

# Interagency Ecological Program's Data Management Workgroup: The "Charge" of the Workgroup

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## Background

A new Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) work group will be developed with a focus on Data Management. The intent of this document is to outline the concept and duties of the new workgroup.

The IEP's communication and engagement plan outlined the need for this group and the increasing demand for managing data generated from IEP monitoring and research will make this group a cornerstone for ensuring that all data and information generated are of a high quality and are consistent with management and science priorities. The IEP Data Management Workgroup (DM Workgroup) will coordinate and collaborate (where possible) with other similar efforts, such as those of the Water Quality Monitoring Council's Data Management Workgroup, thus ensuring that the IEP Data Management Workgroup's efforts are in line with the recommendations in the Delta Science Program's White Paper as well as other relevant initiatives and/or legal requirements that may develop moving forward.

## Purpose of the New Work Group

The IEP Data Management Workgroup is a multi-agency group established to address IEP's data management needs by setting internal procedures and guidelines, defining and implementing shared data standards across member agencies, facilitating data sharing in a timely manner, and coordinating with other data management teams in the Delta science community. Near-term and long-term goals have been identified, and the DM Workgroup will first address the data needs internal to the IEP followed by the external needs of IEP data users.

## Near-Term Goals: (about 1 year)

- Conduct an inventory of all data generated by IEP
- Draft mutually agreed upon procedures and guidelines for IEP data across 9 member agencies

- Develop data standards, including metadata, QA/QC, and interoperability

#### Mid-Term Goals: (about 2 to 3 years)

- Develop a system for tracking how IEP data is being used, and by whom
- Increased data visualization
- Improved data transparency
- Begin coordinating with other data management teams
- Improved access to IEP data (via the website?)

#### Long-Term Goals: (about 3 to 4 years)

- Create a position for an Information Manager/Data Steward
- Develop an IEP Data Management/Data Stewardship plan
- Develop a robust data sharing framework to facilitate increased synthesis of IEP data - between IEP member agencies, as well as partner organizations external to IEP

#### Next Steps

- Gain consensus from the IEP coordinator team (CT) and the science management team (SMT) for work group concepts and duties
- IEP's Program Support Team will solicit input from the CT and the SMT to determine the make-up of the team and the new team will develop a team charter following the goals above