

## California Water Data Consortium Steering Committee Meeting Notes

November 23, 2020

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

### Meeting Goals

- Review potential value propositions: introduce potential Consortium opportunity project, update on existing pilot projects
- Learn about AB 1755 and Consortium background
- Introduce Steering Committee Co-chairs role and selection process

### Meeting Documents

**Item 1.** Agenda

**Item 2.** Backgrounder on Delta Measurement Experimentation Consortium

**Item 5.** DRAFT Job Description for SC Co-Chairs

### Action Items

- Steering Committee members to reach out to Tara Moran and/or Debbie Franco regarding interest in pilot projects
- Dr. Moran to follow up with Steering Committee members regarding potential non-State representative co-chair candidates
- Steering Committee members to share feedback with Dr. Moran regarding items they would like to address during the third Steering Committee meeting on December 8, 2020

## High-Level Meeting Summary

### Welcome, Meeting Logistics, and Agenda

Tara Moran, President and CEO of the California Water Data Consortium (Consortium), welcomed participants to the second meeting of the Consortium Steering Committee. Ariel Ambruster, facilitator from the Consensus and Collaboration Program at California State University, Sacramento, gave an overview of the agenda and meeting agreements.

### Potential Opportunity: Delta Measurement Experimentation Consortium

Joone Lopez of the Moulton Niguel Water District and CWDC Board member; Michael George, Delta Watermaster; and Dr. Moran highlighted a potential opportunity for the Steering Committee to engage with the Delta Measurement Experimentation Consortium. Mr. George gave an overview of the project, which aims to help meet a regulatory requirement that all diversions in the Delta be reported within 10% of the actual volume diverted each year. It focuses on measuring crop evapotranspiration through satellite data to provide consistent, timely, and useful data. Mr. George shared some ways the Consortium might engage with the Delta Measurement Experimentation Consortium.

Steering Committee members shared the following feedback about the potential opportunity:

- Numerous participants expressed support for the Delta Measurement Experimentation Consortium's work and for the Consortium to connect with that work.
- A participant asked whether Mr. George had encountered any concerns about the effort.
  - Mr. George said that there is broad agreement that consistent, timely data is needed and all of the water agencies in the Delta support the effort.

## Pilot Projects

Dr. Moran and Glen Low, co-founder of Earth Genome, gave updates on the pilot projects discussed during the first Steering Committee meeting. Dr. Moran said that an important way for the Consortium to demonstrate its value is by developing projects, which will help the Consortium gain support to sustain its work. Interested participants were encouraged to get involved by reaching out to Dr. Moran or Debbie Franco of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research and Consortium Board Member, regarding the Lidar project or to Dr. Moran regarding the groundwater elevations and water use streamlining pilot projects.

## Consortium Background: Platform Federation and Data Portals

Steering Committee Member Chris McCready of the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) provided background on implementation of Assembly Bill 1755 (AB 1755, Dodd) and creation of the California Water Data Consortium from the State perspective, sharing the Open and Transparent Water Data Act Implementation Journal, which can be found at <https://dwr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=50323246e8d148a0a504038a0d40fb7f>.

Ms. McCready highlighted the following key points:

- AB 1755 implementation has a strong user focus, including examination of a diverse set of use cases to understand the various needs of decision-makers and system users.
- Eight State organizations are involved in implementation of AB 1755, including DWR, State Water Resources Control Board, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Water Quality Monitoring Council, Governor's Office of Planning and Research, California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA), California Government Operations Agency (GovOps), and Delta Stewardship Council. These implementing agencies, collectively referred to as the Partner Agency Team, have developed a strong working relationship bridging their distinct missions.
- Rather than building a completely new platform, two existing, State-hosted open data portals, one developed under CNRA and the other under GovOps, are leveraged through a federated open data system.

## Steering Committee Co-Chairs Job Description and Process

Dr. Moran reviewed the objectives and job descriptions for the two Steering Committee co-chairs. There will be two Steering Committee co-chairs: one State representative and one non-State representative. The Steering Committee will approve co-chairs during its third meeting. Dr. Moran asked Steering Committee members to consider who would best serve in the co-chair positions.

## Wrap Up and Next Steps

Dr. Moran reviewed the goals for the third Steering Committee meeting, scheduled for December 8, 2020. She asked Steering Committee members if they needed any additional tools or information necessary to carry out its work. Multiple participants thanked the team for the support and preparation provided thus far, including providing a SharePoint storage site for documents. Participants shared the following needs:

- Provide meeting materials further in advance to allow review time and focus discussions
- Offer more clarity and information to support the Committee to move to action, making decisions about projects and allocating resources e.g., group agenda items into decisional or informational

- Define the necessary next steps for the Steering Committee to work on the pilot projects and set aside time in the next meeting to make decisions on those projects
- Clarify what resources the Steering Committee has at its disposal to advance pilot projects

Dr. Moran said that some of this is still being defined and will be shared at the next Steering Committee meeting.

## Meeting Attendance

Participants who called in to the virtual meeting via telephone only are not included in this list.

### Steering Committee Members

- Deborah Agarwal
- Mike Antos
- Drew Atwater
- Christina Babbitt
- Martha Davis
- Joaquin Esquivel
- David Harris
- Nick Martorano
- Chris McCready
- Susan Tatayon

### Board Members

- Eric Averett
- Joya Banerjee
- Adrian Covert
- Debbie Franco
- Meredith Lee
- Joone Lopez
- Mike Myatt
- David Orth

### Consortium Staff, Volunteers, and Consultants

- Hannah Ake
- Ariel Ambruster
- Johnathan Cruz
- Rachelle Echeverria
- Glen Low
- Tara Moran
- Nancy Saracino
- Julia Van Horn
- Warren Teitz

### Other Participants

- Michael George
- Betsy Lichti
- Frank Prewozni
- Abe Serrano
- Charles Wilson