

NWQMC Steering Committee Minutes for July 13, 2018

Meeting Attendees: Dan Sullivan, Jeff Schloss, Lareina Guenzel, Julie Vastine, Gary Rowe, Candice Hopkins, Aaron Borisenko, Susan Holdsworth, Adrienne Bartlewitz, Marie DeLorenzo, Danielle Donkersloot

1. Update on ACWI Activities

- The ACWI charter was signed by Secretary Zinke and will be good for another two years
- Candice will inform the NWQMC of any additional changes to ACWI

2. Membership Updates

- Doug McLaughlin has changed careers and is now working for a consulting company, leaving a vacant position in the NCASI slot. We will need to fill his position with a non-federal, non-state slot. Gary will draft an email to the NWQMC about suggestions for agencies we may wish to see fill that slot.
- Now that the ACWI charter has been renewed, we can move forward with confirming members who were “pending” to the NWQMC. They will be invited to our fall in-person meeting.

3. National Monitoring Conference Update (Jeff, Gary, and Lareina)

- EPA is close to finalizing contract support of the conference. They will need a contractor to help with various aspects of the conference.
- Lareina is going to mention the November 6-8 in-person meeting at the next Program Committee meeting and try to get as many session leads to attend as possible.
- USGS sent a Google form to try to gather information about championed sessions. Candice will get a copy of this form and reproduce it from the NWQMC account so we can share it externally with people interested in proposing sessions.
- Jeff is working to nail down costs for exhibitors. Susan suggested allowing exhibitors to present during the NMC, and Jeff suggested allowing them to have workshops pre or post conference to allow them to train people in depth on their products.
- Sponsorship was also discussed. Gary knows of a few large companies that may be interested in sponsoring the conference.

6. Bioassessment Workgroup (Dan)

- Progress has finally been made in updating the software of NEMI
- Dan has been participating with discussions about restarting the National Monitoring Network

7. Sensors Workgroup (Dan)

- The Sensors workgroup is trying to put together a session about uncertainty for the 2019 NMC. Dan think he'll be able to pull this together and is trying to track down work that the USGS did several years ago focusing on sensor uncertainty.

8. Volunteer Monitoring (Julie)

- The group met on June 25th and discussed the 2019 NMC and other topics.
- VM is going to put on a webinar in July focused on recruiting high-quality VM submissions to the 2019 NMC. In addition, they are in the process of lining up two other webinars.
- There has been interest in providing training for monitoring during extreme weather events. Julie is looking for guidelines to help volunteers safely collect samples during these events.

9. Collaboration and Outreach (Candice)

- We need new speakers and ideas for our webinar series; please submit ideas to Candice.
- The fall newsletter deadline is August 31st; please encourage submissions.