

**Meeting Minutes –  
Water Resources Adaptation to Climate Change Workgroup (WRACCW)  
of the Advisory Committee on Water Information  
January 9, 2014**

**Attendees**

Jeff Peterson, Co-chair, EPA	Jeanine Jones, WSWC	Erica Brown, AMWA
Paul Freedman, Co-chair, WEF	Mike Muse, EPA	Judy Francis, NACP
Carol Collier, AWRA	Cynthia Finley, NACWA	Mary Musick, GWPC
Liz Berger, USFS	Deirdre Mason, ASDWA	Paul Wiegand, NCASI
Tamara McCandless, FWS	Peg Bostwick, ASWM	Mike Craghan, EPA
Rolf Olsen, COE	Levi Brekke, BOR	Brandon Kernen, ASDWA
John Schmerfeld, FWS	Jeff Manning, ACWA	Ron Hoffer, EPA
Aris Georgakakos, NIWR	Pat Tallarico, Enventive Consulting	Nancy Turyk, NALMS
Ben Chou, NRDC	Ben Grumbles, U.S. Water Alliance	Wendy Norton, USGS
Ron Hoffer, EPA	Dave Carlton, ASFPM	Dwane Young, EPA
Chitra Kumar, CEQ	Paul Fleming, WUCA	

**Action Items**

- **ACTION: Non-Federal members** – If you are a non-Federal member of the workgroup and you are planning to have your travel expenses for the Feb 19-20 face-to-face meeting reimbursed by USGS, contact Wendy Norton ([wenorton@usgs.gov](mailto:wenorton@usgs.gov)) ASAP, so she can send you instructions on how to make your travel arrangements. If you make your travel arrangements independently, we will NOT be able to reimburse you.
- **ACTION: ALL** – Let Wendy Norton ([wenorton@usgs.gov](mailto:wenorton@usgs.gov)) know **by Friday Jan 17** whether you plan to attend, and whether you need USGS to cover your travel expenses.
- **ACTION: Co-chairs of the 5 subgroups** – Contact your groups' members ASAP so you can get started with your discussions.

**Introductions and Agenda Review**

- The co-chairs took attendance and reviewed the meeting agenda.
- We have some new participants, and we're working out the details and will have that finished by the date of our February face-to-face meeting.

## Approval of Meeting Notes

Notes from the December 5 meeting were emailed to the full workgroup on December 9 and are also available on the website ([http://acwi.gov/climate\\_wkg/minutes/index.html](http://acwi.gov/climate_wkg/minutes/index.html)). If you see any errors in this document, please notify Wendy Norton ([wenorton@usgs.gov](mailto:wenorton@usgs.gov)) so we can make necessary changes.

## Climate Workgroup Business

- Introduction of Pat Tallarico, who will facilitate our face-to-face meeting in February. Pat has 20 years of facilitation experience, and has dealt with many water-related issues that are of interest/importance to the WRACCW.
- Discussion of In-Person Meeting, including travel and lodging logistics (see updated draft meeting agenda, attached)
  - Jeff Peterson reviewed logistics information for face-to-face that was sent out to participants prior to today's teleconference.
  - Question: Will it be possible for people to attend the meeting via telephone/webinar? Answer: We think so, but we're not certain yet; we'll get more information to everyone soon, in answer to that question.
  - **ACTION: Non-Federal members** – If you are a non-Federal member of the workgroup and you are planning to have your travel expenses for the Feb 19-20 face-to-face meeting reimbursed by USGS, contact Wendy Norton ([wenorton@usgs.gov](mailto:wenorton@usgs.gov)) ASAP, so she can send you instructions on how to make your travel arrangements. If you make your travel arrangements independently, we will NOT be able to reimburse you.
  - **ACTION: ALL** – Let Wendy Norton ([wenorton@usgs.gov](mailto:wenorton@usgs.gov)) know **by Friday Jan 17** whether you plan to attend, and whether you need USGS to cover your travel expenses.
  - The February meeting is open to everyone who is interested. You do NOT have to be a member in order to attend.
- Team Assignments and Expectations (spreadsheet to be provided)
  - Paul Freedman reviewed the 5 subgroup breakouts for the face-to-face meeting (see spreadsheet sent to the full workgroup last week). For those who expressed a preference, the co-chairs did their best to match people up with one of their preferred groups, and others were assigned based on a need for balance and knowledge-base/organizational interest. The co-chairs of the workgroups will contact their groups' members ASAP so they can get started with their discussions. We'll have another teleconference the week prior to our face-to-face meeting and will hear a little from the subgroups at that time, but the subgroups will really dig in to their tasks at the face-to-face meeting.

- **ACTION: Co-chairs of the 5 subgroups** – Contact your groups’ members ASAP so you can get started with your discussions.
- Question: What is the deadline for the preparation of the initial documents resulting from the subgroups’ work? Answer: Mid March. We will need a full ACWI review of these documents as well. By late March, we would like to have the documents available for Chitra Kumar to use at CEQ in preparing multiple other products.
- Question: Are we talking about the 2011 National Action Plan? Answer: Yes and no. We used that as an organizing structure, but the President’s Executive Order doesn’t focus just on the elements of the freshwater action plan. Our task is to identify where the biggest gaps are. We’re going to use the National Action Plan as a foundation and structure, but we want to take a broader look at the issues. Poll your subgroup members to find out if they’re aware of actions other than those contained in the 2011 Plan. One place the subgroups can mine information is Federal agencies’ sustainability plans and/or adaptation plans, which should be publically available.
- Question: Does anyone see any major gaps in our proposed organization structure of 5 topical areas/subgroups? Answer: One of the gaps I thought we had in the NAP was hydrologic extremes (floods/droughts). Comment: Some topics like that may be covered by multiple subgroups. Comment: Extremes are extremely important to those of us in the practitioner world.
- First Draft: *2014 Workplan* for Workgroup (to be provided)
  - We shared with everyone a draft of the 2014 workplan for the WRACCW; this plan is based on the 2013 workplan and updated to reflect tasks we have already accomplished, as well as new items to help account for new developments expected during 2014. Our objective is to discuss this plan in depth at the face-to-face meeting; Jeff Peterson will accept comments in the meantime, and we will aim for finalizing the plan at the meeting or shortly afterward. This workplan will ultimately be posted on our website.
  - Comment: We will make sure to discuss at our face-to-face meeting how the key documents inventory will be managed, further expanded/updated and used in the short and long term.

**Meeting Theme: Watershed Scale Climate Adaptation Plans: Draft EPA Workbook**

- Michael Craghan, EPA National Estuaries Program  
[http://water.epa.gov/type/oceb/cre/upload/workbook\\_draft-2013-09-19b.docx](http://water.epa.gov/type/oceb/cre/upload/workbook_draft-2013-09-19b.docx)
- The PowerPoint presentation from this talk is available here:  
[http://acwi.gov/climate\\_wkg/minutes/index.html](http://acwi.gov/climate_wkg/minutes/index.html)
- Question: Do you have any interest stakeholders who want to test-drive the methodology? Answer: Yes; some groups are already doing vulnerability assessments, and we’re going to be launching some demonstration projects that may give us half a dozen examples of how groups work with these methodologies within a year or so.

- The draft was released for public comment back in October and is still available online ([http://water.epa.gov/type/oceb/cre/upload/workbook\\_draft-2013-09-19b.docx](http://water.epa.gov/type/oceb/cre/upload/workbook_draft-2013-09-19b.docx)).

**Round Robin Reports from Workgroup Members (a brief highlight of your organization's activities related to climate change and water)**

- National Park Service: *Using Scenarios to Explore Climate Change: A Handbook for Practitioners* <http://climate.calcommons.org/sites/default/files/CCScenarios-Handbook%20FINAL%20080113.pdf>
- Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Science (CIRES): Climate Stress on Watersheds: <http://cires.colorado.edu/news/press/2013/watershed.html>

**Adjourn**

Tentative next meeting date: Thursday, February 13, at 1:00 p.m.

Face-to-face meeting: Wednesday-Thursday, February 19-20, at EPA office at Potomac Yard, Arlington, VA