

10th NATIONAL MONITORING CONFERENCE



Working Together for Clean Water

May 2 – 6, 2016

Tampa, Florida



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Join us on May 2-6, 2016 in Tampa, Florida for the National Water Quality Monitoring Council's (NWQMC) **10th National Monitoring Conference – Working Together for Clean Water**. This conference provides many opportunities for water stakeholders – federal, state, tribal and local water professionals, non-profits, academia, and volunteer citizen scientists – to network, develop new skills and partnerships, and exchange information.

The NWQMC is requesting abstracts for oral presentations, posters, workshops, panels, short courses, and Round Table discussions (**NEW!**) that cover topics related to rivers and streams, lakes, wetlands, coastal waters and estuaries, groundwater, and drinking water. **Abstracts are due September 18, 2015.**

Abstracts are welcome on any of the following conference themes (see back for more details):

- Monitoring Designs for the 21st Century
- Connecting Coasts, Estuaries, and Freshwater Ecosystems
- Innovations in Monitoring and Assessment
- Identifying and Assessing Emerging Risks
- Measuring Effectiveness of Water Management Actions
- Managing, Sharing, Communicating, and Mining Data
- Building Monitoring Collaborations
- Assessing Trends in Water Resources

AWARDS!

The Council is currently accepting nominations for the 2016 [Elizabeth J. Fellows](#), [Barry A. Long](#), and [Vision](#) awards. Details at: <http://acwi.gov/monitoring/conference/2016/>

The Fluid 5K Run/Walk is on! Sign up at registration and pack your running shoes!

The NWQMC welcomes proposals for the following types of presentations at this conference:

- 15-minute oral presentations
- Posters
- Workshops (90-minute interactive, hands-on training session)
- Panels (90 minutes; 3-6 short presentations and facilitated discussion)
- Short courses (90 minutes; lecture or computer based training)
- Facilitated Round Tables (90 minutes; one 15-minute presentation plus facilitated discussion and measurable outcome)

Instructions for submitting abstracts and proposals, including more detail on these types of presentations, are available on the conference website at: <http://acwi.gov/monitoring/conference/2016/>

All abstracts MUST be received no later than SEPTEMBER 18, 2015. Authors will be notified by January 15, 2016 if they have been accepted to present.

REGISTRATION INFO coming soon to our conference website. For exhibitor and sponsorship information, contact Greg Arenz, garenz@nalms.org. To be placed on our mailing list, contact Philip Forsberg, forsberg@nalms.org. For general conference information, contact Alice Mayo, mayio.alice@epa.gov or Callie Oblinger, oblinger@usqs.gov.



National Water Quality Monitoring Council



Conference Themes and Sub-themes

The National Monitoring Conference attracts attendees and presenters from across the country and from all types of monitoring organizations. Listed below are themes for the 10th conference. This list is intended to spark thinking about issues that might be addressed in presentations and extended sessions, and should NOT be considered comprehensive or limiting. **Abstracts are due September 18, 2015.** Visit <http://acwi.gov/monitoring/conference/2016/> for more info.

Monitoring Designs for the 21st Century

- Incorporating new technology into monitoring designs
- Innovative application of continuous sensors and surrogates in monitoring designs
- Integrating discrete and continuous monitoring designs for better water management
- Monitoring designs for extrapolation and forecasting of water quality conditions
- Advancing geospatial applications to support monitoring and assessment programs

Connecting Coasts, Estuaries, and Freshwater Ecosystems

- Coastal monitoring networks: Integrating across state, federal, and international borders
- Overcoming challenges in measuring coastal and estuarine water quality
- The role of biological indicators in water quality monitoring in freshwater and marine settings
- Interactions between nutrients, hypoxia, and ocean acidification
- Integrating in-situ sampling, remote sensing, and modeling
- Monitoring and assessment under the NEP and NEERS
- Monitoring nutrients and nutrient effects in the Mississippi River Basin and Gulf of Mexico

Innovations in Monitoring and Assessment

- Recent advancements in continuous sensor use and accessibility
- Monitoring for waterborne illnesses
- New ways to monitor groundwater quality *in-situ*
- Emerging technology for collecting water-quality data in the field
- Advances in biological and human health indicators
- Innovative use of apps and new data collection techniques

Identifying and Assessing Emerging Risks

- Harmful algal blooms and eutrophication
- Impacts of energy development on water resources
- Identifying emerging risks in agricultural and urban environments
- Emerging risks to ecological and human health
- Extreme events and climate change
- Impacts of invasive species on ecosystem condition

Measuring Effectiveness of Water Management Actions

- Measuring the effectiveness of cleanup and restoration actions
- Eco-services and the value and benefits of clean water
- Water quality management success stories
- Developing and using interim measures of effectiveness and managing expectations for incremental improvement
- Defining reference condition and its use to establish benchmarks
- Monitoring the effectiveness of green infrastructure and climate resiliency practices
- Monitoring data and ancillary information needs for evaluating the effectiveness of BMPs

Managing, Sharing, Communicating, and Mining Data

- Development and use of data standards, portals, and warehouses
- Innovative and effective approaches to presenting water quality data
- Making water data relevant to national, state, tribal and local policy
- Innovations in water quality outreach, education, and communication
- Tools for managing, processing, assessing, and presenting continuous data
- Crowd sourcing, social media, and the power of being connected

Building Monitoring Collaborations

- Real world examples of data sharing success
- Sustaining programs in times of declining budgets
- Enhancing partnerships through state and regional monitoring councils
- National Water Quality Initiative projects
- Expanding the inclusion of volunteer and citizen science data for decision making
- Local government data for state/regional projects

Assessing Trends in Water Resources

- Statistical surveys: measuring trends in resource/population condition
- Contribution and challenges of using data from legacy monitoring sites
- New methods in trend analysis
- Importance of ancillary data in explaining trends
- Using long-term trends for prioritization activities
- Using big data to answer complex questions