A Survey of the States' Monitoring Strategies

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Survey Sponsor

- Conceived by Monitoring Council – Monitoring Information Strategies Work Group
- Carried out by ASIWPCA Monitoring, Standards and Assessment Task Force.

Survey Objectives

- Identify Areas of Need.
- Identify Types of Monitoring Used for Specific Water Quality Management Objectives.
- Assess Success of Efforts to Strengthen State Programs.

Is your state's strategy available on line?

- Yes – 14
- No - 14

To what extent does your strategy incorporate US EPA's Ten Elements Guidance for each waterbody type?

	Comp	Part	UD	NA
Rivers & Streams	20	8	1	0
Lakes	12	12	2	3
Reservoirs	13	11	2	3
Ground Water	6	6	12	2
Wetlands	0	4	22	1
Estuaries	7	6	1	14
Coastal	6	6	1	15
Ephemeral Waters	1	2	11	10

Does your state strategy address monitoring efforts by other state agencies?

- Yes – 21
- No - 7

Has your US EPA Region aproved/ accepted your Strategy?

- Yes – 24
- No - 4

Does your state utilize probablistic monitoring for purposes beyond the national assessments?

- Yes – 22
- No - 6

If yes, for what purposes?

- Statewide assessment – 17
- Water Quality status - 17
- Trends - 12
- Other - 9

Are monitoring approaches set forth in your state's water quality standards? (ie, frequency or duration of observations)

- Physical/chemical:
  - Yes – 13
  - No - 15
- Biological:
  - Yes – 10
  - No - 18

Are you using a rotating basin approach?

- Yes – 25
- No - 2

Rotating Basin Cycle

- 5 years: 20 states
- 2 years: 2 states
- 8 years: 1 state
- 4 years: 1 state
- Variable: 1 state

Uses of Rotating Basin approach

- Ambient monitoring – 22
- 305(b) assessment - 23
- 303(d) listing - 22
- Program evaluation - 14
- Other - 6

Are other water quality management programs aligned with the rotating basin schedule?

- Permitting - 8
- Compliance - 6
- Water Quality Standards - 1
- Other -11
- None -11

Is the rotating basin approach achieving the desired coordination, efficiency, and results?

- Yes – 16
- No - 11

Impediments to full success of Rotating Basins Approach

- Lack of coordination with other programs.
- Difficulty with two year reporting cycle.
- Inadequate communication between state and Tribes.

Top technical problems identified

- Data management/ exchange -19
- Interpretation of results -16
- Ambiguity in WQS re:assessment -15
- Training/experience - 14
- Other - 12
- Infrastructure - 10

Priority Information Needs

- Statewide Assessment
- TMDL Development
- 305(b)/303(d)
- Trends
- Evaluate effectiveness of pollution abatement programs
- Develop WQ criteria (including biological and nutrient)

Has your state's monitoring program received additional 106 funds dedicated to specific needs identified in your strategy?

- Yes – 21
- No - 7

Next Steps

- Presentation of Results to ASIWPCA Monitoring, Standards and Assessment Task Force
- Consideration of Results by NWQMC Information Strategies Work Group