WATER DATA MONTH KICKS OFF THE SEMINAR SERIES

March is Water Data Month and we are celebrating by sharing! Each week of March will showcase a different data speaker, each presenting on a Thursday at noon. Here's what we have lined up:

- March 4—State Water Board Chair Joaquin Esquivel will discuss the importance
 of data at the Water Boards.
- March 11—Rafael Maestu will demonstrate how all staff can access Tableau Server to explore and visualize Water Board data.
- March 18—David Altare will discuss using the programming language R to analyze and display correlations between past Redlining lending practices and today's CalEnviroScreen scores.
- March 25—Michelle Tang will introduce the world of web development (and programming with JavaScript) via the lens of data visualization.

Click on a date to register for that event. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. After March, the Seminar Series will continue monthly on the fourth Thursday of the month at noon.

DID YOU KNOW...

vLookup is my favorite Excel function! It puts the contents of a cell from one table into another table, as long as the two tables have a common field. For example, if I have a list of monitoring locations and temperatures taken at that location and another list of the latitude

Site	Temp (C)	Date
43_39	12.1	2/18/2020
01 84	17.4	2/16/2020
33_2	15.62	2/28/2020
33_2	14.82	3/4/2020
43_39	11.8	3/4/2020
27_88	9.38	3/10/2020
43_29	22.2	3/11/2020

Site	Latitude	Longitude	
01_84	37.82158	-122.3495	
27_88	36.74917	-121.80139	
33_2	33.88335	-117.64533	
43_29	37.37356	-121.93283	
43_39	37.45167	-121.9215	

Site	Latitude	Longitude	Temp (C)	Date			
43_39	37.45167	-121.9215	12.1	2/18/2020			
01_84	37.82158	-122.3495	17.4	2/16/2020			
33_2	33.88335	-177.64533	15.62	2/28/2020			
33_2	33.88335	-177.64533	14.82	3/4/2020			
43_39	37.45167	-121.9215	11.8	3/4/2020			
27_88	36.74917	-121.80139	9.38	3/10/2020			
43_29	37.37356	-121.93283	22.2	3/11/2020			

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and longitudes of the monitoring locations, I can create one list of the temperatures taken at the latitude and longitudes, assuming the monitoring locations names or codes are unique.

The same thing can be done in the coding language R! While there are multiple ways of doing it, a common way is using the "left_join" function from a package called "dplyr". For more information about using this function, see this written information or this YouTube video. Happy joining!

COWI: DELIVERING DATA LITERACY AT THE WATER BOARD

CoWI, or the College of Water Informatics, is launching this first quarter of 2021. It is the vehicle by which data literacy is delivered to Water Board staff and includes education and training, a periodic newsletter (i.e. this Water Data Digest), Water Data Events such as the Seminar Series discussed above, and supporting the Water Data Community. So grab your data and get ready to hop aboard at the click of a mouse!

Information is the oil of the 21st century, and analytics is the combustion engine.

-Peter Sondergaard









