



**Winter Update Letter
January, 2010**

Dear Central Coast Wetland Managers and Scientists,

The members of the Central Coast Wetlands Group have been working hard since our last update was sent in June, and we are excited to share our progress in building a collaborative community of wetland scientists and resource managers. We are working with funding from EPA to continue to participate in regional wetland planning efforts. Our current work includes the following:

Wetland Tracker

The Central Coast Wetland Tracker has been updated with an additional 80 sites. The Wetland Tracker provides wetland scientists, managers, and the public information about the wetlands of selected regions of California as well as free public access to information about wetland projects, habitats, and habitat condition. Information on projects includes location, type (mitigation or non-mitigation), size, sponsors, status, and planned changes to habitat.

The web address is <http://www.wetlandtracker.org/tracker/cc>, please check it out.

Symposium

On October 23, 2009 we co-hosted a symposium titled "Watersheds, Water Quality and a Changing Climate" at Moss Landing Marine Labs with the MBNMS. The day consisted of four panels each with three speakers, focusing on Agriculture, Urban Pollution, Monitoring and Climate Change. After each panel there was an opportunity for discussion. The symposium ended with a wrap up by Dr. Jane Lubchenco followed by the Sip of the Sanctuary, celebrating agricultural stewardship and the 10th anniversary of the Agricultural Water Quality Alliance. The presentations are available on our website.

IRWMP

CCWG is still involved in the collaborative efforts with local wetland scientists, agencies and governments to create a Greater Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP). The effort has been moving along at a good pace, with Issues and Conflicts as well as Goals and Objectives for the region approved. For more information including upcoming public workshops, see the IRWMP section of the CCWG website.

Science Café

The members of CCWG gave a lecture for the December 9, 2009 Science Café at Moss Landing Marine Labs. The purpose of the talk was to demonstrate to interested members of the public the importance of advancing the coordination of wetland science and management on the central coast.

Upcoming Projects

CCWG in partnership with MLML has recently begun implementing a project to develop, verify and validate the seasonally tidal estuary module of CRAM. This effort will involve working with experts throughout the state, and the creation of a historical and current record of where these wetlands are located. We recently applied for and are waiting to hear about a NOAA Partnership Grant working with Coastal Conservation & Research, Elkhorn Slough NERR, Moss Landing Marine Labs, CSU Monterey Bay, California State Parks, University of California Santa Cruz Natural Reserves, Big Sur Land Trust, and The Garrapata Creek Watershed Council on multiple small scale projects. We have also partnered with the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, and the Resource Conservation District of Monterey County on a CWA 319h NPS grant concept proposal through The State Water Resources Control Board to improve water quality in the Lower Salinas River Watershed.

Do you have any questions? Want to contribute your ideas about the structure and function of CCWG? Interested in working together? Please contact Sierra Ryan at sperry@mml.calstate.edu with any ideas, questions or comments – we'd love to hear your feedback.