

California Environmental Education Interagency Network Meeting
September 18, 2014, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Headquarters
45211 Chiles Road, Davis, CA 95616

Meeting Leader: David Moore

Note Taker: Annie Kohut Frankel

Attendees:

Lesa Johnston - California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Donna Pozzi – California State Parks

Susan Knadle – Retired OEHHA

Michelle Ramirez – Department of Water Resources

Ed Wong – California Air Resources Board

Christy Porter Humpert – CalRecycle

Brian Brown – Water Education Foundation/Project WET

Calling in:

Adina Merenlender – UC California Naturalists Program

1. Check-in and Catch-up

Donna Pozzi moved to approve July 2014 minutes. Brian seconded. All passed.

Ed Wong: There will probably not be a meeting at Lawrence Hall of Science in 2015 as had been discussed. The Pepperwood facility is still a possibility with Adina Merenlender as a host.

2. Committee Reports

Administration and Organization

- At July meeting, Anne Stephens was working on edits to the CEEIN Handbook and Lana McAllister volunteered to complete them. Annie will follow up with them.
- Shaney Emerson has left her position. Her slots as well as some other remaining openings need to be filled in our 2015 meeting assignment sheet. Ed passed this around.
- Members are asked to forward final meeting minutes clearly marked as FINAL to Annie for posting on the CEEIN website.

Communications and Outreach

- NSTA/CSTA conference workshops have been approved for the Coastal Commission and Cal Recycle – December 4-6 in Long Beach.

- The CSTA 2015 conference will be in northern California. Jessica Sawko will be our speaker next month and wants to know what we'd like to hear about. Ed collected some requests from those present.
- Members are asked to forward education-related announcements (ideally with internet links for more information) to Annie for the CEEIN twitter account (@ceein4u).

Diversity, Leadership and Legislation

David Moore mentioned that there is bill relating to California DFW collecting entry fees from private vehicles on their lands.

3. Guest Speaker – Corky Quirk, Program Coordinator, Yolo Foundation

Anne Brice, co-director of Yolo Bypass Foundation, made a short introduction. Art is important to YBF. They just had a plein air event and hold many art activities, including an art show and silent auction at Bucks for Ducks. They hold a juried photography show. At the California Duck Days wetlands festival they have a kids' art show in conjunction with the USF&W Duck Stamp program.

Corky Quirk:

Discover the Flyway offers education opportunities for schools from Solano to El Dorado Counties.

In 1989 the process began to establish the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. It was founded in 1990 to preserve historic wetlands. It currently contains more than 16,000 acres, up from the original 3,700 acres.

YBF's role is to work with the community, and includes a working group of many stakeholders. YBF works in partnership with CA DFW. The area was originally federally managed, but is now managed by the state.

The Yolo Basin is a historically flooded area. The Yolo Bypass refers to the manmade structures. The Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area is 10 miles of the 40 mile bypass.

Flyway Nights are held once a month with speakers on wetland topics.

Monthly tours are held at the City of Davis wetlands and the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area.

Bat Talks & Walks are held during the summer season.

Demonstration wetlands are open at the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area headquarters.

Yolobasin.org has many resources.

2013-2014 school program field trips: 124 trips, 3,499 students, 6 counties.

Uses Discover the Flyway curriculum for science and social science.

There's an \$8 per student charge but they do not turn away students who can't pay.

YBF raises money for buses and offers \$250 mini-grants to schools.

Two teacher workshops are held per year. Teachers must come once before having a field trip. Serves K-12 but most are 2nd and 3rd grade.

14 science learning activities are available on a variety of topics. Teachers choose four to do during the field trip. Two social science units are available. Currently working on Common Core and NGSS correlations.

YBF holds an annual docent training – a three-week session plus on-going classes.

4. What's New in Your World

Adina – Offered the idea of a California Naturalist Program for Yolo Basin Foundation.

Christy – Last week the California Department of Education had its first NGSS California framework meeting. Jerry Lieberman is attending the meetings, though not officially on the committee. He's charged with promoting the Environmental Principles & Concepts in the framework. They were not in the first draft. Cal Recycle is funding Jerry's travel and Ten Strands is funding his time.

National Geographic Education is hosting a MOOC (massive online open course) for using EEI water units in October.

Brian – Sacramento State is hosting the National Association of Geoscience Teachers conference in October. It includes many field trips. Water Education Foundation's executive director is a keynote speaker.

The DROPS Grant (from the State Water Board) is open for school infrastructure funding. Applications must include an education component. Project WET Fall Gazette is out and addresses Project WET opportunities that might work well.

Many Project WET workshops are coming up in the next few months.

Michelle – Department of Water Resources Water Education meeting is happening in October. Michelle's department has been doing a lot of fairs, particularly on drought and flood preparedness.

The governor signed groundwater legislation, regulating groundwater 100 years after surface water was regulated in California.

Lesia – Project WILD in California was handed back to the national program. Six regional California coordinators have been hired.

Carol Singleton is the DFW contact for Aquatic WILD distribution.

The archery program is doing very well this year. It's PE, but can be cross-curricular to math and science.

The DFW website has a schedule of upcoming events.

Ed – On September 8 the Air Board helped coordinate a symposium on climate change negotiations. The current and previous governors presented, as well as two Nobel Laureates and many legislators. Webcast is available.

Annie – The 30th California Coastal Cleanup Day is Saturday September 20. We've introduced a new program of Schoolyard Cleanups, www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/schoolyard. Whale Tail Grants are open and due November 1, www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/plate/plgrant.html.

Donna – *Becoming California* is a PBS/KQED documentary series that she's been assisting with for many years. The show is airing on multiple channels this fall. www.calegacy.org/becoming-california/ PORTS facilitator training is happening now at Asilomar. Parks has contracted with the Sacramento County Office of Education to align PORTS to the Common Core. This is in progress.

California Naturalists Conference is at Asilomar next month. Donna and Ed will be attending. Donna will speak and mention CEEIN, and will distribute CEEIN brochures. The California State Parks 150th anniversary party is happening this month at the Stanford Mansion.

David – He was involved in a coho salmon rescue recently. Drought is having a huge impact on coho. There is a captive brood-stock program (like for condors). Fishing in the City is working on a drought poster that shows the impact on city environments.

Warm Springs Fish Hatchery is finishing an educational video.

Trout in the Classroom teachers must take part in training this winter. Eggs will be available in February.

The Sandhill Crane Festival takes place in Lodi November 7-9.

5. Meeting Wrap-Up

The October meeting will be October 16th at the new Water Education Foundation office at 1401 21st Street, Sacramento. Ed Wong is the meeting host and Brian Brown is the location contact. Susan Knadle is the note taker.

Action Items:

- Note takers/meeting leads from May and June 2014 meetings should forward final minutes to Annie for website.

- Annie will contact Anne Stephens and Lana McAllister about CEEIN Handbook revision.
- Ed will ask CEEIN members for questions/suggestions for next month's CSTA speaker.
- Donna will email air dates for Becoming California
- Ed will share webcast link to climate change symposium