



National Water Quality Monitoring Council

Working together for clean water



Draft Minutes – National Water Quality Monitoring Council (Council) August 7 and 20, 2013

(Agenda and list of participants on pages 8-10, presentations posted on Council website at: <http://acwi.gov/monitoring/>)

Actions, Decisions and other Information

August 7, 2013

1. **Council Updates** – Mike Yurewicz gave a charge to Council members for active participation in the 2014 National Monitoring Conference.
2. **Decision:** Upon a motion duly made (Steve Wolfe), seconded (Dave Chestnut), and carried, the April 2-4, 2013 Council Meeting minutes were approved and will be posted on the website (Kim Martz).
3. **National Network of Reference Watersheds (NNRW)** – Jeff Deacon, USGS introduced Mike McHale, USGS who gave an update on the progress made on the FY2103 tasks since the April 2-4 2013 Council meeting and planned tasks for FY2014. The main goal is to present the network website to the Council at the December meeting and present the site to the public at the 2014 Conference (See presentation – “[NNRW Update](#)” for details).
 - **Action:** Volunteers for a State User Group will be needed. Glenn Skuta volunteered Minnesota to help with testing.
4. **Collaboration and Outreach Workgroup** – Cathy Tate, USGS, cmtate@usgs.gov and Barb Horn, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, barb.horn@state.co.us, Co-chairs. Cathy presented a general overview of workgroup activities including webinars, social media including new Twitter feed for 2014 Conference, newsletters, communication with State/Regional/Tribal Councils, marketing of Council products, and National Monitoring Conference (see presentations “[C&O Workgroup Updates](#)” for details). Dan Sullivan updated on the new Council website. Kim Martz will be assisting with redesign beginning with National Monitoring Network and NNRW webpages.
 - **Action:** Deadline for Fall 2013 issue of “National Water Monitoring News” newsletter is September 13, 2013. Send articles to Cathy Tate, cmtate@usgs.gov
 - **Action:** Workgroup will update calling card and present to Council by Dec. 2013 Council meeting.
 - **Suggestion:** Wendy Norton suggested that a “code of conduct” be written for participation in the Council Blog once approved.
 - **Suggestion:** Glenn Skuta suggested that whatever social media is used that pictures be posted frequently to keep interest of audience.
5. **Volunteer Monitoring mini Council:** Barb Horn, Colorado Parks & Wildlife, Volunteer Monitoring Representative, gave the following updates:
 - **Volunteer Monitoring Committee Activities**
 - Continue to work on Volunteer Monitoring News (see issues at: <http://acwi.gov/monitoring/vm/newsletters.html>)
 - Completing matrix of State and EPA Volunteer Contact List
 - Compiling links to Spanish versions of volunteer monitoring sampling plans to post on website
 - Compiling a list of Apps for volunteer monitoring and citizen science communities
 - Continuing to update the Volunteer Monitoring directory and map
 - **2014 Conference Activities**
 - Representatives of the Volunteer Monitoring community will serve to review abstracts for the 2014 Conference
 - Pierre Glynn, USGS, has talked to Barb Horn and will be joining their group to merge sessions and activities on volunteer monitoring and citizen science.
 - **EPA Volunteer Monitoring workshops:** Not all EPA Regions have volunteer monitoring workshops and it depends on the EPA person assigned to the task if they have the time or resources to convene a workshop.

- Action: Julie Vastine, vastine@dickinson.edu, will be serving as the alternate representative on the Council while Danielle Donkersloot is on maternity leave so needs to be added to correspondence.
 - Action: Barb asked Mike Yurewicz to provide updates to the Council on Isaac Walton League and USGS collaborations. Mike will contact the Virginia USGS scientist that worked on this effort.
6. **Methods Board:** Dan Sullivan, USGS, Co-chair provided updates on Methods Board activities including:
- **NEMI 4.0:**
 - Mary Buknell gave a demonstration of NEMI 4.0 which was released to the public on July 12th. NEMI 4.0 is simpler, more powerful, and more flexible. To check it out go to: <https://www.nemi.gov/home/>
 - Funds from USGS will help make NEMI the USGS' protocol library for all of USGS (not just water). Work on this will start soon.
 - Action: Dan Sullivan and Cathy Tate will set up a Council webinar to demonstrate NEMI 4.0 needs to be set up in the near future.
 - **Suggestion for NEMI:**
 - A useful addition to NEMI is to have information on what lab States use for a method. Perhaps links to accredited lab database.
 - Adding methods for continuous optical sensors
 - qPCR analyses might go under the microbiological category. USEPA Science and Technology Portfolio has methods for molecular markers (e.g., qPCR) in them.
 - Biggest limitation to adding additional methods is funding someone to enter new methods (Takes 1-3 h to method entered).
 - **Sensor's Workgroup:**
 - The sensors workgroup is actively developing continuous monitoring workshops and a concurrent sessions track for the 2104 National Monitoring Conference.
7. **National Monitoring Network:** Mike Yurewicz, USGS, Co-Chairs summarized NMN activities:
- Communications Strategy Call on July 1, 2013 (Convened by Hugh Sullivan, USEPS, See handout "[NMN Communications Strategy handout](#)" for detailed notes).
 - 2014 National Monitoring Conference (Ideas for sessions):
 - Discussed development of multiple sessions
 - Barnegat Bay
 - SPARROW Watershed modeling
 - Chesapeake Bay
 - Assessing groundwater input to surface water
 - Other presentations on coastal water bodies (e.g., GLRI, Delaware, Demonstration project—Puget Sound, Albemarle Sound, etc.,)
 - Next steps:
 - Develop PowerPoint for briefing IOOS Associations
 - Continue to develop sessions for 2014 Conference
8. **Water Information Strategies (WIS) Workgroup:** Mary Skopec, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Mary.Skopec@dnr.iowa.gov, Chair, summarized WIS activities:
- Water Quality Indices Questionnaire: Leslie McGeorge, NJ DEP, continues to work on the indices and will give a webinar to WIS workgroup
 - On June WIS call there was a discussion on having Pete Ruhl give a presentation on BioData which is primarily NAWQA data (20+ years of data). Pete will give presentation on August 20, 2013.
 - Source tracking is becoming important in monitoring. Mike Yurewicz mentioned a USGS lab in Michigan that conducts qPCR analyses and data storage that might be helpful in understanding what gets stored and links between metadata and data. Steve Wolfe mentioned GOMA's registry established for molecular markers. Go to: http://www.gulfofmexicoalliance.org/issues/water_quality.php where the registry can be found at the beginning of the "Actions" section, under Coastal Pathogens: Registry established for Molecular Markers.
 - Charles Kovatch has agreed to be liaison on Water Quality Portal user group and WIS. There is a need to get the word out about "Portals".

- 2014 Conference – Suggested sessions:
 - Session 1 would focus on the various portals that exist – NOAA, WQP, Groundwater, etc (David Kidwell – NOAA, Nate Booth --- USGS, Bob Schrieber).
 - Session 2 on the use of portals for various projects (Mississippi River example). The extended session could also be used to solicit feedback from the user community. Charles Kovatch has contacted Mike Woodside about a session on Portals and QA issues.
 - “What Your Manager Needs to Know About Monitoring” (see document “[What your manager needs to know about monitoring](#)”)
 - There could be different audiences for this type of document (e.g., Managers, Legislative/Policy).
 - Action: Please send comments to Mary Skopec on document by the end of September.
9. Water Quality Statistical and Assessment Workgroup: Doug McLaughlin, National Council for Air and Stream Improvement, Inc. Representative, Co-chair, summarized WQSA activities:
- Currently there are about 51 statistical methods in NEMI 4.0.
 - Additional methods are being reviewed by Doug but need to determine “How to maintain and add to the database?” The method entry forms are available online but there still need to coordinate and review information that goes in to NEMI-SAMS.
 - Action: Need to form a small group of experts to review methods that go into NEMI-SAMS. Please let Doug McLaughlin if you are interested in participating in this group.
 - Dave Chestnut asked how can the Council incorporate tools like “r code” that could be adapted to individual use? The basic documentation for “r code” has been written and reviewed so this could be added to NEMI.
 - Suggestion: Can an “r code” library be created for NEMI or as a Council product?
 - Action: Doug will reconvene the original workgroup to brainstorm ideas on next steps and draft a recommendation for the Council’s endorsement.
10. 2014 National Monitoring Conference
- Overview (Cathy Tate, USGS, Alice Mayo, USEPA, Conference Co-chairs; See “[2014 National Monitoring Conference, August 7](#)” presentation for details):
 - Logistics: Meeting will be held in Cincinnati, OH on April 28-May 2, 2014 at Duke Energy Convention Center. Hotel contracts have been signed. Registration costs have not been determined but should be similar to 2012 Conference.
 - Action: Call for Abstracts (<http://acwi.gov/monitoring/conference/2014/CFA.pdf>) went out June 13th. Please forward to colleagues and other interested parties and direct them to 2014 Conference website at: <http://acwi.gov/monitoring/conference/2014/index.html>. Deadline for abstract is **September 20th**.
 - Action: Deadline for workshops, short courses, or panels (extended sessions) proposals is **September 20th**. Instructions and forms for submitting proposals for an extended session can be found under the tab “Conference Program” on the 2014 Conference website <http://acwi.gov/monitoring/conference/2014/index.html>.
 - Action: Sign up to participate on a review team by selecting your top theme(s) of interest and sending them to Cathy Tate, cmtate@usgs.gov.
 - Next steps:
 - Send out Call for Abstracts in end of August, two weeks prior, one week prior and one day prior to deadline.
 - Form review teams to start reviews by end of September, beginning of October through November to prepare for December 3-5, 2013 Council meeting.
 - Local Planning Committee (Peter Tennant, ORSANCO)
 - The local group has resumed monthly calls on the 3rd Tuesday of the month with participation by the EPA labs, USGS Indianapolis, Louisville and Columbus Water Science Centers, Indiana DEM, Ohio EPA, Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky Sewer and Water Utilities, and Cincinnati Convention and Visitors Bureau. We have identified several field trips that will highlight collaborative monitoring activities in our area as well as the special challenges of monitoring a great river. We need to extend our outreach to local watershed groups, several of whom were involved in a workshop for Citizen Scientists in March; we would like to see a follow-up session held at the NWQM conference.
 - Program Committee (Curtis Cude, Oregon Health Authority, Co-chair)
 - Network Block:
 - Description: The main purpose of the Networking Block is to give attendees a chance early in the conference to meet other attendees from their area that they wouldn’t necessarily encounter or be connected to. We feel

that there is intrinsic value in making these connections; we hope also to gather information of value to the Council. We realize that not all attendees want to participate in networking sessions, so there are 3 scheduled concurrent sessions. We think the programming for those sessions should grab the attention of those folks most likely to avoid the Networking Block. For the Block itself, we plan to break out in groups representing geographical areas. We can reserve one group that associates more closely with national and international-scale issues. We are aiming for groups of 10-15 people. If any of the geographical area groups is too large, they can subdivide based on river basin scale or topical areas of interest. During the 90 minutes scheduled for the block, we hope to give each attendee a few minutes time on each of the following:

- 1. Introduction – tell us about yourself
- 2. What are your top 3 water concerns? This will help attendees discover common areas of interest.
- 3. Reserved for feedback to Council?
- Next steps
 - Subgroup participants based on geographic area
 - Provide a menu or ask for 3 topics of interest
 - Use registration information to breakdown participants into groups
 - Assign facilitators
 - Use topics of interest for the facilitators to move forward on with the group.
 - Write instructions for each group to be place in the Conference Program
 - Action: Please let Barb Horn, barb.horn@state.co.us, know if you want to volunteer to be a facilitator.
- Extended Sessions (Monty Porter, Oklahoma Water Resources Board)
 - As of this date no proposals for extended sessions have been submitted
 - Action: Monty Porter will follow up with individuals that have suggested extended sessions to make sure they get proposals submitted by the deadline.
- Plenary (Mike Yurewicz, USGS)
 - Speakers for Tuesday Plenary:
 - Sally Gutierrez, USEPA ORD will talk about Cincinnati area water issues
 - Bob Hirsch, USGS will talk about the importance of and advancements in water quality monitoring
 - Potential Speakers for Thursday Plenary:
 - Gina McCarthy, USEPA Administrator, Susan Holdsworth will invite
 - Robert Glennon, Regents' Professor and Morris K. Udall Professor of Law and Public Policy, Rogers College of Law, Univ. Arizona – talks on value of water. Mike Yurewicz will contact.
- Sponsors/Exhibitors (Mike Yurewicz, USGS)
 - Still waiting to get costs for exhibitor booths before making calls to Sponsors/Exhibitors
 - Information for sponsors can be found under the tab “Sponsors & Exhibitors” at: <http://acwi.gov/monitoring/conference/2014/index.html>
 - Action: If you know of potential sponsors or exhibitors let Mike know
 - Action: If you are interested in making calls contact Mike Yurewicz. There are guidelines and tips for making calls.
- Awards (Dan Sullivan, USGS)
 - Nominations for Council awards are needed please see 2014 conference website <http://acwi.gov/monitoring/conference/2014/index.html> for more information.
- 5k Run (Kris Stepenuck, Wisconsin)
 - A race proposal was written by Kris Stepenuck, kfstepenuck@wisc.edu, and presented to the Local Planning Committee (see document “[Race Proposal 2013 Aug 20](#)” for details).
 - The race will be held Thursday, May 1, 2014 beginning at 7 AM. The City of Cincinnati requires that we pay a \$300 facility rental fee, show a certificate of insurance, and complete a facility rental application.
 - Proposed route will be along the River and the starting point is about 4 blocks from Convention Center
- Potential Council Session:
 - Council Workshop where Council Activities are showcased
 - State/Regional/Tribal workshop
 - Highlight Council Products
 - NEMI 4.0
 - National Network of Reference Watersheds
 - Highlight Portals

11. Update on the 2016 Conference (Mike Yurewicz, USGS)

- Venues for the 2016 Conference will begin after the 2014 Conference. This will limit the venues as many are filling up years in advance.
- Kim Haag, USGS, reminded the Council that if we are interested in going to Tampa, FL we need to act quickly. Currently, the venue is available at the time frame when the Council holds its conference but that may not last long.

12. Roundtable Discussions:

- Tony Shaw, Pennsylvania DEP: Gave a presentation on Pennsylvania Water Quality Activities including Marcellus Activities, Susquehanna River Water Quality, and Ionic-based parameter Standards Development (SO₄, Cl, TDS, SC) (See presentation "[PA Shaw](#)" for details).
- Steve Wolfe, Gulf of Mexico Alliance, Florida Institute of Oceanography:
 - There is wide support to develop an Oversight Monitoring Council in the Gulf to coordinate all monitoring efforts among fisheries, IOOS, water quality etc., The role of the Gulf Council would be to determine how funding arrives and is distributed among sites. No charter is in place as yet.
 - Mentioned that GOMA has established a registry for molecular markers for coastal pathogens to improve understanding of waterborne, disease-causing microorganisms (pathogens). Researchers in this arena identified the need for a central registry containing the methods that have been tried, with sufficient information about the tested markers so that other researchers and managers can choose methods appropriate for their area and likely sources of contamination. The GOMA Water Quality Team identified the information needed by researchers and managers and organized it into a web-based registry. This registry is open for addition of new molecular markers and new marker methods and is intended to be a resource for all such research. New information submissions are reviewed before addition to ensure the integrity of the registry contents.
 - Resource: The registry can be found at: http://www.gulfofmexicoalliance.org/issues/water_quality.php found at the beginning of the "Actions" section, under "Coastal Pathogens: Registry established for Molecular Markers".
- Greg Pettit, Oregon DEQ:
 - Oregon has developed a water quality report card using an annual water quality index
 - Oregon continues to have Water Quality Summits and is planning on for northeast Oregon in Nov.
 - We were successful in Oregon in having additional funding allocated by our legislature for water quality monitoring, including a statewide groundwater quality monitoring program, adding back a biological monitoring program and additional pesticide monitoring for both surface and ground waters. This effort was successful because of the work we did leading up to the session with our Governor's office, other state natural resource agencies, key legislators and broad spectrum of external stakeholders to raise the awareness of the value and importance of good data. I was asked if I could supply you with some of the material we used to do so. I have attached two documents.
 - The first is a document that describes the "Enterprise Approach" to monitoring we are developing to share information and expertise amongst state agencies (see document "[EnterpriseMonitoringBudgetmemo](#)").
 - The second document is a Power Point presentation I gave to our Senate Natural Resource and Environment Committee during a meeting that focused on the 40th anniversary of the Clean Water Act. I used this same basic presentation in a number of venues modified to be appropriate for the interest of the particular audience I was addressing (see PowerPoint presentation "[SenateNRCommitteeWQimprovements](#)").
- Mary Skopec, Iowa DNR:
 - Iowa DNR is working with USGS to determine flow at ungagged basins. There is a new report on how it works.
 - Nitrate Sensors: There are 14 sensors deployed and data covers a drought (2012) and flood (2013) year. Concentrations of 30 ppm or greater of nitrate as N have been consistently found in 2013. Local organizations have translated the amount of nitrate into fertilizer costs lost. Huge loads are moving through the Mississippi River Basin. Sensors are working well. This is changing the way they do business in the State.

August 20, 2013

13. Council Updates – Mike Yurewicz, USGS Council Co-Chair
 - Action: Mike encouraged submission of articles or announcements to the Council's fall newsletter. The deadline for articles submission in **September 13th**. Please send them to Cathy Tate, cmtate@usgs.gov.
 - Next Council meeting will be December 3-5 at the US Fish & Wildlife, National Conservation Training Center, Shepherdstown, WV

State/Regional/Tribal Councils and Monitoring Partnerships Updates:

14. Jeff Frey, USGS and Past-President of InWMC gave a presentation on the Indiana Water Monitoring Council (see presentation "[InWMC](#)") including when they started, their structure and committees, webpage (<http://www.inwmc.org/>), member directory, Indiana Water Monitoring Inventory, their field days, Symposia on "Drought" and "Super gage", Groundwater Focus Committee and Project on Water Monitoring Network Optimization Taskforce. For more information contact Jeff Frey, jwfrey@usgs.gov or Shawn Naylor, snaylor@indiana.edu, Indiana Geological Survey and President of InWMC.
 - The InWMC annual meeting is usually "piggy backed" with other meetings to make it cost effective.
 - The Indiana Water Monitoring Inventory was a great help in finding data sources for Jeff Deacon's compilation of data for the NE-MW project.
 - Suggestion: Issue of funding and how to sustain State/Regional/Tribal Councils might be a topic that could be discussed in a workshop at the 2014 Conference.
15. Kate Muldoon, Florida Water Resources Monitoring Council (<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/monitoring/council/index.htm>): The Florida Council was revived about 3 years ago. Some activities include:
 - Catalog of monitoring information, primarily metadata
 - Coastal Monitoring Network in response to Deep Water Horizon.
 - Groundwater Workgroup in response to saline intrusion into groundwater.
 - Formation of Regional Councils within the State. Regional Council's will have first meeting in October.
16. Mike Eil, North Dakota Department of Health: The North Dakota Water Quality Monitoring Council (<http://www.ndwatermonit.org/index.html>) will be hosting their 2nd ND Water Quality Monitoring Conference in the spring of 2014.
17. Leslie McGeorge, NJ DEP: The New Jersey Water Monitoring Council (<http://www.state.nj.us/dep/wms/wmcchome.html>) will be celebrating its 10th anniversary in September! DEP's Assistant Commissioner for Water Resource Management is scheduled to help us celebrate.
18. Jon Marshack, California State Water Resources Control Board: As a collaborative effort of the Wetlands Monitoring Workgroup of the California Water Quality Monitoring Council, a completely redesigned California Wetlands Portal has been released, (see http://www.mywaterquality.ca.gov/eco_health/wetlands). In addition, Kris Jones, Kristopher.jones@water.ca.gov has been hired as a new Monitoring Council Coordinator from California's Natural Resources Agency.

Technical Presentations

19. Midwest Stream-Quality Assessment: Jeff Frey, USGS, and Ellen Tarquinio, USEPA gave a presentation updating the progress of the Midwest Stream-Quality Assessment study during 2013-2014. This assessment is a collaboration between the USGS: National Water Quality Assessment (NAWQA) and Columbia Environmental Research Center (CERC), and the USEPA: National Rivers and Streams Assessment (NRSA) Programs. The goal of this study is to evaluate multiple stressors on biological communities in the Temperate Plains (Cornbelt). (see presentation "[Midwest Stream-Quality Assessment](#)" for details).
20. Water Quality Portal: Jim Kreft, USGS, gave a summary of FY13 accomplishments including usage statistics, operations and maintenance, portal statistics, improvements (coverage map, organization ontology), major developments (map interface, QA/QC checks), and additional data providers that will be incorporated; and a summary of planned FY14 activities and next steps. (See presentation "[WQP](#)" for more details).
 - Action: Jim Kreft will write a newsletter article on updates for the WQP.
 - Action: All -- Look for an announcement for a WQP webinar planned for the Fall 2013.

- Action: ALL please take a look at the map interface and let Jim Kreft, jkreft@usgs.gov, or Charles Kovatch, kovatch.charles@epa.gov, know what you need from the map applications.
21. Storing Biological data in BioData: Pete Ruhl, USGS, gave a presentation on BioData which is a database application for managing, storing, and distributing USGS aquatic bioassessment data. Pete gave an overview of BioData (<http://aquatic.biodata.usgs.gov>) including current data holdings, data management tool for field biologist, BioData as a national repository and data distribution channel. The FY2014 workplan was also discussed (see presentation "[BioData](#)" for details). Currently, although feasible, there are no resources available to map data from BioData to WQP.
 22. Biological Data in STORET: Charles Kovatch, USEPA, gave a presentation on updating the status of State chemical water monitoring results submitted via WQX in STORET since the April Council Webex. In addition, Charles gave provided an overview of biological data submitted via WQX in STORET and next steps for working with Water Quality Portal team add biological data output into the portal (see presentation "[Update on Chemical and Biological Data in STORET](#)" for details).
 23. USEPA's Water Cluster and Confluence in Cincinnati: Evelyn Hartzell, USEPA, gave an overview of the Water Cluster and Confluence. On January 18, 2011, EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced the formation of a Water Technology Innovation Cluster (WTIC) in the Cincinnati, Dayton, northern Kentucky, and southeast Indiana region, now known as Confluence (<http://www.epa.gov/nrmrl/watercluster/index.html>). Confluence works closely with both private and public entities, including the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission (ORSANCO), SBA, and regional economic development organizations to promote the regional cluster effort by bringing water research stakeholders together to foster collaboration. The EPA cluster team's goal is to promote innovation in the water technology sector through RD&D collaboration among internal and external partners in the region, technology transfer, and assistance to EPA researchers in protecting intellectual property. To learn more about Confluence and some of the projects they have funded, see the fact sheet: http://www.epa.gov/nrmrl/watercluster/docs/SIA_CincinnatiWater%20TechnologyFactSheet05092013.pdf. Confluence is active in promoting and hosting a number of events including a "Citizen Biomonitoring workshop" that occurred last spring. Plans are being made to follow up with a session on Citizen Biomonitoring" at the upcoming 2014 National Monitoring Conference. Peter Tennant is on the board of Confluence.
 24. National Groundwater Monitoring Network (NGWMN): Robert Schreiber, Vice President, CDM Smith, Co-Chair, ACWI Subcommittee on Ground Water (SOGW), gave summary and progress-update on the National GW Monitoring Network (see presentation "[Natl GW Monit Network overview](#)" for details). The overall goal of the SOGW is to develop and encourage implementation of a nationwide, long term ground-water quantity and quality monitoring framework that would provide information necessary for the planning, management, and development of ground-water supplies to meet current and future water needs, and ecosystem requirements. To that end, the SOGW has prepared a document "*A National Framework for Groundwater Monitoring in the United States*" and created a National Groundwater Monitoring Data Web Portal. Both of these products can be found at the SOGW website: <http://acwi.gov/sogw>.
 25. Update on 2014 Conference: Cathy Tate, USGS, Co-Chair of Conference gave a brief update since April 7th Call. (See presentation, "[2014 National Monitoring Conference, August 20](#)" for details).
 - Action: Cathy Tate will send out latest version of spreadsheet with proposed topics.
 26. Update on Association of Clean Water Administrators (ACWA) Meeting: (Martha Clark Mettler, ACWA and Leslie McGeorge, NJDEP) gave an update on the ACWA meeting which primarily focuses on the Clean Water Act and involves States and USEPA. As a part of that meeting, Leslie McGeorge and others created a Fact Sheet for an ACWA Meeting session on "Monitoring Program Adaptations: New Criteria and More" (see document "[ACWA Monitoring Program Adaptations Session Handout](#)") that gives a succinct summary on the importance of water monitoring geared toward a managerial audience.
 27. Roundtable Discussions:
 - Leslie McGeorge, NJ DEP:
 - NJ now has a Comprehensive Water Resource Management initiative led by the Assistant Commissioner for Water to integrate all water programs on a watershed basis.
 - Barnegat Bay collaborative monitoring program has completed 2 ½ years of monitoring for tributaries and the bay.
 - NJ Water Monitoring Council is celebration its 10th anniversary meeting.

- Monty Porter, Oklahoma Water Resources Board, gave a presentation on Groundwater Monitoring and Assessment Program GMAP in Oklahoma. Monty described the monitoring plan that includes the purpose and objectives, data elements, spatial design, well selection, measurement frequency and water quality parameters/field parameters and more (See presentation "[GMAP](#)" for details).
- Mike Yurewicz, USGS, described links to USGS recent products including:
 - Ecological Health in the Nation's Streams, 1993-2005, <http://water.usgs.gov/nawqa/ecology/pubs/cir-1391/index.html>
 - Factors Affecting Public-Supply-Well Vulnerability to Contamination: Understanding Observed Water Quality and Anticipating Future Water Quality, <http://oh.water.usgs.gov/tanc/NAWQATANC.htm>
 - Tracking and Forecasting the Nation's Water Quality Priorities and Strategies for 2013–2023, Fact sheet describing NAWQA Cycle 3: <http://water.usgs.gov/nawqa/pubs/fs-2013-3008/>
 - USGS press release "Real-time Monitoring Pays Off for Tracking Nitrate Pulse in Mississippi River Basin to the Gulf of Mexico", <http://www.usgs.gov/newsroom/article.asp?ID=3668&from=rss>
 - Jeff Deacon is working on creating "Water Quality Summaries for NAWQA" that will release information in a timely manner (e.g., annually).
 - A report will be released soon as a USGS SIR report on the Regional SPARROW models for the eastern seaboard. A Decision Support SPARROW model covering 64 estuaries along the east coast is expected to be released in October.
 - Action: Mike Yurewicz will send link to report to Leslie McGeorge and Dave Chestnut when available.
 - Suggestion: The integration white paper needs to be posted with examples to demonstrate how all the different Federal and State monitoring programs are complementary.
- Susan Holdsworth, USEPA:
 - Physical Chemical and Biological data can be found in STORET
 - NARS Surveys:
 - National Rivers and Stream Survey has sampled about half the sites (for the Pilot Project in Midwest Stream-quality Assessment)
 - Lakes Survey – Last year's data is working its way through the system
 - Wetlands and Coastal Survey – are in data analyses phase
- Jon Marshack, California State Water Resources Control Board: The Healthy Streams Partnership, a workgroup of the California Water Quality Monitoring Council, is advising USEPA contractors conducting a multi-metric analysis of Watershed Health. The project is sponsored and paid for by the USEPA Healthy Watershed Initiative (www.epa.gov/healthywatersheds/), a program designed to identify healthy watersheds, develop mechanisms to keep them healthy, and prioritize efforts to restore unhealthy watersheds. Relying on a variety of indicators, California's Healthy Watersheds Initiative Project is taking a systems approach to assessing both watershed health and vulnerability statewide. The outcome will be a set of GIS maps to be added to California's Healthy Streams Portal at www.MyWaterQuality.ca.gov under the Ecosystem Health tab.
- Dave Chestnut, SC Dept. of Health & Environmental Control: South Carolina will be moving all data from STORET to WQX and try to QA/QC data and metadata. This applies to chemical data at this point.

Open Discussion and Wrap Up:

28. Mike Yurewicz and Susan Holdsworth had the following suggestions for sessions/papers at 2014 Conference
- Optimizing monitoring networks
 - Getting complete and accurate dataset into data portals
 - Groundwater sessions

MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, August 7, 2013 – Eastern Daylight Time

11:00 am – Welcome and Roll Call (Cathy Tate, USGS, Council Executive Secretary)
 11:05 am – Brief Overview/Announcements (Mike Yurewicz, USGS, Susan Holdsworth, USEPA, Council Co-chairs)
 11:15 am – Council Business -- Approval of April 2-4, 2013 Council meeting minutes (Cathy Tate, USGS, Council Executive Secretary)
 See link: http://acwi.gov/monitoring/ppt/iowacity_April2013/index.html
Updates from Council Workgroups and Committees
 11:20 am – Reference Site Network (Mike McHale and Jeff Deacon, USGS)
 11:35 am – Collaboration & Outreach Workgroup (Cathy Tate, Barb Horn, Co-chairs)
 11:50 am – Volunteer Monitoring Committee (Barb Horn, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Volunteer Monitoring Rep.)
 12:05 pm – Methods Board -- NEMI 4.0 and Sensors workgroup (Dan Sullivan, USGS, Co-chair)
 12:35 pm – National Monitoring Network (Mike Yurewicz, USGS)
 12:55 pm – Break
 1:10 pm – Water Information Strategies Workgroup (Mary Skopec, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Represents States of USEPA Region 7, Chair)
 1:25 pm – Water Quality Statistical and Assessment Workgroup (Doug McLaughlin, National Council for Air and Stream Improvement, Inc. Representative, Co-chair)
2014 National Monitoring Conference
 1:40 pm – Overview (Conference Co-chairs, Cathy Tate, USGS, Jeff Schloss, NALMS, Alice Mayo, USEPA)
 1:55 pm – Local Planning Committee (Jeff Thomas, ORSANCO)
 2:10 pm – Program Committee (Curtis Cude, Oregon Health Authority, Mary Skopec, Callie Oblinger, USGS)
 2:25 pm – Extended Sessions (Monty Porter, Oklahoma Water Resources Board)
 2:40 pm – Plenary (Mike Yurewicz, USGS)
 2:55 pm – Sponsors/Exhibitors (Mike Yurewicz, USGS)
 3:10 pm -- Break
 3:25 pm – Awards (Dan Sullivan, USGS)
 3:40 pm – 5k Run (Kris Stepenuck, Wisconsin)
 3:50 pm – Network block (Barb Horn, Colorado Parks and Wildlife)
 4:00 pm – Council Products and Sessions to Highlight (Open Discussion)
 4:10 pm – 2016 Conference: Update on where we are in process (Mike Yurewicz, USGS)
 4:20 pm – Roundtable/Updates: Federal/Tribal/Other (5 minutes each): Tony Shaw, Greg Pettit, Mary Skopec, Steve Wolfe
 5:00 pm – Adjourn

Tuesday, August 20, 2013 – Eastern Daylight Time

11:00 am – Welcome and Roll Call (Susan Holdsworth, USEPA and Mike Yurewicz, USGS, Council Co-chairs)
 11:05 am – Brief Overview/Announcements/Introductions (Susan Holdsworth, USEPA and Mike Yurewicz, USGS)
State/Regional/Tribal Councils and Monitoring Partnerships Update
 11:20 am – The Indiana Water Monitoring Council - an update from a relatively new Council (Jeff Frey, USGS and Past-President of InWMC)
 11:40 am – Open forum for other Councils
Technical Presentations
 11:50 am – The Midwest Stream Water Quality Assessment 2013 - A collaboration among USGS, USEPA and States (Jeff Frey, USGS and Ellen Tarquinio, USEPA)
 12:20 pm – Water Quality Portal (Jim Kreft, USGS and Charles Kovatch, USEPA)
 12:50 pm – Break
 1:05 pm – Storing Biological Data in BioData and STORET (Pete Ruhl, USGS and Charles Kovatch, USEPA)
 1:25 pm – Water Technology Cluster: A collaboration among EPA and others in Cincinnati (Evelyn Hartzell, USEPA)
 1:45 pm – National Groundwater Monitoring Network (Bob Schreiber, CDM Smith, Co-Chair SOGW)
 2:05 pm – Open Discussion on Technical Presentations or Councils
2014 Conference Updates
 2:25 pm – Update on 2014 Conference (Cathy Tate, 2014 Conference Co-Chair)
Roundtable
 2:40 pm – Update on Association of Clean Water Administrators (ACWA) Meeting (Martha Clark Mettler, ACWA and Leslie McGeorge, NJDEP)
 3:10 pm – Break
 3:25 pm – Roundtable session (5-10 minutes each): Leslie McGeorge, Monty Porter, Mike Yurewicz, Susan Holdsworth, Dave Chestnut

Open Discussion and Wrap up

4:40 pm – Open discussion and wrap up (Susan Holdsworth, USEPA, Mike Yurewicz, USGS, Council Co-chairs)

5:00 pm – Adjourn

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