



News for Immediate Release
October 13, 2004

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State Enhances Web Site, Creates Central Location
For California Waterways Data

SACRAMENTO – A comprehensive access point for data related to the health of California’s waterways has been created at www.baydelta.ca.gov. Thanks to a joint effort by four state agencies and the Moss Landing Marine Laboratory the Web site has been enhanced to allow state waterways information to be available to users on an ongoing basis.

“Scientists, engineers, stakeholders, decision makers and the general public will all now have a place to gain information on the health of California’s waterways,” said Resources Agency Secretary Mike Chrisman. “This is a great step in allowing scientists and engineers access to the data they need to inform decision makers and the public about the health of our state’s water system.”

The California Resources Agency in partnership with the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA), the Department of Water Resources (DWR), the State water Resources Control Board and the Moss Landing Marine Laboratory have created a central location where waterways data may be retrieved. Previously, factual information had been located among various agencies making the data difficult to locate and retrieve. Inconsistent formats also required even more time to merge the data before analyses could be done.

Working together, the five entities implemented a data management and sharing system that consolidated environmental data from many different sources into a consistent format in one location. More than 50 other organizations currently contribute data voluntarily to the Web site. In addition, the state agencies and Moss Landing Marine Laboratories are using their combined resources to include information from more groups throughout the state in an ongoing expansion of their data sharing process.

Each of the five entities contributes to the Web site in different ways:

The Resources Agency’s CERES system (<http://ceres.ca.gov/>) facilitates the overall process by cataloging the various environmental monitoring programs throughout the state. Cal/EPA

is working with the U.S. EPA to integrate the state's environmental regulatory data. DWR manages data sharing for the network and provides distribution services to support the system.

The SWRCB created the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) that along with Moss Landing Marine Laboratories is gathering and combining data about surface water quality. SWAMP has developed standards required for water boards, or any group collecting environmental monitoring data, using funds from Propositions 13, 40 and 50. More information on the SWAMP Program is available at: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/swamp>

This effort will expand the information currently available through the California Data Exchange Center (CDEC). CDEC makes available river flow, snow survey, weather, and Delta water quality and related information at: <http://cdec.water.ca.gov> .

The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

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