# R Learners Meeting Notes

## August 09, 2018

## 11:00 – 12:00 PM

## Conference Room 1110

Type of Meeting: Kick-off meeting

Meeting Facilitators: Dan Sobota & Anna Withington

In attendance: Jim Bloom, Ryan Shojinaga, Janani Govindan, Colin Donald, Kim Hack, Martin Brown, Dan Sobota, Anna Withington

1. Introductions
   1. Attendees shared the length of time they had been coding in R, and primary goals for attending
2. Group vision and planning
   1. Who will be invited moving forward?
      1. Watershed management is currently the core group being invited to the biweekly meetings.
      2. Anna will set up an email group through Help Desk to facilitate inviting other sections
      3. Members are welcome to bring up the monthly and biweekly groups at larger DEQ meetings to keep other R users informed about the resource.
   2. What is the purpose of this group versus the monthly group?
      1. The biweekly Learner’s Group is a smaller, more informal gathering for people newer to R.
      2. The monthly User’s Group is to discuss topics of interest to users at all levels.
   3. Who will administer the group moving forward?
      1. Anna can schedule the next two meetings, but longer term, a new person will need to facilitate.
      2. Dan offered to facilitate in the short term.
      3. Project manager to schedule meetings/set agenda?
3. Agenda-setting for future meetings
   1. Next meeting
      1. Topic: formatting and style within scripts; eliminating redundancy in onboarding new DEQ R users
      2. Preparation: Anna will send out agenda and preparatory materials so attendees can review existing recommendations
      3. Discussion leader: Dan Sobota
   2. Going forward:
      1. Data import
      2. Data cleaning; data visualization; necessary components or standardization of maps, figures, graphs; efficiency in cleaning/coding; code comparisons; TBD but ideally, a logical progression through essential elements of R basics
      3. Limitations of R: when to use something else?
      4. EDMS/the future of data at the DEQ
4. Resources
   1. An R user email group will be formed to connect users within the DEQ to share resources and ask questions
   2. Datacamp – a well-regarded website containing sets of videos and interactive tutorials for R and python with a focus on data science and data analysis. Have free introductory chapters for each course; monthly and yearly paid versions.
   3. Swirl – an R package for R learners.
   4. Slack – is blocked for us at the DEQ (I checked) so we will have to skip that option for now.
   5. Resource guide – Anna is developing this for all R users going forward.
5. Adjournment