

California Wetland Monitoring Workgroup  
May 18, 2010 Meeting Minutes  
SFEI, Oakland

**Attendees:**

In attendance:

Bill Orme, State Water Board  
Chad Dibble, DFG  
Chris Potter, Resources Agency  
Cliff Harvey, State Water Board  
Craig Wilson, DFG  
Eric Stein, SCCWRP  
Jon Marshack, State Water Board  
Josh Collins, SFEI  
Melissa Scianni, USEPA  
Paul Jones, USEPA  
Tobi Tyler, Lahontan RWQCB  
Ross Clark, Coastal Commission

On phone:

Bruce Posthumus, S.D. RWQCB  
Bryant Chesney, NOAA Fisheries  
Chad Roberts, Humboldt Bay Hrbr  
Dist  
Chris Solek, SCCWRP  
Cori Farrar, USACE LA  
Eric Gillies, CA SLC  
Martha Sutula, SCCWRP

**Meeting Minutes from 10/13/2009** (Eric Stein)

- Meeting minutes have not yet been completed. Top action items read:
  - Memo from Council to CMMW will be drafted
  - Prepare presentations on L1 and L2 for mid-level managers
  - Provide QA on L2 committee to RB2
  - Establish Lyris list serve
- Minutes were approved in concept. Final minutes will be circulated.

**WRAMP**

Council Memo

- The memo was submitted to the Council and associates in April via email. Only two responses so far and both were positive. The next step is to have Council sign off on final version.
- Board of Governors from wetland recovery program is also going to approve the concepts in the memo.
- **Action Item:** Marshack will get Council sing-off on the memo.

Grant Status

- Resources Agency 104(b)(3) grant:
  - This grant is to design and demonstrate probability-based mapping (i.e. start S&T program for state). Tasks include, develop design,

train mapping partners, tech transfer (esp to DFG) by mapping 60 sites, intensify NWCA (by adding 20 sites and running CRAM), final technical report.

- CWMW generally agrees that focusing on a region is better than taking at statewide approach. Project still statewide (design, QAPP, SOPs, cost estimates, training). First step of implementation is to have a regional demonstration project in San Diego Regional Water Board (9) with the intention to move into to other regions.
- San Diego Regional Water Board (9) is willing to augment funding for the demonstration from SWAMP regional monitoring allotment.
- **Action Items:**
  - Add the revised Resources Agency grant and SWAMP funding augmentation above to the Council Memo as an example of interagency cooperation/coordination.
  - Create excel spreadsheet with pending and funded grants listed that will be posted on ftp site. Organizations can add their grants to the spreadsheet as wanted.
  - Have standing update item for grants.

#### Outreach to Joint Ventures

- CWMW needs to engage the JV's more. This should begin after State's Wetlands Report finished. FWS will be getting a NWI Regional Coordinator (focused on CA and NV). This person should be brought into CWMW.
- **Action Items:**
  - Bring regional NWI coordinator into CWMW.
  - Put item on next agenda to discuss strategy for engaging JV's. At a subsequent meeting bring JV's into meeting (need to also invite appropriate FWS person to meeting). Chris Potter will reach out to JV's to gage their interest in working with CWMW.

#### CA Wetland Program Plan Memo

- EPA Region 9 is requesting a coordinated Wetland Program Plan from CA. The plan from should identify how the state is going to address the main elements from EPA's memo and needs to include what actions/activities will be done, when, and by whom. Future funding requests to EPA under Section 104(b)(3) should address how the proposed project fits into the plan.

- Preferably plan would be signed by Natural Resources Agency and Cal/EPA Secretaries.
- **Action Item:** Chris Potter will start drafting Plan and CWMW will review the draft plan. Plan should be put on August Council agenda so that Council can recommend that Secretaries sign it. Chris will provide a draft to Melissa by July 1 for distribution to the larger group before our July 15 meeting.

### **Level 1 & 2 Committee**

- Both groups are having regular meetings.
- No action items.

### **CRAM Peer Review**

- State Board still finalizing response to review. Water Board's response and reviewers comments can be provided publically once Board is briefed.
- No action items.

### **Updates**

- Data Portal: Portals demonstrated to legislative staffers in April; feedback was positive.
- State's Wetlands Report: Resources Agency will transmit final draft to Governor once they work out final response to comments from JVs. Chris will put comments onto ftp site for people to look at.
- Wetland and Riparian Area Policy: Policy will be presented to Interagency Coordinating Committee (ICC) for review this month. There will be a stakeholder meeting at the end of June. EIR NOP will be released in June and the draft EIR is expected by end of year.
- NWCA: MLML will be lead to do field work.
- Corps Mitigation Standards Update: Corps is working on the internal draft. A draft will be available for agency review and input. RIBBITS (Corps/EPA/FWS mitigation banking database) close to ready for roll out. At some point we should discuss how RIBBITS could communicate to Wetland Tracker.
- Lyris List Serve: The list serve has been established and populated with all names from Wetland Policy List Serve. CWMW list serve names will be added. All final products will be sent through lyris list serve. We need to revisit CWMW charter to review role of the public and how our meetings whether our meetings should be open public access and participation.

- Logo: This is on the list for the State Board graphic artist.
- Oceans Conference: Will likely have two concurrent sessions dedicated to wetlands. Conference is Sept 7-10 in San Francisco. Registration will open by the end of May.
- Dry Land Streams: Workshop upcoming in southern CA. Working on developing arid stream CRAM.

### **Next Meeting**

July 15 at SCCWRP

Agenda:

- Wetlands Data Repository
- Outreach to JV's
- CA Wetland Program Plan
- Charter Update
- Updates:
  - Council Memo
  - Grant table
  - Lyris List Serve

### **2010 Meeting Dates**

January 14 @ SCCWRP

March 9 @ State Water Board

May 18 @ SFEI

July 15 @ SCCWRP

September 16 @ State Water Board

November 16 @ SFEI