

State and Regional Councils - Goals and Action Items**General:**

- C&O workgroup meet monthly following CPC calls, 2nd Wed of ea month
- Hancock to update Glysson with email distribution lists (add Hummer)
- Hancock, Tucker, Green, and Hummer develop agenda for S&R call by Aug 12, initiate via email in early Aug.
- Schedule Conf Call with S&R Councils to learn their needs , get direction, and show our plans and get feedback – early Fall 2009, co-occur with abstract.
- Develop a power point(s) on starting new, sustaining, and common elements, draft by Dec 2009, final by NMC 2010
- Enhance collaboration of and showcase State and Regional Councils at 2010 NMC
- Create tool kit - virtual/web page
- Update Council webpage:
 - <http://acwi.gov/monitoring/workgroups/co/index.html>
 - http://acwi.gov/monitoring/regional_councils.html

Specifics:

- **Develop updated powerpoint(s) on starting new, sustaining, and common elements**
 - Encourage S&R Council participation in development
 - Dave Tucker & Tracy Hancock to review past materials, check with Chuck, files for results of survey, and power points by August 31, 2009.
 - Poll Councils to get success stories and common elements, Wendy to gather info from Val Connor by August 31, 2009.
 - Conf call following CPC call, Sept 9, 2009.
 - Team (Tucker, Hancock, Norton, Hummer, Green, Schloss): synthesize all this info into a revised power point by Dec 1, 2009
 - send out NWQMC and S&R Councils to solicit comments
 - showcase at booth at NMC meeting
 - showcase during a workshop during NMC
 - post on web
 - include in tool kit
- **2010 National Monitoring Conference**
 - Involve local CO Council in planning committee
 - Meeting session(s) – encourage/invite S&R Councils to submit abstracts , host sessions, attend workshop, post using their list serves
 - Interactive workshop on creating and designing S&R Councils using the Tool Box
 - Design field trip on Council wheel
- **“How to Tool Kit” Purpose: communication forum**
 - Sustainability of existing Councils
 - Creation of new Councils
 - Solve common problems for existing councils
 - Share successes
 - Encourage and foster communication
 - 2-way street with NWQMC
 - What is the tool kit? A virtual monitoring tool box, to include
 - Charters from Councils, especially ones that went non-profit
 - Newsletter link to column on current councils, with highlights and success stories
 - Power point presentations, those created by NWQMC past and future
 - Directory list of Councils with contacts

- National map with active links
 - Active weblinks to state and regional council web pages
 - Other links: IOOS NFRA, regional alliance (Gulf of Mexico Alliance, GL, Chesapeake)
 - Fact sheet
 - Announcements and News
 - Success stories
 - Link to May 04 workshop
- **Webpage updates:**
 - Update Council webpage:
 - <http://acwi.gov/monitoring/workgroups/co/index.html>
 - http://acwi.gov/monitoring/regional_councils.html
 - All Council members review website update table from Martz and Norton and provide feedback by Aug 31
 - Martz update group on changes on Sept 12 conf call
 - Council wheel links with text: Tucker, Hancock, Green and other review and give ideas to Martz by Aug 31
 - Workgroup members updates needed
 - NMN updates needed
 - State & Regional Councils, logos with active links, update spreadsheet listing: add Tribal and new Councils (Utah?), update New England
- **Newsletter:** see word attachment.

Conference Planning Committee: see excel file attachment

The following field trips are being considered:

- South Platte River Basin: Monitoring from the Summit to the Prairies (headwaters to end users)
- Loch Vale; snow shoe
- Mining Restoration
- Methods for Water-Quality Sampling & Monitoring - Part 1 of the "Monitoring Framework"
- USGS National Water-Quality Lab - Part 2 of the "Monitoring Framework"
- Tour of Coors Brewery
- EPA - Green Building tour
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The following workshops are being considered:

- Man vs. Stats
- Database access and use
- Biological Assessment Tools
- Overview of continuous monitoring using real-time sensors
- USGS Data from the Lab to the Public - Part 3 of the "Monitoring Framework"
- Tool kit for State and Regional Councils
- GIS
- Communicating effectively in the 21st Century: "water words at work"
- How to do data analysis for Trends
- Volunteer Monitoring 1
- Volunteer Monitoring 2
- Aquatic Resource Surveys
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The following concurrent meetings are planned or these groups are interested in joining in the NMC:

- National Tribal
- Aquatic Surveys
- NALMS
- USGS OWQ
- USGS Research Modelers

- SOGW
- Forest Service
- ARS, CEAP, SWCS

The following major themes (bold) and sessions (bulleted) are being considered:

Applying Innovative Monitoring, Assessment, and Modeling Tools and Approaches

- Developing indicators of water availability, sustainability, & condition of water resources
- Studies of source-water for drinking-water supplies
- Harmful algal blooms and algal toxins
- Monitoring and Assessing Groundwater Vulnerability
- NAWQA principle-aquifer, TANC and drinking-water studies,
- Radionuclide occurrence, arsenic studies, etc
- Groundwater Quality of the Denver Basin or High Plains Aquifer
- Collecting, evaluating and interpreting microbiology data
- Nutrient criteria
- Integrating monitoring & prediction and informing network designs with water-quality models
- Models of spatial and temporal trends in water-quality
- Assessing Groundwater Trends
- Modeling TMDLs
- Modeling ecologic flows
- Extrapolating water-quality conditions spatially and temporally
- Estimating water-quality conditions at sites without direct data
- Regionalization and modeling of water-quality characteristics
- Applications of Regional SPARROW models
- Assessing effects of agricultural, urban development and mining on water resources
- Effect of urban development and agriculture on nutrient enrichment
- Effects downstream from abandoned mine lands, active mines, and mineral development
- Assessing effects of hydrologic alteration on water resources
- Hydrologic Impacts on Water Quality
- Innovative monitoring technologies, analytical methods, data management, and assessment tools

Integrating Monitoring to Cost Effectively Support Water Resource Management

- Large-scale programs: Results, lessons learned, & future directions
- Results of National Assessments
- Updates on the National Monitoring Network for Coastal Waters
- Updates from the pilot networks
- Managing, interpreting, sharing, and disseminating monitoring data
- Understanding chemical data, metadata, and databases
- Biological Data Bases
- Techniques for defensible environmental interpretations
- Statistical methods to estimate the likelihood of exceeding water-quality standards
- Assessing methods & data comparability
- Evaluating data quality
- Laboratory evaluation
- Integrating groundwater and surface water
- Impact of GW/SW interactions on Stream Chemistry
- Monitoring lakes and reservoirs
- Methods for evaluating lake and reservoir chemistry and biology
- Reservoir sedimentation
- Reconstructed trends
- Biological monitoring approaches and assessments
- Biological assessment tools

- Selecting reference sites across ecoregions
- Combining NAWQA and EPA reference site data
- Assessing ecosystem services
- Monitoring invasive species
- Developing the "Biological Gradient" across jurisdictions and different water types
- Integrating wetland assessments into stream monitoring
- Monitoring and assessment at multiple scales
- Using different network designs (such as statistical surveys and targeted designs) for cost-effective assessment, management, and decision making
- Integrating water quality data from diverse sources
- Use of volunteers for Groundwater studies and monitoring

Exploring New Technologies and Analytical Methods

- Emerging contaminants: Assessing priorities & new analytical methods
- Studies of emerging contaminants in relation to aquatic system health
- Advances in analytical chemistry
- Real-time monitoring: Direct measures and surrogates
- Continuous monitoring - when periodic sampling isn't enough
- New equipment and techniques of continuous monitoring
- Post-processing of continuous monitor data
- Using continuous monitor data for assessment
- Use of surrogates to estimate chemical and biological constituents in real-time

Addressing Climate, Energy, Water Availability, and other Emerging Water Issues

- Assessing effects of climate change on water availability in the west (and elsewhere)
- Climate variability and minimum flows for ecological health
- Monitoring impacts of energy development on water resources
- Techniques for evaluating changes in water quality during and following oil and gas exploration
- Monitoring impacts of coal-bed methane development

Communicating Science to Decision Makers and the Public

- Understanding and communicating federal, state, tribal, & local monitoring needs
- Informing watershed-scale restoration planning
- Making data meaningful: Success stories showing how science is helping to effectively manage water resources
- Monitoring and reporting on program effectiveness
- Communicating what we do and what we find
- Innovative outreach and communication approaches

Strengthening Collaboration and Partnerships at all Scales

- Addressing multi-jurisdictional & international monitoring issues
- Leveraging resources through partnerships
- Strengthening volunteer monitoring programs and expanding the use of volunteer data
- Enhancing monitoring and partnerships through state and regional monitoring councils
- Implementation and Pilot Studies of the National Groundwater Monitoring Network