



California Water and Environmental Modeling Forum

Promoting Excellence and Consensus in Water and Environmental Modeling

916-833-6557 • PO Box 22529, Sacramento CA 95822 • cwemf@cwemf.org • www.cwemf.org

CWEMF's Technical Briefing Series

Purpose – The aim of CWEMF's Technical Briefing Series is educational; by presenting background and factual information on timely issues in a non-partisan atmosphere, we hope to facilitate the wider goal of building understanding, and eventually consensus, among the stakeholders for the technical basis for models used to analyze California's water-related problems.

Upcoming Event:
Weds. September 7th, 2011
8:30 AM to 12:15 PM
Natural Resources Building
1st Floor Auditorium
1416 9th St., Sacramento

Cost: \$50, Cash or check at door; PayPal at:
http://www.cwemf.org/workshops/Tech_Briefing1_BO.htm

CWEMF Members Free.

To register, please RSVP: cwemf@cwemf.org with "BO Briefing" in the subject line

Background and Technical Basis for the Biological Opinions

Background – Since their release, both the salmonid (NMFS, 2009) and delta smelt (USFWS, 2008) biological opinions (BOs) have generated considerable controversy and numerous legal actions. In this ½ day briefing from a diverse set of subject matter experts, our aim is to present pertinent background information to facilitate understanding of the biological opinions. Topics range from a legal overview to a discussion of each BO, concluding with recent modeling applications that illustrate implications of the BOs for Delta operations.

Briefing Schedule:

8:30 AMRegistration

9:00 AM *Welcome/Introduction*

Marianne Guerin, CWEMF

9:10 AM *Biological Opinion Litigation – Historical Background and the Law*

Laurence Kerckhoff, DWR

9:50 AM *Salmonid Biological Opinion*

Dave Vogel, Natural Resource Scientists, Inc.

10:30 AM *Delta Smelt Biological Opinion*

Chris Fitzer, AECOM

11:10 AM..... *Operational Effects of the Biological Opinions Using Planning Models*

Walter Bourez, MBK Engineers

11:50 AM..... *Modeling Turbidity for the Delta Smelt Biological Opinion*

Marianne Guerin, Resource Management Associates

12:10 PM *5-Minute Wrap-Up*