

National Water Quality Monitoring Council



**MONITORING
NETWORKS**

*Connecting for
Clean Water*

2006

**NATIONAL
MONITORING
CONFERENCE**

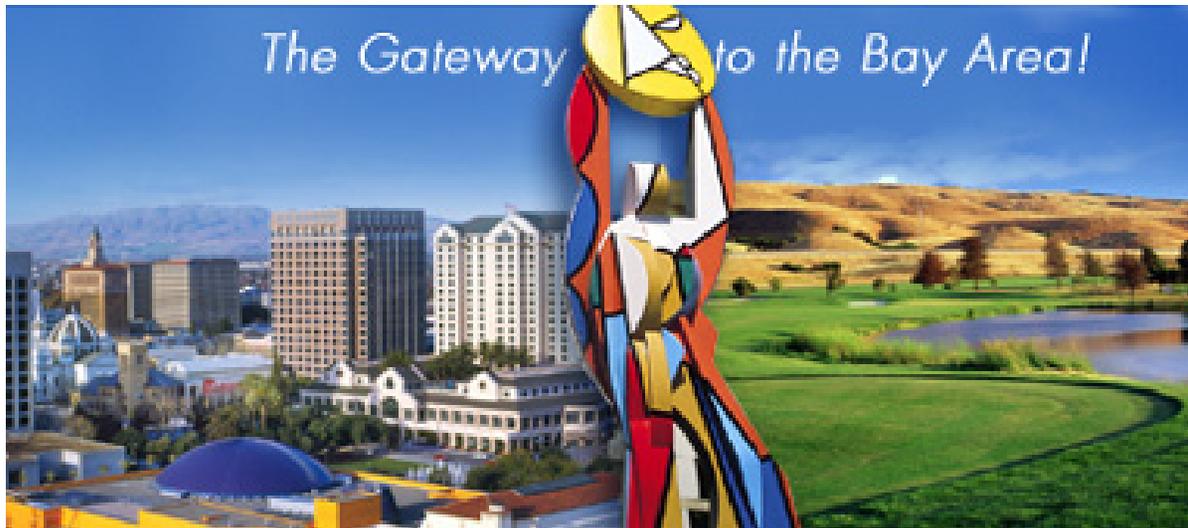


The National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)

5th National Monitoring Conference

Monitoring Networks: Connecting for Clean Water

in San José, California, May 7-11, 2006





Conference Themes

- **Assessing methods & data comparability**
- **Applying new methods & innovative techniques**
- **Addressing different scales & multiple objectives**
- **Synthesizing & sharing data**
- **Improving communication among all stakeholders**
- **Integrating monitoring & prediction**



Examples of the 48 Sessions

- Real-Time Monitoring (2)
- Perspectives on the Nation's Water Quality (3)
- Effects of Urbanization on Water Quality (3)
- National Wadeable Streams Assessment
- Volunteer Monitoring Databases
- Development of Nutrient Criteria for Streams & Rivers (2)
- Assessing Ground Water Vulnerability Through Statistical Methods (2)
- Evaluating Key Stressors to the Nation's Aquatic Resources
- Mercury Contamination: Sources, Transport, & Fate (2)



Conference Attendees

- 872 Total Attendees
- 232 Presenters or Poster Authors



Primary Conference Co-Sponsors









Elizabeth Fellows Award



volunteers conduct Bacteria Methods Comparison study

by Eric O'Brien

An interesting fact came to light at a 2002 strategic planning meeting for the Great Lakes region: out of the six states attending (Iowa, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin), only two had volunteer monitoring programs that included testing for bacteria. These were Iowa's IOWATER program, run by Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and Indiana's Hoosier River Watch, sponsored by Indiana DNR.

This discovery was the beginning of what would become the Citizens Monitoring Bacteria Project, a multi-year, multistate undertaking.

Soon after the meeting, representatives from Iowa DNR, Indiana DNR, Purdue University, Michigan State University, the University of Minnesota, the

grant from USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES).

Iowa and Indiana took the lead in designing and carrying out the first year of the study. Field researchers in Wisconsin worked on developing survey questionnaires to determine the volunteers' opinions of the different methods. Michigan, Minnesota, and Ohio were charged with developing training and outreach materials.

We began the comparison study in the spring of 2003. At the end of a year we would have a clearcut "winner"—but it didn't quite work out that way, as we shall see.

"Real world" conditions

Bacteria Monitoring IN THIS ISSUE

- METHODS COMPARISON
- OREGON VALIDATION
- GUIDE TO BACTERIA TESTING
- KIDS CONDUCT "POND MONITORING"
- MICROBIAL SOURCE TRACKING
- MSU STUDY
- LOW-TECH SOURCE TRACKING
- MONITORING RUNOFF FROM
- SIMPLE AND EFFECTIVE
- TEXAS VOLUNTEERS EARN RESPECT 22



Eleanor Ely
Editor

The Volunteer Monitor

analyses in their own homes. The volunteers' opinions and perceptions were also taken into account in evaluating the different methods.



- 7 Field Trips
- Opening and Closing Plenaries
- 18 Workshops/Short courses

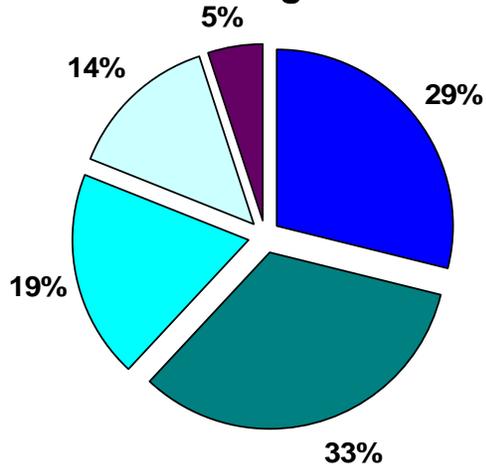
- 172 Posters
- 336 Presentations



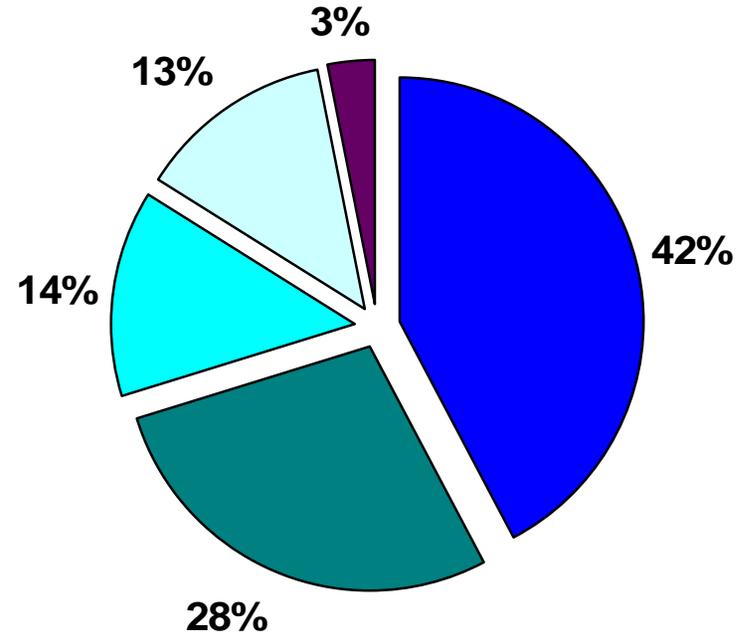


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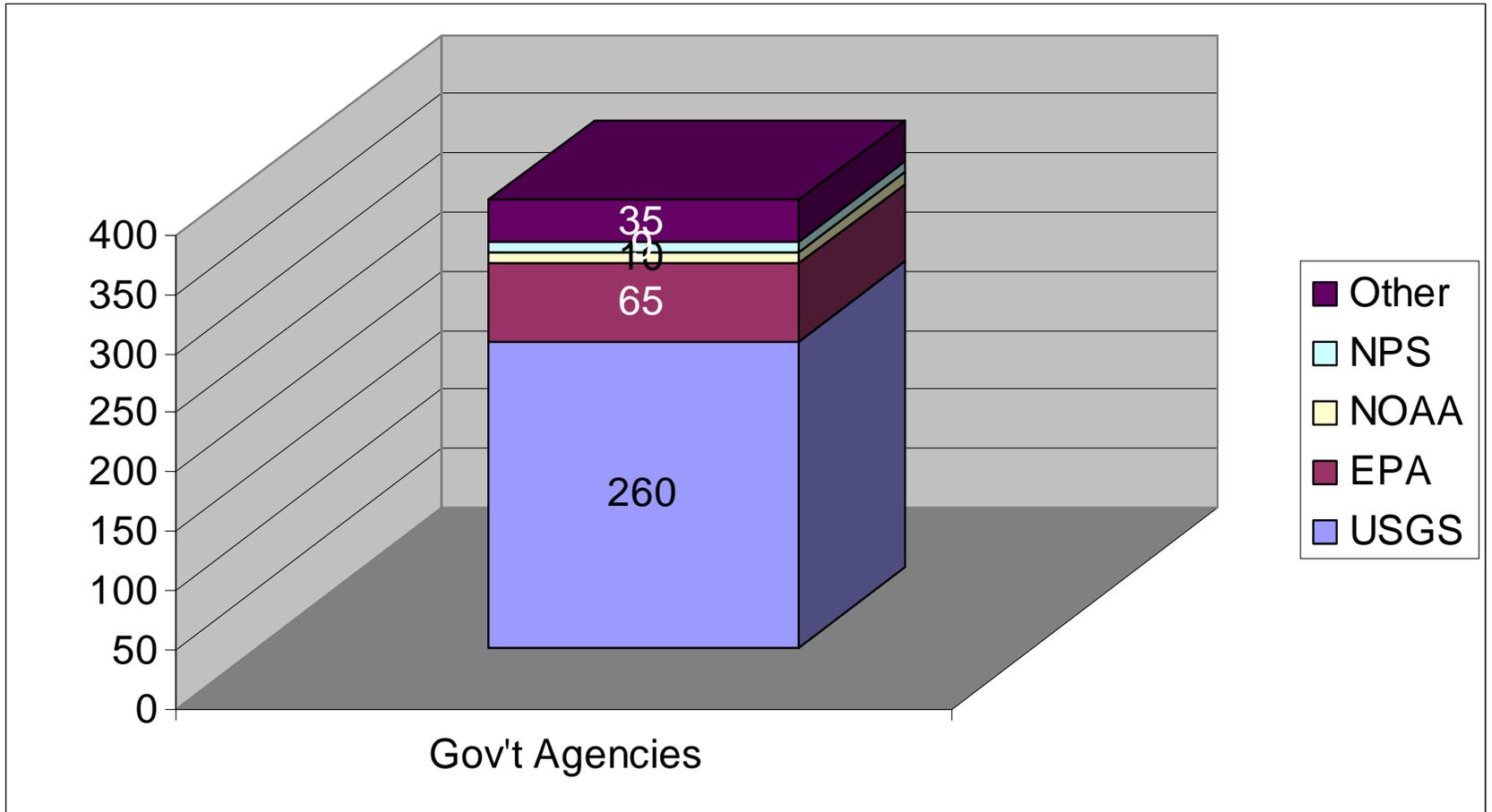
Chattanooga 2004



San Jose 2006



- **Federal**
- **State/Local/Regional/Tribe**
- **Private Industry**
- **Academia/NGO**
- **International**





Home Offices of the 886 Attendees
National Water Quality Monitoring Conference



This map does not show participants from Alaska (5), Hawaii (6) or participants from Canada (5) or other countries (7)



Who Were They?



