



RAPTR

The Resources Agency Project Tracking and Reporting system

The California Natural Resources Agency is developing a centralized data management and reporting system called **RAPTR** to track the implementation and outcomes of projects related to the stewardship of California's natural, cultural, and historical resources. The RAPTR system will be a resource for all State employees managing projects funded or administered by CNRA as well as for the grantees and contractors completing the work. Equally important, RAPTR will allow the Agency to aggregate data from a wide variety of programs to better analyze the efficacy and cost-effectiveness with which it is achieving broad stewardship goals such as conserving California's habitat and biodiversity, providing equitable access to nature for all of California's residents, and adapting to and mitigating the effects of ongoing climate change.

Some of the core features that RAPTR will include are:

- The ability to compose online grant submission forms and automate the posting of proposal solicitations both internally and on the State Grants Portal.
- Providing a consistent and streamlined grant submission experience for grant organizations seeking funding from multiple programs, including the standardization and storage of User and Organizational profiles.
- The ability to manage the review and awarding of submitted proposals.
- The ability for program staff, grantees, and contractors to co-manage project implementation in a shared workspace.
- The ability to create customized 'report-outs' designed to answer high-level administrative questions.

We understand that implementing the kind of integration between technology and government administration we're proposing will not be an easy task; especially for the Natural Resources Agency whose administrative umbrella contains hundreds of programs spread across its 27+ departments, conservancies, commissions, councils, and boards. Given the nature of this challenge, RAPTR is being developed and staffed 'in-house' by Agency IT and scientific personnel so that it will be able to grow and evolve in response to the diverse and ever-changing needs of the programs it will serve.

What's next?

The Monitoring and Stewardship Unit's (MSU) scientific staff is responsible for managing the development and release of RAPTR and is planning to onboard a few programs starting in June of 2022 with the first working version of RAPTR. Following the successful use of RAPTR by these pioneering programs, the MSU will begin onboarding other programs as the adaptive capacity of RAPTR development and staff resources permit. For those programs interested in learning more about RAPTR and how it might help with their project management and reporting needs, please contact the MSU at msu@resources.ca.gov.

Frequently Asked Questions [FAQs]

1. Who will use the RAPTR system?

Once the system is complete, data entry will be conducted by applicants, grantees, contractors, and State employees as appropriate. MSU staff will help develop quality assurance and quality control protocols for CNRA departments to follow as well as conduct system maintenance.

2. Will data be publicly available?

We do anticipate that some data will be available to the public, however we have not yet determined how extensively we will share this information publicly. RAPTR will host all collected project data and other accessible relevant information on an open data storage platform. Sensitive or private information will not be posted publicly. Initially, the amount of publicly available information will be limited.

3. Will RAPTR eliminate the need for using the Agency Bond Consolidation Reporting System (ABCRS)?

RAPTR will not replace ABCRS. RAPTR will be used to manage and collect relevant project data and administrative documents regardless of the funding source. This will include items such as payment requests, key project deliverables [e.g., CEQA determinations, copies of permits, deeds of fee title or easement, plans, and schematics], performance metrics, progress reports, and images from site visits. RAPTR will certainly be able to initiate bond-funded projects submitted through an externally facing grant opportunity and automatically pass core data on awarded projects to ABCRS. However, administrative and financial data specific to and legally required by bond-funded projects will be recorded and managed separately in ABCRS. Additionally, ABCRS does not have a public facing website and therefore is not directly accessible to the public.

4. Is RAPTR a financial reporting system?

RAPTR is **not** a financial reporting system like ABCRS or FI\$Cal; however, it will allow program staff to keep track of request for advances and reimbursements as well as track the total amount of funds spent by the project during implementation. Furthermore, it is our intention that future versions of RAPTR track project expenditures by budget category. In addition, RAPTR will also allow program staff to record external sources of funding supporting a project so that the Agency can better track its level of cross-institutional collaboration.

5. Is the use of RAPTR mandated?

Data collection and management via the RAPTR system is not mandated at this time. For the period of time that use of RAPTR is voluntary, it is expected that equivalent relevant data for CNRA (funded or



managed) programs shall be made available upon request by CNRA to allow for the kind of cross-department project analysis and reporting of project metrics that RAPTR is designed to accommodate. Departments will still be required to report financial information via ABCRS, which will be connected to RAPTR.

6. Is RAPTR Mac friendly?

The User Interface [UI] for the system is web-based and should be equally functional on machines using either iOS or Windows operating systems.

7. Will there be a mobile or tablet app?

Our current priority is the development of the system for desktop use. However, this is something we do have on our “wish list” for the future.