

Advisory Committee on Water Information  
Teleconference and WebEx  
March 1, 2011  
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Call-in number and WebEx information will be released soon.

Local people are welcome to join us at USGS Headquarters in Reston, Virginia, in Room 5A323.

This ACWI WebEx will serve a dual purpose:

(1) During the morning, the Federal water agencies will have an opportunity to brief ACWI about the proposed 2012 budget. Each organization will have no more than five minutes to report, so we can ensure adequate time for discussion and for feedback from the non-Federal ACWI member organizations.

(2) During the afternoon, some or all of the seven USGS science strategic planning teams (SSPTs) will present information about their activities and solicit ACWI feedback. The USGS SSPTs are part of a new science planning effort that Dr. Marcia McNutt, Director of the USGS, started within the bureau. The USGS 10-year strategic science plan (<http://pubs.usgs.gov/circ/2007/1309/>), which was released in 2007, identified six thematic areas upon which the USGS would concentrate. USGS has received much positive feedback on this plan and the efforts to move it forward. Director McNutt has commissioned seven SSPTs, one for each of the areas identified in the 2007 plan plus one additional team for Core Science Systems. These teams will work from the present through October 2011 to develop a more targeted 10-year science plan for each of their respective areas. Each of the SSPTs is co-chaired by scientists and technical managers whom the Director personally selected from across the USGS to lead this important effort. The SSPTs and their co-chairs are listed below:

- Core Science Systems - Ned H. Euliss and Sky Bristol
- Ecosystems - Byron Williams and Gary Brewer
- Energy and Minerals - Jon Kolak and Richard Ferrero
- Environmental Health - Herb Buxton and Patricia Bright
- Global Change - Ione Taylor and Virginia Burkett
- Natural Hazards - Lucile Jones and Robert Holmes
- Water - Eric Evenson and Randall Orndorff

These teams will work over the next 10 months to develop a strategic plan for each area and to carefully examine how efforts need to be integrated across all seven areas. It is also of the utmost importance to everyone at the USGS to have your input into this process, and that process will begin at the ACWI WebEx meeting on March 1. Please feel free to contact the Water Co-Chairs (Eric Evenson and Randall Orndorff) directly during the coming months to have your suggestions heard. In addition, we have set up an email drop box to receive suggestions at [conversations@usgs.gov](mailto:conversations@usgs.gov).