



New Jersey Water Monitoring Council:

Strengthening Monitoring Collaboration & Partnerships Across a State Water Monitoring Community

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Vision – Provide water information foundation for enhanced management & protection of NJ's aquatic environment.

Mission - Promote coordination, collaboration & communication of scientifically sound, ambient water quality & quantity data

Scope - Biological, chemical, physical and ecosystem aspects of water monitoring, including surface and ground waters, freshwater, estuarine, & marine environments

Goals

- Promote partnerships & efficient use of resources
- Enhance data exchange & comparability
- Facilitate water monitoring technology transfer
- Serve as water monitoring information source
- Integrate with national monitoring council (NWQMC)
- Advocate state monitoring needs at federal level
- Identify research needs and emerging issues

Membership

40 Members from 19 Organizations

- Government – DEP, DHSS (Health), USGS, EPA R2, NOAA, Monmouth County Health Department
- Interstates - Delaware River Basin Commission, Interstate Environmental Commission
- Estuary Program - Barnegat Bay Partnership
- Regional Planning Commission - Pinelands Commission
- Utilities Authorities/Consortium - NJ Water Supply Authority, Brick Twp MUA, NJ Harbor Dischargers
- Watershed Associations - Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Assoc, Musconetcong Watershed Assoc
- Academia/Research - Rutgers U., Montclair State U., Monmouth U., Meadowlands Environmental Research Inst.

Organization

- Co-chairs** – Leslie McGeorge (NJDEP), Bob Reiser (USGS NJ Water Science)
- Coordinator** – Alena Baldwin-Brown (NJDEP)
- Steering Committee** – NJDEP, USGS, DRBC, EPA R2
- Meetings** - 3 x/yr & subcommittees
- Process** - Informal, consensus-driven body
- Formed** – 2003 on World Water Monitoring Day
- www.state.nj.us/dep/wms/wmcchome.html

Key Information Exchange Methods

1. Council Website

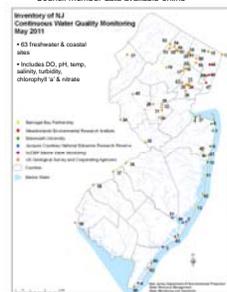
2. Technical Presentations Available Online

- Indicators of Water Quality & Quantity
- Nutrients
- Continuous Monitoring
- Coastal & Ocean Monitoring
- Lakes
- Mercury
- Water Quantity
- Fish & Shellfish Monitoring

Recent NJ Council Outcomes

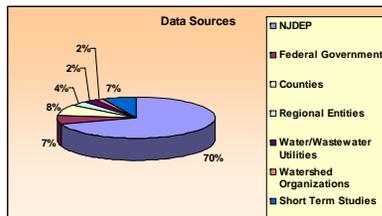
1. Continuous Monitoring Inventories

Includes interactive spreadsheet with direct links to Council member data available online



2. Increased Data Sharing for State Water Quality Report

Example Data Source Breakdown for State Integrated Water Quality Report



Council Member Organizations Contributing Data

USGS	Monmouth County Health Department
Delaware River Basin Commission	Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Assoc.
US EPA Region 2	Rutgers Cooperative Extension
Interstate Environmental Commission	NJ Harbor Dischargers
NJ Water Supply Authority	Brick Township MUA

3. Council is Foundation for New Monitoring Consortium: Governor's Barnegat Bay Ecological Health Initiative (2011-2013)

Platform presentation: Session O1 (5/4, 3:30-5:00 pm)

Objectives

- ID water quality impairments
- Develop models to direct restoration or TMDLs
- ID water quality/loading targets for nutrients, etc.

Need for Partnerships

- Extensive monitoring and lab needs
- Exceeds DEP capacity
- 13 Trib & 14 Bay Stations
- Sampled – 4x/month
- > 7500 field measurements in first 6 months

13 Monitoring & Lab Partners

Sample Collection & Transport Logistics

Making Data Available to Partners

State & National Monitoring Workshops

- 2006 – Council-sponsored state workshop
- 2008 – Host State Council for National Conference in Atlantic City
- 2009 – Council + Volunteer Monitoring Program-sponsored state workshop
- 2011 – Council + Volunteer Monitoring Program-sponsored state workshop

