

CALIFORNIA WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL MODELING FORUM

MINUTES OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

For September 19th, 2025

(This meeting was conducted online via Zoom meeting)

Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convener V. Bedekar will send an email to the full CWEMF Steering Committee list seeking volunteers for the Branding Subcommittee with the deadline to respond by October 1st, 2025. • Executive Director S. Roy will send out an email seeking volunteers for the 2026 CWEMF Annual Meeting Sessions Planning Subcommittee. • Past Convener J. Jankowski will coordinate with Website Subcommittee Chair K. Nam to get the presentations from the 2025 Annual Meeting posted to the CWEMF website. • Contingent on the next (second) CWEMF Webmaster interview not working out, N. Johns requests that Website Subcommittee Chair K. Nam send him the job posting for the CWEMF Webmaster in order for him to post on a bulletin board to solicit additional applicants at his place of employment. • Executive Director S. Roy will email the updated CWEMF mailing address to Website Subcommittee Chair K. Nam to update the listing on the website(s).
Motions Passed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasurer S. Tanaka moves to approve the April 25th CWEMF Steering Committee Meeting Minutes (Attachment 2-2), seconded by N. Johns and was approved by unanimous consent (18-0).

REFERENCES INCLUDED IN THE MEETING PACKET

1. Attachment 2-1: Executive Director’s Report For the September 19, 2025 Steering Committee Meeting. 1p.
2. Attachment: Minutes of the Steering Committee for April 25th, 2025. 10p.
3. Attachment: Treasurer’s Report, FY2025 SC Meeting: September 19, 2025. 1p.
4. Attachment: End of Fiscal Year 2024 Treasurer’s Report. 2p.
5. Attachment: CWEMF Meeting Attendance Summary (2019-2025). 1p.
6. Attachment 8-1: CWEMF Steering Committee Meeting Sep 19, 2025 Subcommittee on Workshops. 1p.

1. INTRODUCTIONS – DESIGNATE QUORUM / REVIEW ACTION ITEMS (BEDEKAR)

At 9:32 AM Convener V. Bedekar calls the CWEMF Steering Committee (SC) meeting to order and declares a quorum with 15 SC members in attendance along with the CWEMF Executive Director S. Roy. Convener V. Bedekar asks whether there are any proxy designations. Treasurer S. Tanaka is designated proxy for Josué Medellín-Azuara and Shyamal Chowdhury. N. Johns is designated proxy for Abdul Khan.

Convener V. Bedekar welcomes all SC members in attendance and welcomes the new CWEMF Executive Director (ED), Dr. Sujoy Roy. Convener V. Bedekar takes a moment to thank Past Convener J. Jankowski for leading CWEMF over the past two years in service as Convener and

for being involved with the leadership group over the last four years. Past Convener J. Jankowski thanks all for their involvement and he is looking forward to continuing to be a part of this organization.

Convener V. Bedekar refers to the Action Items listed on page 1 of the April 25, 2025 CWEMF SC meeting minutes. Convener V. Bedekar underscores that these were the action items from the *April* SC meeting held before the AM in May. Secretary B. Bray is currently drafting the minutes for the June 2025 SC meeting and is committed to having those ready for final review and approval in the next SC meeting scheduled for November 21, 2025. After a brief review, Convener V. Bedekar declares the action items have all been completed.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

- Executive Director's Report (Roy): Attachment 2-1, 2-2
ED S. Roy opens his report noting that this is his first meeting serving as the CWEMF ED and his first CWEMF SC meeting. He explains that the reason he has not participated in the SC in the past is because employees Paul Hutton and Katherine Heidel have served as representatives from his firm (Tetra Tech).

ED S. Roy continues his report by introducing himself noting he met with some of the SC members in April 2025 to discuss his interest in the CWEMF ED role. After he finished his Ph.D. in 1996, ED S. Roy started working with the firm Tetra Tech as his first job after graduate school. Through employment with Tetra Tech, he has had the opportunity to work on a variety of projects. He recognizes that staying with the same consulting firm for 30 years is not very common, although long tenure are not uncommon in the public sector. With Tetra Tech, ED S. Roy has felt he had benefitted from both stability from an employment perspective, and a great deal of intellectual diversity. He is delighted to take on the role of the CWEMF ED.

He is quite familiar working on a variety of California and western water issues, having worked on a wide range of topics over the years, such as groundwater, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) water quality issues and water quality issues in estuaries both here and in Southern California. He has been actively involved in both applied research elements and in regulatory changes, such as those for TMDLs. A big focus of his work is specifically focusing on constituents like nutrients and mercury.

Much of his work in the past 15 years has been focused on a range of detailed issues related to the Delta. Issues have ranged from historic constituent trends (*e.g.*, salinity), to modeling individual constituents, to supporting the MWQI program. Hence, he feels very confident that his professional work history is aligned with the focus of CWEMF. He recognizes there is not a complete overlap, but that there are a lot of areas of commonality. ED S. Roy continues recognizing that he has viewed CWEMF as a great library of resources where one can research the evolution of specific modeling efforts over decades. As such CWEMF represents a huge resource to the community. This recognition is part of his motivation for serving as ED to help sustain the intellectual body of work CWEMF represents for the next generation of new professionals starting in our field. In closing ED S. Roy expresses his

appreciation to the SC for their confidence in him in offering him the position as he is hopeful that he will meet expectations. Finally, ED S. Roy encourages CWEMF members to call or email him to talk about CWEMF business, noting that some have already done so. Convener V. Bedekar responds that we (CWEMF's SC) are thankful that S. Roy accepted the ED position and that the membership is looking forward to working with him.

ED S. Roy refers to the Executive Director's report for the June 20 Steering Committee Meeting (Attachment 2-1). He reports that several of the major tasks involved with transitioning the ED role have been completed in collaboration with Treasurer S. Tanaka. ED S. Roy has been added to the CWEMF bank accounts. He and Treasurer S. Tanaka have reconciled all the final invoices and payments associated with the 2025 Annual Meeting (AM). ED S. Roy reports that he spent some time reviewing the administrative files and familiarizing himself with the archived records. ED S. Roy continues to work with Paul Hutton to gain access to a few of the CWEMF organizational accounts with various platforms. In closing ED S. Roy welcomes any follow-up to discuss any administrative tasks.

ED S. Roy turns to report that the 2026 AM dates (Monday April 20 through Wednesday 22, 2026) are locked in with Lake Natoma Inn (see attachment 2-1). Also, Ali Taghavi has made the reservation for the Robert H. Miller Rotary Club venue in Folsom for the evening social and business meeting (Monday April 20, 2026).

Finally, ED S. Roy reports that there was not enough interest in the CE-QUAL-W2 workshop. Hence the workshop is canceled, although CWEMF may try to conduct the workshop later in 2026 (see item 8 Workshops Subcommittee report for more information).

- Secretary's Report (Bray):
Secretary B. Bray reminds the SC that he was unable to attend the last SC meeting on June 20th, 2025. Hence the June SC meeting minutes will be prepared for review and approval in the next SC meeting in November. Secretary B. Bray refers to the April 25th, 2025 SC meeting minutes in the agenda packet (Attachment 2-2). He takes a moment to explain how the roll call vote was integrated with the attendance as an efficient way to document the vote. He takes a moment to explain the meaning of the formatting for recording the vote (see page 10 of Attachment 2-2). There were no questions and no further discussion of the minutes.

Treasurer S. Tanaka moves to approve the April 25th CWEMF SC Meeting Minutes (Attachment 2-2), seconded by N. Johns and was approved by unanimous consent (18-0).

- Treasurer's Report (Tanaka): Attachment 2-3.
Treasurer S. Tanaka refers to the first report for fiscal year 2025 (Attachment 3-1). She notes that the account balances are small because the fiscal year started recently on July 1st, adding that the report is current up to September 8th, 2025. There were no questions on the report.

Treasurer S. Tanaka refers to the end of fiscal year¹ 2024 report and summarized the net revenue and expenses emphasizing there were no unaccounted-for revenue or expenses.

¹ Running from July, 1 2024 through June 30, 2025

Treasurer S. Tanaka reminds the SC that there were two AMs in the last year, which is an explanatory factor for the net revenues and expenses relative to previous years. There was no change in the peer review, operating reserve, and Fischer Endowment funds, only the interest earned on the accounts. There was some additional discussion regarding the trends over time.

Treasurer S. Tanaka reports on a few additional items.

- Bank account administrators have been updated to remove Paul Hutton and add S. Roy.
- Filed a change of address with the Secretary of State regarding our non-profit organization's statement of information from the P.O. Box to the Tetra Tech office in Lafayette.
- With respect to the registry of charitable trusts, Treasurer S. Tanaka will wait until the taxes are complete, submitted, and accepted. At that time, she plans to update the address.
- Treasurer S. Tanaka reports that she has also started registration with MyFTB, a registration with the CA Franchise Tax Board that will be completed once she receives a letter with the pin number. Once completed, she can proceed with the registration of charitable trust due by the end of November.
- E-filed fiscal year 2024 federal tax forms and mailed the completed CA State tax forms as well. She received notice that the IRS has accepted the tax forms through H&R Block confirmation.
- This was the first fiscal year that CWEMF registered more than \$200,000 in revenue. As a result, the full 990 tax form was required rather than the EZ form. Given this and that CWEMF is transitioning the ED position, she looked into online or cloud-based system alternatives that would allow organizational financial accounting to be accessed by both the ED and Treasurer. After reviewing the options, Treasurer S. Tanaka decided to move CWEMF financial accounting over to QuickBooks. There is a group called TechSoup, a non-profit software distributor. Google uses TechSoup to verify organizational non-profits status. Through TechSoup, a variety of software can be licensed at a discount to registered non-profits. She registered for a one-year license for QuickBooks for up to five users at a cost of \$80. She has endeavored to port all the CWEMF financial information into QuickBooks. She adds that the SC should expect some differences in the appearance and layout of future Treasurer Reports as she gets familiar with the software reporting features. While she is hopeful that the change in financial software should help with the taxes, however, she notes that QuickBooks is licensed by Intuit and it is not compatible with H&R block. Nonetheless, she will work through that issue when filing taxes next year.

Treasurer S. Tanaka asks if there are any questions regarding her report. N. Johns responds expressing his appreciation for her efforts with other SC members concurring.

ED S. Roy asks whether it may be worthwhile to extend the CWEMF Post Office (PO) Box rental for a little longer because he is concerned some of the changes in accounts or accounting software might be tied to that address. Treasurer S. Tanaka responds that she does

not believe there will be an issue as she filed a change of address form when she filed the taxes, for example, and completed the updated statement of information. She has been using the treasurer@cwemf.com email address for correspondence and Paul Hutton also arranged to have the mail forwarded to the new address. She believes correspondence should come to the new address or the CWEMF email, hence extending the PO Box rental is unwarranted (at least from the financial accounts communication perspective).

Past Convener J. Jankowski wonders whether the website may contain references to the PO Box address and needs to be updated. Treasurer S. Tanaka acknowledges that the old address was used in document headers and was listed on the website noting that there will need to be a review of the website and potential updates to the new address necessary.

7. BRANDING SUBCOMMITTEE (OPEN DISCUSSION)

As a point of order, V. Bedekar can only attend this SC meeting this morning for one hour. Vice Convener N. Osorio has agreed to step in and run the meeting in his absence. Before Convener V. Bedekar leaves the meeting, he exercises the discretion of the chair to take up one item from the agenda out of order. Convener V. Bedekar has assembled a running list of the subcommittees as well as the membership roster including the chair. Convener V. Bedekar shares his draft list with the SC and requests that he be informed of any changes or necessary updates to ensure his list is accurate and up to date.

Convener V. Bedekar then moves to take up the Branding Subcommittee report. As chair, Convener V. Bedekar appeals to the SC members seeking volunteers to join the Branding Subcommittee. He continues providing a brief update. He has met with consultant Paul Vega and Website Subcommittee chair K. Nam several times since the last SC meeting (June 20th, 2025). One major task is updating the CWEMF website, hence his coordination with the Website Subcommittee and including chair K. Nam in the meetings. There are several decisions to be made on the contract that Paul Vega has sent, hence Convener V. Bedekar appeals to the SC seeking any volunteers that would like to join the subcommittee and take up the business of the subcommittee. He encourages the SC membership to participate and is making an effort to be intentionally inclusive in that process. Convener V. Bedekar states that he likes to work towards deadlines and has set a deadline for the end of September. Please reach out to him if interested in joining the subcommittee; if he doesn't hear from anyone by October 1st, he intends to proceed as a subcommittee of one.

T. Kadir responds recalling that the Branding Subcommittee was formed and chaired by a member that had a passion for the subject matter. Now, for a variety of reasons, Convener V. Bedekar has become the chair. He continues commenting that if SC members have no passion for the subcommittee there is no need for the subcommittee to conduct business although he expresses his appreciation that Convener V. Bedekar is willing to proceed as a single member. T. Kadir recommends Convener V. Bedekar consider dissolving the ad-hoc Branding Subcommittee if no members volunteer by October 1st. Convener V. Bedekar responds that the reason he assumed the chair is that there is still some business that needs to be completed and there is an already approved budget for completing some of the prioritized work based on his correspondence with Branding Subcommittee past chairs B. Geske and A.

Khan. He believes there are some tasks that can be readily accomplished with the available budget and will be beneficial to CWEMF in general. The biggest hurdle is to find a webmaster or website developer that can collaborate on some updates and improvements to the website. This is why he has also been in discussions with Website Subcommittee chair K. Nam. They have broken the goal down into two separate roles. One is to revamp the website and bring it up to date consistent with the needs of the branding effort. Second is maintaining the website. Website Subcommittee chair K. Nam has been fulfilling the second role of maintaining the website in the absence of the webmaster role. If CWEMF can recruit an individual that can fulfil both roles, that would be ideal. If not, then there may be a natural split between them. In Convener V. Bedekar's view, this is a good example of where he sees an opportunity for the Branding Subcommittee to move an initiative forward. T. Kadir clarifies that he is supportive of wrapping up the business of the subcommittee, however, he is thinking more long-term. Once those loose ends are tied up, he asks Convener V. Bedekar to consider sunsetting the subcommittee.

Treasurer S. Tanaka recommends sending an email to the SC to seek volunteer participation with the deadline to respond included, Convener V. Bedekar agrees. [ACTION ITEM]

ED. S. Roy asks whether the Branding Subcommittee effort is broader in scope than the website updates described. Convener V. Bedekar responds that the effort is much broader than the website, actually there are a number of items. Everything is on the table in terms of different actions. The idea as a subcommittee is to assess the list developed through previous subcommittee meetings and discussions, acknowledging there is a limit to the scope, and to prioritize the actions that are achievable within a defined budget. Past Convener J. Jankowski agrees and thanks Convener V. Bedekar for stepping up to move that forward. Convener V. Bedekar closes the item commenting that the reason for the deadlines is that previous ED Paul Hutton suggested working towards completion of the priority work by the next AM in April. He is looking to set some milestones that can be checked off along the way to ensure progress by the next AM.

ACTION ITEMS

3. 2026 ANNUAL MEETING PLANNING (ROY)

- Presentation Files (Jankowski)
Past Convener J. Jankowski confirms that he can continue to assist in gathering the presentation files and volunteer his time to fulfill that role.
- Audio-Video Recordings (Nam)
K. Nam reports that he intends to proceed with the same approach to capturing and recording audio next year as was done for the 2025 and 2024 AMs. If we have a new webmaster, he will work with them on the video editing and posting work after the 2026 AM concludes.

ED S. Roy reports that Tetra Tech will continue to provide laptop equipment necessary to help conduct the AM for speakers to facilitate their presentation content.

N. Johns as former member of the Sessions Subcommittee recalls how the previous ED Paul Hutton worked closely with the Sessions Subcommittee to develop ideas and make logistical decisions related to organizing the AM. To N. Johns, it seemed as though there were unwritten timelines around the planning leading up to the AM, such as when certain emails need to be sent out to solicit input on session ideas or open registration.

ED S. Roy responds that he is generally familiar with the timeline. Yet going from a blank paper to a meeting layout that is supplemented by the feedback you get from potential attendees is still nebulous. ED S. Roy has access to Paul Hutton to supplement his understanding. Additionally, he wonders whether there is anything the SC would like to bring to this 2026 AM that would help shape the overall direction.

Past Convener J. Jankowski, chair of the Awards Subcommittee, comments that the solicitation of nominations is part of the ED's timeline of items to prepare. Generally, the call for nominations goes out at the same time as the request for session proposals, although the request is made in a separate communication. Convener J. Jankowski seeks input on a proposal that CWEMF announce a competition to submit themes and associated cover art, and offer a prize for the selected winner. He adds that last year CWEMF utilized generative AI and he is sensitive to a negative comment received regarding its use (see AM 2025 Survey Results Question 10). Rather, he would like to encourage the creativity of the membership and offer an incentive for doing so. N. Johns agrees it would be an interesting idea. Past Convener J. Jankowski advocates for a simple process and have the SC select the winners. Although it will depend upon the quality and number of submissions, noting that the SC has had variable success with similar requests in the past.

T. Kadir responds to the comment on the theme and the use of regenerative AI for cover art. T. Kadir has assisted with the cover art over the past few years including the use of generative AI images that were contributed. T. Kadir respectfully disagrees with the negative feedback on using generative AI. It is unrealistic to expect an artist to sit down and craft an original drawing or painting. Assuming there will be a competition among the membership, he thinks that most people will be copying and pasting photographs or snippets from the internet to develop their submissions. He argues that this approach is not fundamentally different than using generative AI for developing images through prompts, which is really just another available tool in our toolboxes. Also, generative AI could help CWEMF avoid copyright infringement claims or related issues.

ED S. Roy responds that he is willing to support a competition for the theme and cover art whether internal or external to CWEMF. On the one hand the competition may bring in interest to CWEMF beyond our members interested in the incentive, on the other hand we run the risk of getting a poor response and may need to turn to another option if the submissions are not adequate for our needs.

- Date(s) for 2026 AM (Roy) 4/20/2026 to 4/22/2026
The 2026 AM dates are set for April 20th through April 22nd, 2026 at LNI in Folsom, CA.
- Sessions Format for 2026 AM (Roy)

[There was no discussion under this item.]

- SC Comments & Recommendations for 2026 (Open Discussion)

Before departing the meeting, Convener V. Bedekar asks SC members to think more broadly in terms of the question of improvements to the AM for 2026².

Vice Convener N. Osorio reports that we are looking for SC members to volunteer for the Program Subcommittee to assist with planning for the 2026 AM. She adds that we are also seeking volunteers that would like to participate in the Awards Subcommittee. The keynote speaker nomination is yet another topic open for discussion. The AM theme lead volunteer needs to be designated, which R. Satkowski had handled in the past. Also, setting the date for sending the call out for abstracts and session moderators, as well as the call for award nominations will need to be determined by the SC.

ED S. Roy comments that if a sessions subcommittee has not been formed, he recommends forming one to coordinate with him on the 2026 AM planning. He could send out an email seeking volunteers for the Sessions Subcommittee. [ACTION ITEM] While the Awards Subcommittee is formed, perhaps he should solicit the members for keynote speaker suggestions as well. He closes by echoing Convener V. Bedekar's closing comment; is there anything we need to change in the planning or execution of the next AM?

A. Huber shares that the theme is typically a reflection of current events but does not always drive the content of the presentations. Rather, the theme is just a reflection of something happening in that current year. With respect to the membership cover art competition concept, if the theme is provided to the members, members may respond with cover art submissions regardless of a prize; maybe input can be sought without offering a prize. Past Convener J. Jankowski responds that he was looking to use a prize as a way to encourage or incentivize creative submissions and participation. ED S. Roy believes that the incentive would encourage participation from non-members also. Past Convener J. Jankowski adds that there will need to be a timeline with decision points thinking through how the process may need to adapt depending on the quality or number of submissions.

Treasurer S. Tanaka seeks to clarify whether the theme and cover art competition would be open to our membership or the public writ large and whether the competition would seek submissions for both the theme and the cover art as opposed to providing the theme and seeking submissions of cover art under that theme. Past Convener J. Jankowski clarifies that providing the theme is a good idea and he was thinking of opening up the competition to only the CWEMF membership. ED S. Roy views the theme as more open ended. When he looks back at the AM cover art, he feels that the theme is clear in some years such as the 30th anniversary yet in other years the themes are not aligned with the conference. Looking forward, the cover art could be more generic to the core issues of CWEMF such as the water and environment. That same idea could be used in future years as well. If the theme does not define the content of the conference he wonders whether a theme is a necessary prerequisite

² After making this closing remark, Convener V. Bedekar then ceded the role of meeting chair to Vice Convener N. Osorio and logged off the online meeting.

for every conference. Past Convener J. Jankowski agrees that a theme does not necessarily guide the content, however, when serving as convener, he attempted to incorporate the theme into his welcome letter drafted for the meeting. Yet with that said, he agrees with the notion that a theme may ultimately be unnecessary.

N. Johns shares his experience that during the lunches there are not enough chairs or places for attendees to enjoy their lunches. N. Johns asks whether this is an issue that can be raised with LNI to improve upon and ensure adequate seating based on the final or anticipated head count. ED S. Roy acknowledges the request and will inquire with LNI.

Past Convener J. Jankowski comments that LNI always runs out of vegetarian lunches before the other options. Treasurer S. Tanaka responds in Paul Hutton's absence that Paul Hutton provided estimates of each kind of lunch to LNI, noting it is very difficult to give the accurate count. She is aware he has been increasing the estimates for the vegetarian option in recent years, but, again, it is simply difficult to forecast in advance.

P. Khataavkar wonders whether the attendee preference can be stated as part of the registration process. Treasurer S. Tanaka comments that adding a query is a possibility, although it is unclear how the individual registration timeline is coordinated with the need to submit the orders in advance to the venue. Consider that lunch is only provided to attendees that respond by the early registration deadline allowing for the order to be placed in advance.

Vice Convener N. Osorio comments that the keynote speaker is generally determined through a discussion by the SC where members make suggestions. If the thought is to request submissions or suggestions from the members, then a timeline is necessary for setting decision points in case planners need to change course if submissions are not coming in or are inadequate. It was noted that food preference could be added as part of the registration form as well.

For further consideration, A. Huber adds that the keynote speaker sometimes chooses the theme or incorporates the theme into their presentation. Yet again, a theme could be unnecessary but is a creative and fun aspect of planning the AM in her view.

Secretary B. Bray raises an issue with the business meeting & social, specifically organizing around food, refreshments, ice as well as volunteers to help set up and clean up. Treasurer S. Tanaka responds that an ad-hoc subcommittee of volunteers could be formed to address the planning and logistical loose ends closer to the AM. Treasurer S. Tanaka adds that she had drafted notes to use as a starting point for improving the planning for next year. A. Taghavi confirms that the reservation has been made to reserve the venue for the evening of Monday April 20th, 2026. He recalls a comment that was discussed after the business meeting & social in 2025 was the logistics of the food, ice, and drinks. Perhaps catering is an option to consider and would lessen the reliance upon volunteers. Vice Convener N. Osorio agrees that while CWEMF may have saved money using volunteers and handling the food logistics ourselves, catering could be a good alternative. With next year being the second time at the venue, the business meeting & social should also run more smoothly. The number of

members that need to run errands could be consolidated. Formation of an ad-hoc planning committee is tabled until a later SC meeting, closer to the AM.

In the interest of time, further discussion was tabled.

[As a point of order, ED S. Roy seeks a change in the agenda moving forward agenda item 8 because Workshops Subcommittee Chair T. Kadir needs to depart from the meeting before the meeting is scheduled to conclude. There were no objections. Hence the next item in the minutes will reflect agenda item 8 Workshops subcommittee report.]

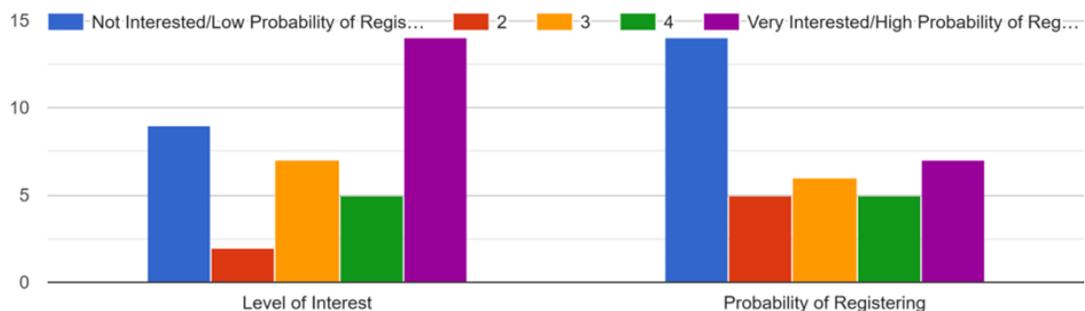
8. WORKSHOPS (KADIR): ATTACHMENT 8-1

T. Kadir opens his report stating he did not attend the June SC meeting and may unintentionally provide some information that was presented before. T. Kadir refers to Attachment 8-1 from the agenda packet. The only workshop currently scheduled is the CE-QUAL-W2 workshop that was scheduled for two and a half days with Zhong Zeng (Portland State University). Unfortunately, only five individuals have registered for the workshop. Ten to fifteen individuals are necessary for the workshop to break even or be profitable. Hence, the workshop planners decided to cancel the CE-QUAL-W2 workshop scheduled for this year and will try again next year in 2026.

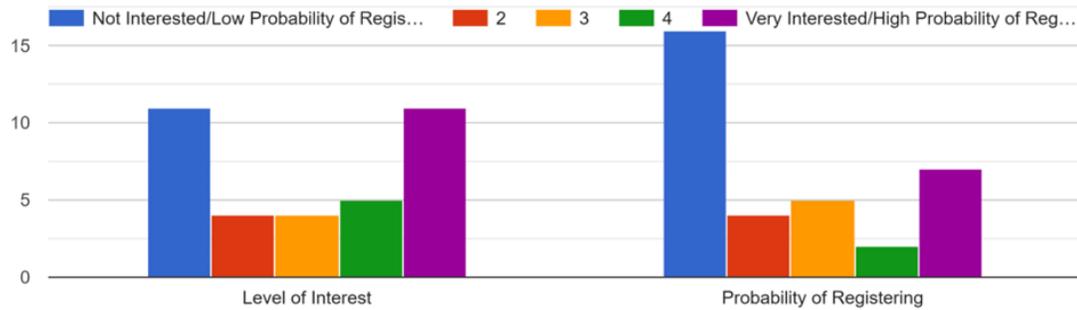
T. Kadir continues that there is a set of four workshops related to MODFLOW under planning and development by Chris Langevin with S.S. Papadopoulos & Associates (SSPA). There was a survey that was sent out to assess interest. T. Kadir is unsure if the results of the survey were shared in the June SC meeting; he is prepared to do so at this time.

There were four workshops proposed by SSPA related to MODFLOW 6 and its modules noting that the workshops get more technically advanced moving from the first to the fourth on the attached list. Honorariums and other atypical costs associated with the workshop were factored into the registration cost estimate. T. Kadir highlights the survey results where it first included a brief description that included the cost to register and assessed the **level of interest** and **probability of registering** for each of the four workshops in the series. T. Kadir highlights the survey results generalizing that while there is notable interest in the workshop, the likelihood of registering is not high and tends to decrease slightly with the workshop complexity.

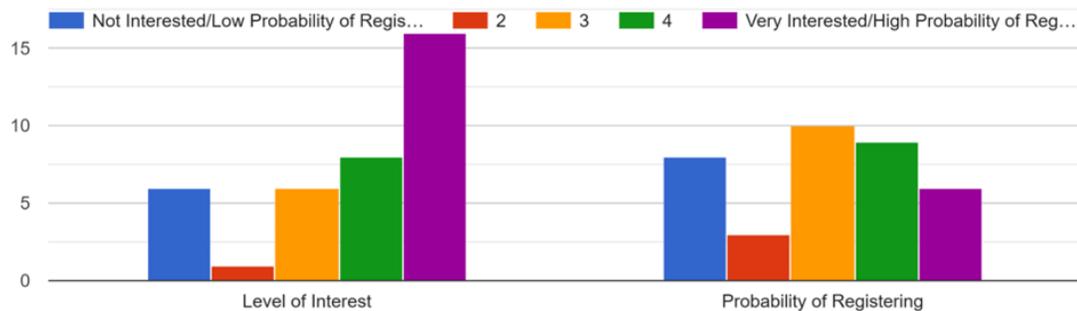
Workshop #1: Overview of MODFLOW 6 Capabilities and Associated Python Workflows (1-day, cost \$275-\$300)



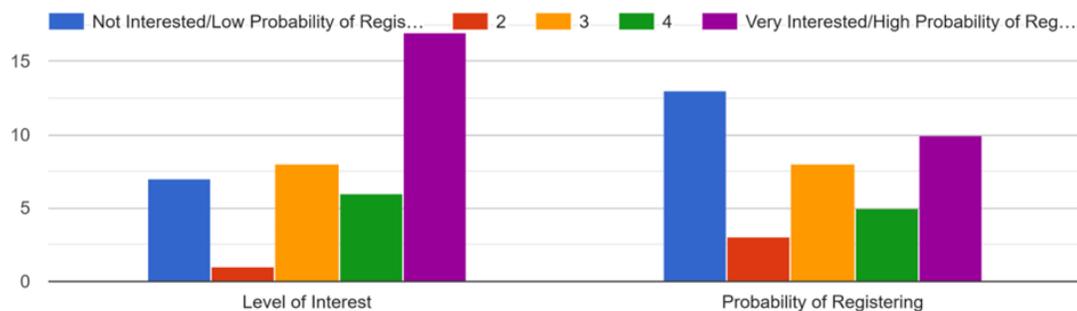
Workshop #2: Introduction to Groundwater Modeling with MODFLOW (2-days, cost \$375-\$425)



Workshop #3: Advanced Groundwater Modeling with MODFLOW (2-days, cost \$375-\$425)



Workshop #4: MODFLOW 6 and Python workflows for developing MODFLOW models (2 -days, cost \$375-\$425)



[MODFLOW 6 Workshops Interest Survey Results Via Screenshare by Workshops Subcommittee Chair T. Kadir.]

In closing, T. Kadir reports that there is very strong interest in the MODFLOW workshops. There are still some potential logistical issues with USGS employees involved in the training and possible constraints on their ability to travel and instruct the workshop. His contact for the workshop, Chris Langevin (SSPA), is to follow up and finalize planning for the workshop with former members of the USGS.

P. Khatavkar asks about the process of proposing a workshop, such as a workshop on the DSM2 model. T. Kadir responds that usually he is contacted via email with a workshop proposal including the time, any cost considerations, how many days, potential location, *et cetera*. The Workshops Subcommittee considers the proposal. If the proposal is feasible and reasonable, T. Kadir presents the workshop proposal at the next SC meeting for approval. If successful, the workshop goes onto the schedule and the planning transitions to registration in coordination with the ED. P. Khatavkar seeks additional clarification about how workshops are proposed. T. Kadir reiterates, either through a proposal via email sent to him and considered through the process he has described, or through a questionnaire seeking input on potential workshop topics that are typically used to gauge interest before finalizing planning and moving to approval by the SC and registration with the ED.

P. Khatavkar reports that the leadership at Stantec can offer their office as a potential venue for conducting workshops. Once a potential CWEMF workshop plan moves forward, then potential venues are considered. T. Kadir provides some additional background information on venues used in the past. T. Kadir would like to visit the Stantec office and will add it to his list for consideration in the planning for future workshops. T. Kadir requests that P. Khatavkar contact him offline and coordinate a meeting to discuss further.

T. Kadir closes extending his congratulations to new ED S. Roy and to Convener V. Bedekar as he did not attend the last SC meeting in June (June 20, 2025) as well as Vice Convener N. Osorio noting he has now passed over the role of Past Convener to J. Jankowski as well.

4. REVIEW OF PAST MEETING ATTENDANCE (STUDENTS, COMMERCIAL, AND GOVERNMENT ENTITIES) (SLAWECKI)

T. Slawecki prepared the attached analysis breaking down the registration demographics going back five AMs (see p. 16 of the agenda packet). ED S. Roy introduces the information in the attachment, highlighting the information and opens the topic up for discussion. Past Convener J. Jankowski reiterates a previous recommendation that CWEMF could boost participation through a targeted communication with different university professors to increase and improve participation from the academic membership sector. Academic professors tend to be good about spreading the word to their students and encouraging them to give talks or propose posters and participate in the CWEMF AM. ED S. Roy agrees and can see himself as a point of contact for helping facilitate outreach. Vice Convener N. Osorio agrees, and would like to assist with outreach to her alma mater UC Davis. R. Satkowski comments that Professor Jay Lund had historically provided a list of professors that would help us do targeted outreach to the students and professors highlighting the reduced student rates. Any SC members that want a copy of the dataset assembled by T. Slawecki can reach out to Past Convener J. Jankowski via email.

5. WEBSITE SUBCOMMITTEE – NEW WEBMASTER SEARCH (NAM)

Website Subcommittee chair K. Nam reports that one candidate was interviewed. The candidate was under the impression that the Webmaster position was an unpaid volunteer position and when informed it was a paid position with certain responsibilities, the candidate withdrew their application. Hence the webmaster position remains unfilled. In the interim, Website

Subcommittee chair K. Nam is handling the maintenance functions and minor updates. He closes by reporting that he hopes to conduct the second interview with Convener V. Bedekar soon and will report back after doing so.

Past Convener J. Jankowski reports that he has the presentation pdfs from the 2025 AMs via Vice Convener N. Osorio. He is awaiting presentation files from three sessions. Once received, he will have all those compiled to the Google drive. He will coordinate with Website Subcommittee chair K. Nam to get those posted. [ACTION ITEM]

N. Johns requests the job posting for the CWEMF Webmaster if the next interview does not work out so that he may post on a bulletin board to solicit additional applicants. [ACTION ITEM]

ED S. Roy to send the updated CWEMF mailing address to Website Subcommittee chair K. Nam to update the information on the website. [ACTION ITEM]

INFORMATION ITEMS

6. STRATEGIC PLAN (JANKOWSKI)

Past Convener J. Jankowski, requests assistance from members that attended the retreat. He plans to send out an email communication to engage with them to assist with finalizing the draft documents that have been under collaborative development. He is also planning an email blast to the membership to seek any additional volunteer participation and/or interest for the effort and acknowledges A. Taghavi as a recent member of the Subcommittee. The strategic plan has been drafted, and he will be seeking their review as well as their input on some action plan ideas. The current subcommittee membership roster is Vice Convener N. Osorio, Shyamal Chowdhury, Will Anderson, Yiwei Cheng, and Ali Taghavi. Past Convener J. Jankowski adds that Paul Hutton was involved but it is unclear whether he will be able to continue to participate in his new role with DWR. He will solicit the Strategic Plan Subcommittee members to set a meeting and will keep pushing forward.

7. BRANDING SUBCOMMITTEE (OPEN DISCUSSION)

[see previous report]

9. MODEL USER GROUPS (NAM)

K. Nam reports he has no updates regarding the Delta Modeling Users Group; there has been no meeting since the last SC meeting, and no plans are set for the next meeting.

Vice Convener N. Osorio reports that the Calsim Users Group just had their meeting the day before online (September 18, 2026). The meeting was digitally recorded. If any SC members want to be part of the Calsim Users Group meeting list to let Vice Convener N. Osorio know via email. There is also an MS Teams Team group where they upload presentation files and meeting recordings. The next meeting has not been set but will likely be in December or January.

10. OTHER BUSINESS (ALL)

Treasurer S. Tanaka reports that the farewell luncheon for Paul Hutton is tentatively scheduled after the next SC meeting in November on either the 14th or the 21st depending on which will work better for in-person meeting and having lunch after the meeting. After some discussion it was decided to offer both dates to Paul Hutton and lock in the one that works best for him.

11. NEXT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING – NOVEMBER 14, 2025

Secretary B. Bray Advises that a new meeting notice under the new ED S. Roy be sent out to supersede the meeting notice from former ED Paul Hutton and to please ensure the notice is updated if November 21st as necessary.

12. ADJOURN 11:30AM

Respectfully Submitted
Ben Bray, Secretary, CWEMF

ATTENDANCE

Vivek Bedekar	Convener	S.S. Papadopoulos & Assoc.
Nicole Osorio	Vice Convener	DWR
Sujoy Roy	Executive Director	Tetra Tech
Stacy Tanaka	Treasurer	Watercourse Engr.
Ben Bray	Secretary	EBMUD
Jesse Jankowski	Past Convener	SWRCB
Ali Taghavi		Woodard and Curran
Anne Huber		ICF
John DeGeorge		RMA
Jon Traum		USGS
Kijin Nam		DWR
Lu Han		CCWD
Norman Johns		DWR
Puneet Khatavkar		Stantec
Rich Satkowski		Public Member
Tariq Kadir		Public Member

Treasurer S. Tanaka is designated proxy for Josué Medellín-Azuara and Shyamal Chowdhury.
Norman Johns is designated proxy for Abdul Khan.