

Data Management Plan

Introduction

Data management will be coordinated by both the Information Manager and the Principal Investigators for the California Current Ecosystem LTER (CCE LTER) research project, utilizing the existing data management resources in place for long-term

Use policies

Data collected under the project will be made available to the public with as few restrictions as possible. We (and users of our data) will abide by the LTER Network Data Access Policy (2005). Under these policies, we plan for the publication of most data with metadata after primary publication of results, or at most two years after the completion of the study.

Plans for archiving and preserving data

Metadata and data will be submitted to the local CCE LTER data management system and subsequently published for long-term archiving and preservation with the LTER network data system, PASTA, receiving a DOI and producing appropriate data citation information for reuse purposes. This will assure long-term preservation and access to our data.

Data and measurements from this cruise that extend existing time series datasets established by the CCE LTER project will be appended to and published as part of these datasets. Additionally, BCO-DMO and the LTER Network have established a mechanism for including LTER-published datasets through the BCO-DMO data catalog. This method will be used for improving access to these data without redundant publishing requirements.

Standards and formats to be used for metadata and data

All datasets published through the local CCE LTER data system and archived with the LTER network system, PASTA, are documented using the established XML specification (Ecological Metadata Language, EML) that is adaptable for a variety of data types and is widely used.

We will make use of guidelines for data and metadata developed by the LTER Network that are designed to promote long-term usability. These include the use of standard keywords, units and measurement descriptions, and the inclusion of methods and/or protocols with all datasets.