



California Water Quality Monitoring Council



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Secretary for
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ENDORSEMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SUMMIT WHITE PAPER

Dear Dr. Goodwin,

On behalf of the California Water Quality Monitoring Council (Monitoring Council), please accept our endorsement of the recommendations presented in the Environmental Data Summit white paper. On December 10, 2014 Dr. Rainer Hoenicke, Deputy Executive Officer for the Delta Science Program, presented an overview of the white paper. Following his presentation, the Monitoring Council voted to formally endorse the white paper as a distillation of the Monitoring Council's message in the area of data management that would improve understanding of these issues.

Consistent With Monitoring Council Recommendations

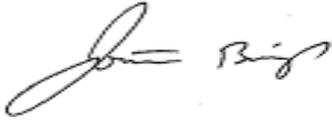
The main thrust of the paper directly supports data access and data management recommendations made by the Monitoring Council in our 2008 recommendations, *Maximizing the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Water Quality Data Collection and Dissemination*, and in our 2010 *A Comprehensive Monitoring Program Strategy for California*. Common principles include maintaining high data quality by housing data as close as possible to where it is generated, increasing access to data through a distributed but federated exchange network of agency data systems, increasing comparability within and between data types based on access to metadata that clearly documents data quality, and improving data integration through adoption of appropriate data standards and data visualization tools.

Opportunity for Integration with Existing Efforts

In several places within the white paper, reference is made to a "broad-based workgroup" to guide implementation of its recommendations. Because the

Monitoring Council has already formed a number of collaborative interagency workgroups and the goals of the white paper align so closely with those of the Council, we encourage the implementers of the vision described within the Environmental Data Summit white paper to pursue strategic partnership with the Council's workgroups, especially our Data Management Workgroup. Such a partnership would promote mutual success and preclude duplicative efforts.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Bishop, Chief Deputy Director
State Water Resources Control Board
Monitoring Council Co-Chair
Representing Cal/EPA



Stephani Spaar, Chief, Office of Water Quality
Division of Environmental Services
Department of Water Resources
Monitoring Council Co-Chair Alternate
Representing the Natural Resources Agency

cc: Members of the California Water Quality Monitoring Council
Rainer Hoenicke, Deputy Executive Officer for the Science Program, Delta Stewardship
Council