

**Government Agency
Watershed Data and Information Needs Assessment**

Introduction (or in letter format signed by Resources/CalEPA Secretaries??)

This is a survey designed by the California Watershed Council's Data and Information Exchange Workgroup for state, federal and local government agencies in California. The survey is designed to help the California Watershed Council better understand what data and information you have that may be of assistance to local entities working on watershed restoration and management so that we can help facilitate interaction with and support of local watershed partners to meet the state's watershed restoration objectives. Also, we would like to know what your own data and information needs are relative to decisions that affect the health and condition of California's watersheds.

The California Watershed Council (CWC) was established by the Resources Agency and Cal/EPA to implement the **Watersheds, Clean Beaches and Water Quality Act** (AB 2534, Pavley, Chapter 727, and Statutes of 2002). This legislation established a new program, the Integrated Watershed Management Program (IWMP), for the purposes of improving water quality, fisheries and habitat, water supply reliability, river corridor recreation, forest and fuels management, and hydropower management, for reducing flooding, and for controlling erosion and sedimentation.

The **Watersheds, Clean Beaches and Water Quality Act** (AB 2534) also required that the two agencies – the Resources Agency and Cal/EPA – ensure coordination with other programs and establish a public stakeholder advisory process. The details of how the two agencies work together is outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Secretaries of both agencies.

The California Watershed Council was established on August 28, 2003, to facilitate the public advisory process required by AB 2534. The Council is charged with recommending CWC activities and priorities, and identifying the funding necessary to implement those priorities. The Council will also advise the Secretaries on specific watershed programs and related issues, such as funding opportunities, program effectiveness and efficiencies, regional partnership needs, technical assistance and capacity-building opportunities for watershed groups and citizen volunteers, information exchange, and implementation of the California Watershed Strategic Plan.

By completing and submitting your responses to this survey, you will be helping the State of California better meet your needs and those of local watershed groups throughout the state.

Thank you for contributing your time to making this effort a success.

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What software, if any, would an outside user need in order to make use of these sites?

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How would you categorize the level of GIS knowledge and/or expertise needed to make use of the interactive mapping capability on that site?

	A) No specific knowledge/experience necessary
	B) Some knowledge/experience necessary (<i>please specify</i>):
	C) Substantial GIS knowledge/experience necessary (<i>please specify</i>):
	D) Must be an expert to use this site.

3. Does your agency provide any GIS or other data/information services or training to outside users?

Yes No

If yes, who is the contact in your agency to discuss these services?

Name:	
Agency/Title:	
Mailing Address:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

4. In addition to web sites you may have already listed, please list any web sites you host that may be of use to others for watershed work (CWC may be able to provide links to these on future websites):

Your Web Site Addresses or URLs

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5. Please list any web sites hosted by others that you find useful in your watershed related work (CWC may be able to provide links to these on future websites):

Other Helpful Web Site Addresses or URLs

6. Is your agency's data and information referenced in or otherwise available through any of the following sites?

Catalog/Data Sites	Web address	Yes or No
California Environmental Information Catalog	http://gis.ca.gov/catalog/	
UC Davis Information Center for the Environment (ICE)	http://ice.ucdavis.edu	
California Legacy Project Digital Conservation Atlas	http://legacy.ca.gov/new_atlas.epl	
Other(s) <i>[please specify]</i> :		

7. Is your agency working on any new data projects (e.g. new or additional data collection, data updating, data sharing, data compatibility)?

Yes No

If yes, please briefly list and describe the project(s) below:

Project:
Expected Completion Date:

Project:
Expected Completion Date:

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Project:
Expected Completion Date:

Project:
Expected Completion Date:

8. Is there anything else you want the Watershed Council to know regarding data and information you make publicly available that may be of value to local watershed groups?

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9. How can the Watershed Council help facilitate your work in partnership with local watershed groups (e.g., coordination, communication, data, information, etc.)?

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10. Are you interested in becoming involved in the California Watershed Council?

Yes No Already Involved

If yes, please give us your contact information so we can add your name to our information/contact list.

Name:	
Agency/Title:	
Mailing Address:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

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11. Are you interested in becoming involved with the Data and Information Exchange or other CWC workgroups? If so, please check the workgroup(s) you are interested in and provide your contact information below, and we will add your name to the workgroup contact list.

Workgroup	Purpose	Interested
Data and Information Sharing	Identify information needs of watershed groups in the state and propose recommended solutions for better meeting those needs.	
Economics and Funding	Identify watershed group funding needs and assess state watershed granting programs' ability to meet needs; propose recommendations for meeting funding needs and improving coordination and implementation of future granting programs.	
Policy and Operations	Define CWC purpose and relationship with other related groups and efforts; propose recommendations for how best to coordinate and improve how different entities work together to address the California Watershed Management Strategic Plan and AB 2534 goals.	
Integrated Planning	Evaluate current state of permitting and watershed assessment/planning; propose recommendations for streamlining appropriate permitting processes and encouraging effective use of integrated watershed assessment and planning tools.	
Education and Outreach	Identify watershed-based outreach and educational needs – both in terms of education in schools and communities and education of watershed groups themselves – and propose recommendations for better meeting those needs.	

Name:	
Agency/Title:	
Mailing Address:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

What is your preferred method of participation?

- Attend meetings in person
- Attend meetings by telephone conference call-in
- Attend meetings via Internet telecast
- Attend meetings via videoconference (if you have a facility near you)