



Cooperative Water Program— Overview and Next Steps

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Cooperative Water Program –

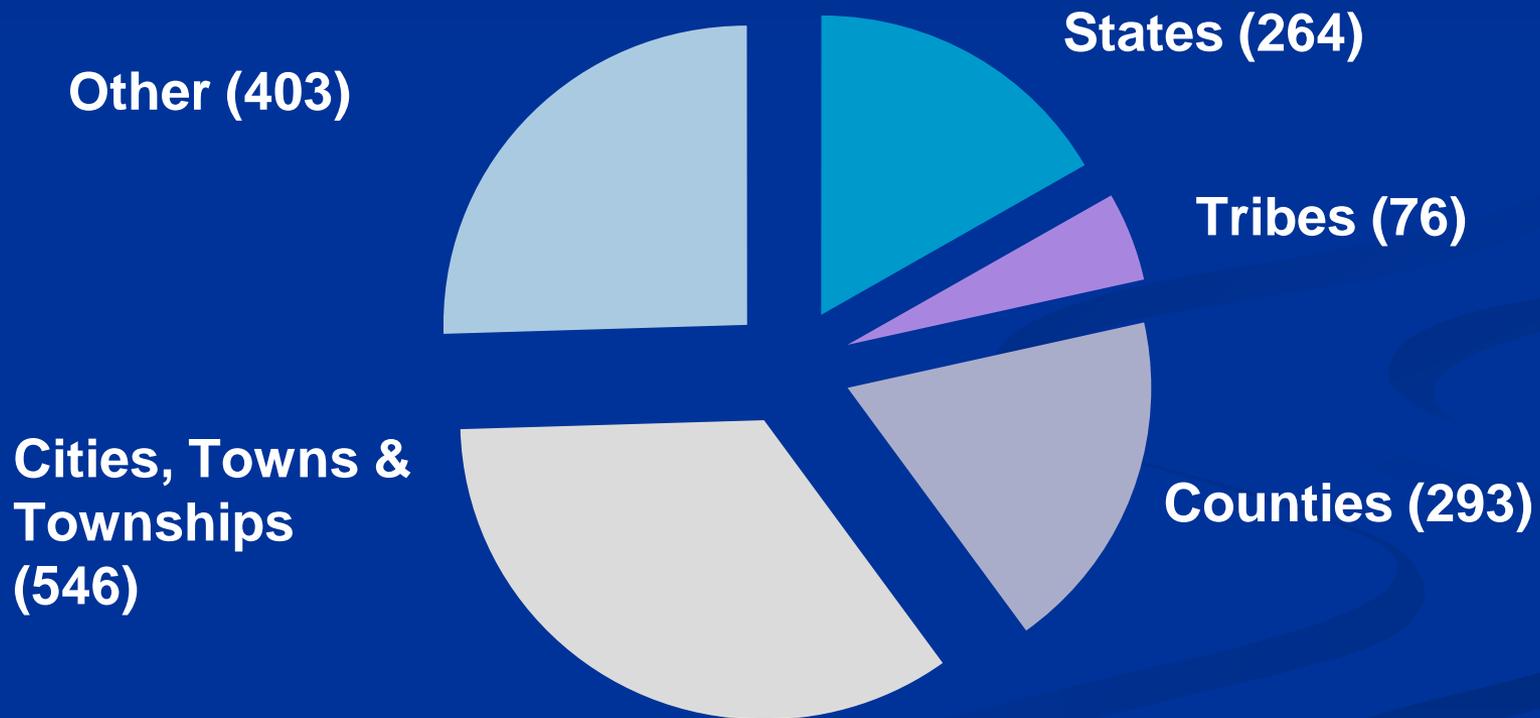
“The Mission of the USGS Cooperative Water Program is to provide reliable, impartial, and timely information needed to understand the Nation’s water resources through a program of shared efforts and funding with State, Tribal, and local partners to enable decision makers to wisely manage the Nation’s water resources.”

Cooperative Water Program –



Water's
“bottom
up, on-the-
ground”
program

Cooperative Water Program – Monitors and assesses water in every State, protectorate, and territory of the U.S. in partnership with nearly 1,600 local, State, and Tribal agencies.



Cooperative Water Program – *Funding*

- FY10 federally appropriated dollars - \$ 65.6M
- Reimbursable funding from local, State, and Tribes - \$159.2M
- Total program funds - \$224.8M

Cooperative Water Program - Provides the foundation for USGS water monitoring networks, real-time capabilities, and data delivery



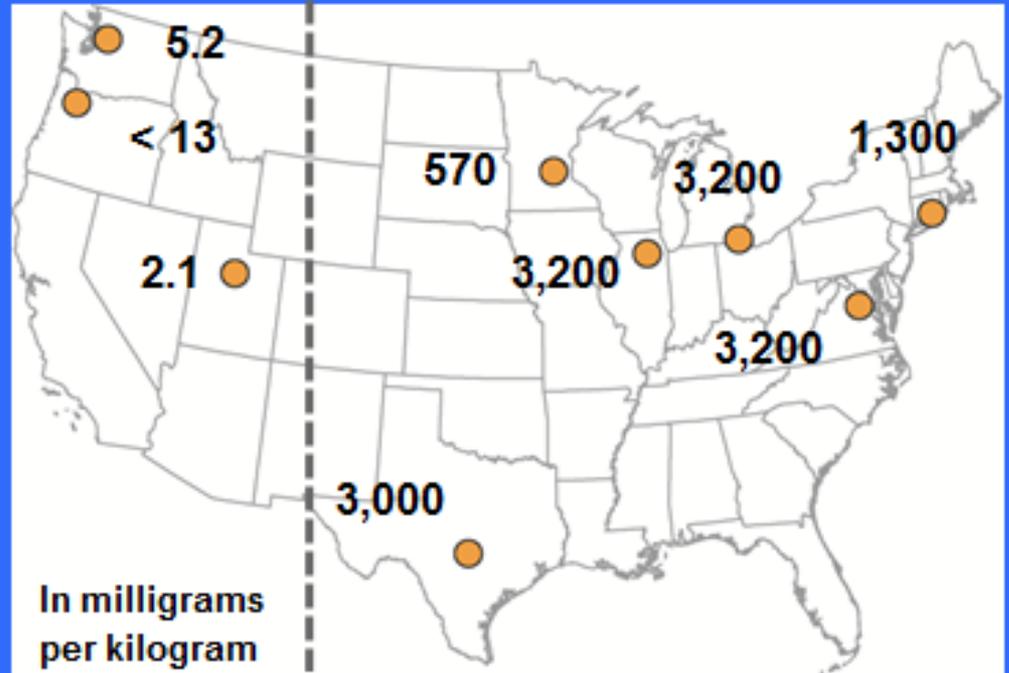
Cooperative Water Program –

Interpretive studies – about 700 annually – support the Water Mission

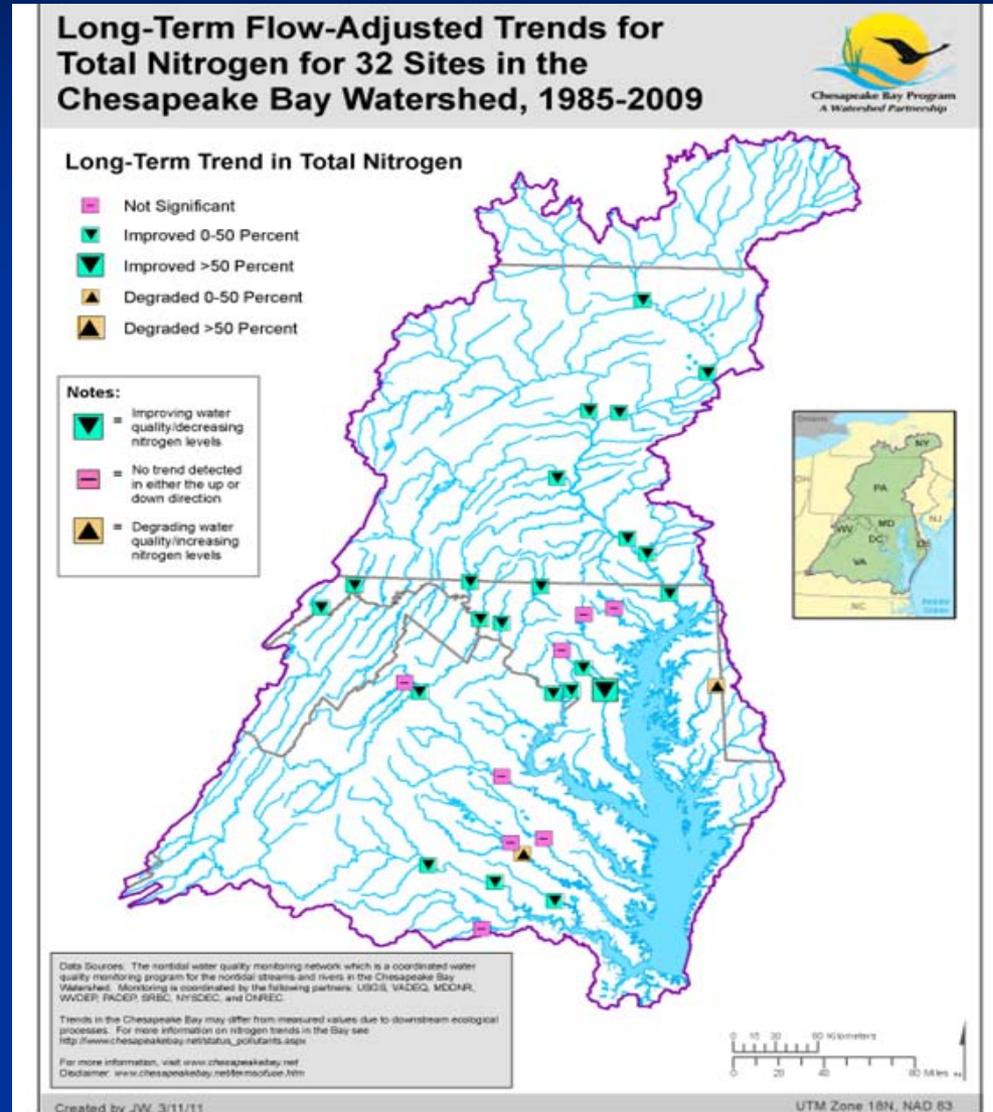
- Flood inundation; flood and drought risks
- Environmental flows in streams
- Impacts of land-use changes (urban and agriculture)
- Non-point source pollution
- Emerging contaminants
- Groundwater availability, recharge and storage
- Water use



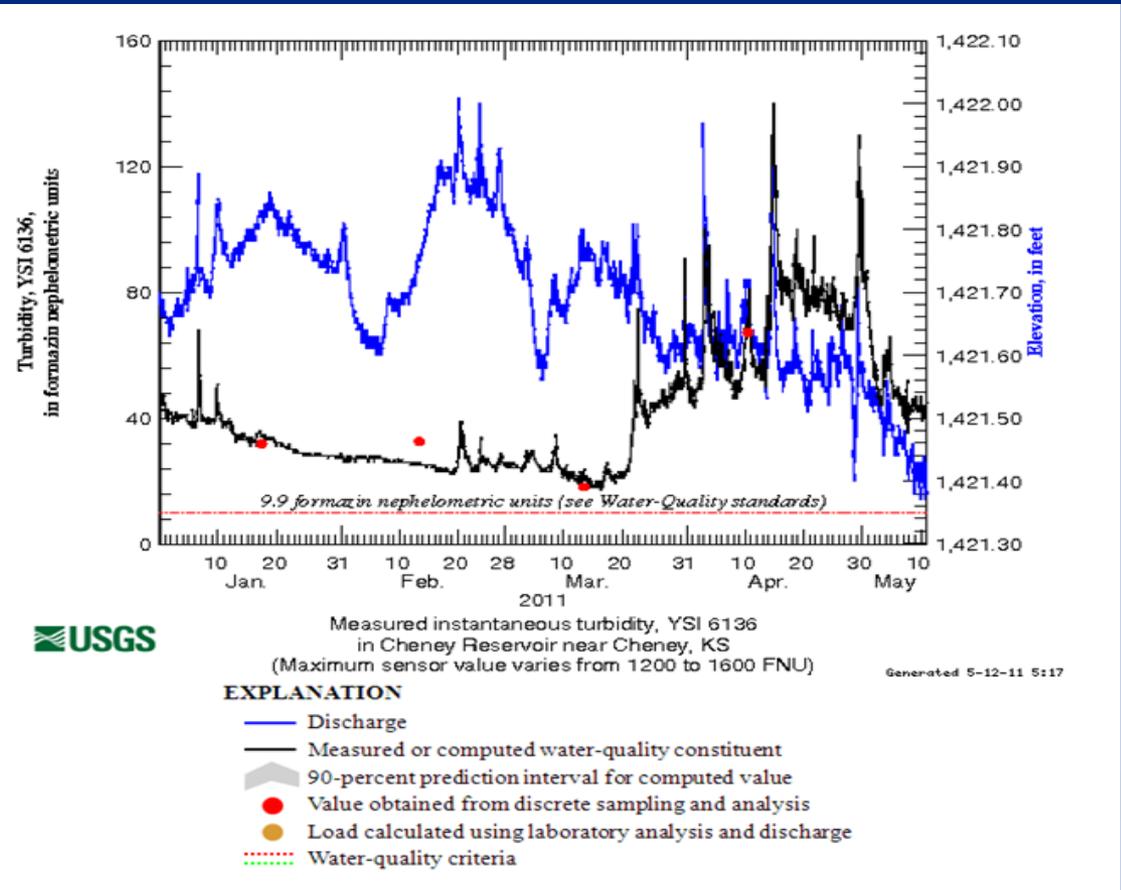
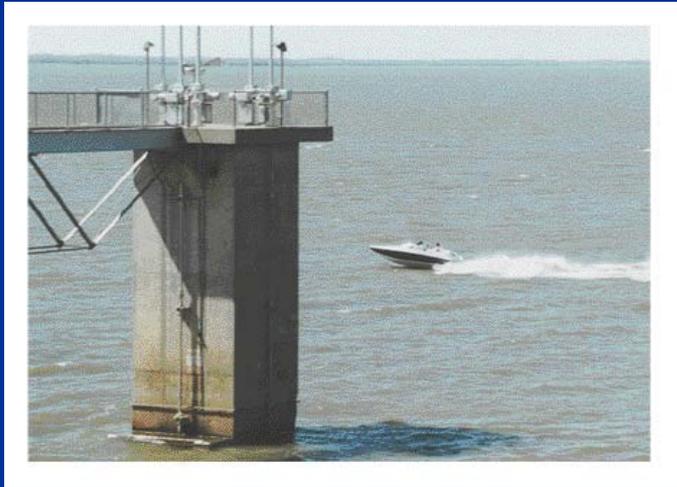
Science - Cooperative Water Program findings on Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) in the City of Austin emerges as a national issue



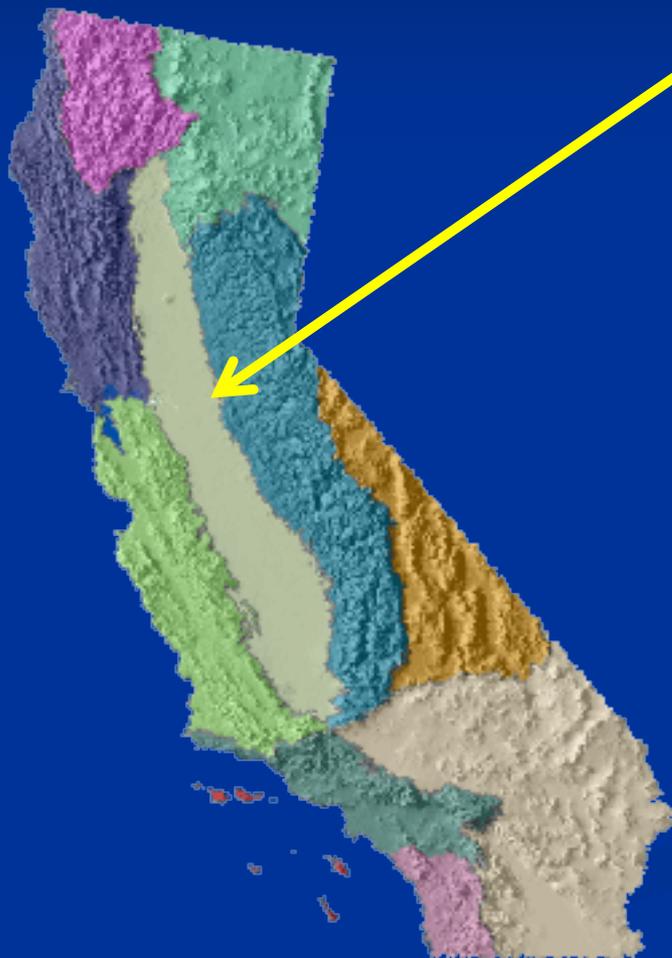
Science - Cooperative Water Program long-term monitoring since 1985 and modeling play key role in assessing the Chesapeake Bay



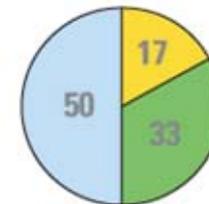
Capabilities - Cooperative Water Program studies in Kansas help to build real-time capabilities and data delivery across the Nation



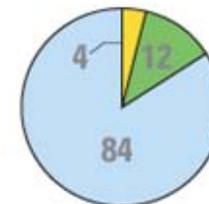
NAWQA national capabilities applied in California through the Cooperative Water Program



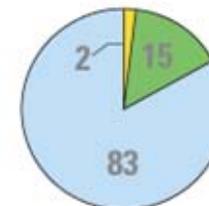
INORGANIC CONSTITUENTS



Trace elements



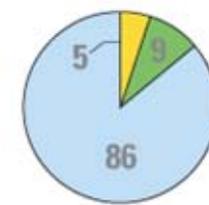
Radiologic constituents



Nutrients



Total Dissolved Solids



Iron or Manganese

WaterSmart Initiative (the “Water Census”)

Data and science through the Cooperative Water Program, such as related to streamflow, groundwater, recharge, ecological flows, water use, and water quality programs will be integrated and leveraged to meet the overall WaterSmart goals.





Cooperative Water Program - *Strengths*

- Shared costs, shared benefits
- Built-in local and State relevance to regulatory, management, policy, and jurisdictional disputes
- Visibility to emerging issues
- Regional and national assessments
- Impartial and universally available information
- Foundation for national data networks and delivery
- New tools, models, and technology transfer



Cooperative Water Program - *Opportunities for Growth*

- Regional and national visibility – synthesis, messaging
- Alignment of science priorities across USGS organization – regionally, nationally, and among other USGS mission areas
- Balance between data and interpretative studies
- Flat to reducing appropriations, leading to increased reimbursable dollars to Federal match
- Competition with private sector
- Miscellaneous (products, databases)



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Goal of the Policy Team – To develop Policy Guidance for FY12 that includes recommendations on:

- **Science priorities that meet regional and national goals**
- **Appropriate balance between support for data networks versus studies**
- **Funding mechanisms and resource allocation process to meet regional and national priorities (science and networks)**
- **Proposal process (including tracking)**
- **Project tracking and reviews**
- **Needed national tools for tracking stakeholders, projects, products, etc.**

What level of CWP support goes to the different **data networks versus interpretative programs (studies)**?

What are the **key issues** addressed by the CWP – within regions and across the Nation? Do the issues vary geographically? Are they changing over time?

How does CWP **support other mission areas**, including in understanding ecosystems, hazards, human health, and climate issues?

What **major products** have been recently published or are anticipated from the CWP that point to relevant issues?

What **management decisions** have resulted from the CWP? How has the science “made a difference” and been relevant to policy?

Who are the **key regional and national stakeholders** (external and internal to USGS)? Who is the Program currently serving, regionally and nationally?