-Chairs to the Secretaries of CalEPA and the Natural Resources Agency</p> <p>g) California Water Data Challenge web page</p> <p>h) Letter of support for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy’s proposal to the FY 2017 National Environmental Information Exchange Network grant program</p>	
Contact Persons:	Jon Marshack Kris Jones	jon.marshack@waterboards.ca.gov ; (916) 341-5514 kristopher.jones@water.ca.gov ; (916) 376-9756

ITEM:	4	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	CALIFORNIA HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS (HABs) PORTAL	
Purpose:	Review and comment on the new California HABs portal.	
Desired Outcome:	Comments on the layout, design, and content of the portal and recommendations for future enhancements.	

Background:	<p>A large portion of the August 23 meeting of the Monitoring Council was devoted to harmful algal blooms, a water quality issue heightened by four years of drought and potentially by climate change. The increased extent and severity of this year’s harmful algal blooms highlighted the need for a centralized location form which to disseminate information needed by state and local agencies, water body managers, and the public. The Monitoring Council’s California Cyanobacteria and Harmful Algal Bloom (CCHAB) Network, the Freshwater Harmful Algal Bloom Program of the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP), and others had generated a significant body of useful information, but that information was scattered across multiple websites. Council Director Jon Marshack worked with CCHAB and SWAMP to quickly develop a new My Water Quality portal dedicated to HABs in California. Due to the urgent need, the normal portal development process was bypassed, which would ordinarily allow the Monitoring Council the opportunity to review and approve a mockup prior to web page creation. This deviation from the Monitoring Council’s strategy is an example of a more pragmatic approach, providing support for important water quality monitoring, assessment and reporting issues as they arise and in a timely manner, that grew out of the Monitoring Council’s December 2014 Triennial Audit report and subsequent discussions with the CalEPA Secretary and Undersecretary.</p>	
Attachment Links:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft notes from August 23, 2016 Monitoring Council meeting (see item #4) • California Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Portal • Press Release • Fact Sheet 	
Contact Person:	Jon Marshack	jon.marshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514

LUNCH	Approx. Time:
On your own. Cafe on first floor. Other restaurants in close proximity to building.	60 minutes

ITEM:	4	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	STATE WATER BOARD STRATEGY TO OPTIMIZE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OF STORM WATER (STORMS)	
Purpose:	State Water Board staff will present an overview of STORMS and its water quality projects, followed by information about the two source control projects, the Urban Pesticides Amendments project and general Source Control Strategies for Stormwater.	
Desired Outcome:	Information and discussion regarding whether and how the Monitoring Council can provide support for this program.	
Background:	Storm water runoff from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s), industrial facilities, and construction sites can be a source of pollutants and has contributed to water quality impairments in developed areas of California. Additionally, population growth, climate change and the current drought are	

	<p>increasing pressure on the state to take immediate action and manage its water resources more effectively. These challenges represent an opportunity to redefine how California utilizes and values storm water as a water resource. The State Water Board Resolution No. 2009-0011 (Policy for Water Quality Control for Recycled Water) identified the goal for California to increase the use of storm water over use in 2007 by at least 500,000 acre-ft/year by 2020, and by at least one million acre-ft/year by 2030.</p> <p>Well-conceived storm water management actions provide multiple benefits for California communities, including improved water quality, increased water supply, increased space for public recreation, increased tree canopy, enhanced stream and riparian habitat area, as well as many other benefits. Accordingly, this proposed Strategy to Optimize Resource Management of Storm Water (Storm Water Strategy) identifies the goals, objectives, and actions needed for the State Water Resources Control Board and nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Water Boards) to improve the regulation, management, and utilization of California’s storm water resources.</p>	
Attachment Link:	STORMS website	
Contact Person:	Noelle Patterson Matthew Freese	noelle.patterson@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5280 Matthew.Freese@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5485

ITEM:	5	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	STATE WATER BOARD HUMAN RIGHT TO WATER	
Purpose:	Wendy Killou of the State Water Board, Division of Drinking Water will present information on new web content being developed by an interagency working group that will provide public information on the quality of drinking water being delivered to customers.	
Desired Outcome:	Information and comment, particularly as it relates to alignment of this effort with the Monitoring Council’s strategy for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of water quality monitoring, assessment, and reporting, as well as more recently revised priorities.	
Background:	On Sept. 12, 2012, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. signed Assembly Bill 685 , making California the first state in the nation to legislatively recognize the human right to water. California Water Code Section 106.3 now recognizes that “every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes.” The human right to water extends to all Californians, including disadvantaged individuals and groups and communities in rural and urban areas. On Feb. 16, 2016, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted a resolution identifying the human right to water as a top priority and core value of the State Water Board and Regional Water Quality Control Boards. As part of the human right to water resolution , Water Board staff members are creating a website that will allow the public to see which communities, schools, and daycares who do not have, or are at risk of not having, water that is safe, clean, affordable, and accessible. The website will also highlight what is being done to help these public water system, as well as highlight success stories of water systems that are now receiving safe, reliable	

	drinking water, thanks to the help of the State Water Board and other stakeholders.	
Attachment Link:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assembly Bill 685, Statutes of 2012 • State Water Resources Control Board Resolution No. 2016-0010, Adopting the Human Right to Water as a Core Value and Directing Its Implementation in Water Board Programs and Activities 	
Contact Person:	Wendy Killou	wendy.killou@waterboards.ca.gov, (916) 449-5158

ITEM:	6	Approx. Time:
Title of Topic:	NEXT MEETING AGENDA	10 minutes
Purpose:	<p>Plan agenda for February 28, 2017 Monitoring Council meeting in Sacramento. Potential items include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Implementation of Assembly Bill 1755, the Open and Transparent Water Data Act and potential effects on Monitoring Council and workgroup data management activities (Christina McCready) b) Sacramento River Watershed Data Portal demonstration (Holly Jorgensen and Amye Osti) c) Estuary portal enhancements – living resources and D-1641 water quality report (Estuary Monitoring Workgroup) d) National nutrient data aggregation by USGS and loss of information due to inadequate metadata (Lori Sprague) e) The future of data – open data, data management plans, web services, data federation (Tony Hale of SFEI, Greg Gearheart) f) Interagency Ecological Program governance model – fostering ad hoc teams for specific tasks (Greg Erickson and Sakura Evans of CDFW) g) Assessing aquatic habitat connectivity and low-flow ecological thresholds (Robert Holmes, CDFW Water Branch) h) Data quality and data management standardization efforts of SWAMP (Melissa Morris, SWRCB) i) State stewardship for the National Hydrography Dataset by the Department of Water Resources (Greg Smith, DWR) j) Possibility of holding a Monitoring Council annual conference k) Monitoring Council strategic planning 	
Desired Outcome:	Develop agenda ideas for the February 28, 2017 meeting.	
Contact Person:	Jon Marshack	jon.marshack@waterboards.ca.gov , (916) 341-5514

ADJOURN