NWQMC Steering Committee Minutes for April 7, 2017

Meeting Attendees: Wendy Norton, Dan Sullivan, Gary Rowe, Mike McHale, Julie Vastine, Martha Clark Mettler, Candice Hopkins, Alice Mayio, Mary Skopec

1. Membership Updates (Gary and Susan)
   - Current vacancies include the Gulf of Mexico representative, Region 7 Representative, and the empty agency position. Jon Marshack is retiring soon so the Region 9 Representative will soon be vacant.
   - Susan has started inquiring about a Region 7 replacement

2. Monday’s Meeting (all)
   - It was suggested that we start working on trying to acquire project work plans from subgroups to encourage progress
   - The project work plan template is attached. This will be mentioned on Monday's meeting.

3. 2018 National Monitoring Conference
   - Jeff, via email, indicated that he is close to securing Kansas City as our venue. He should know for sure about the venue by next week.
   - USGS has decided not to join their Water Quality Workshop with the Conference. They also have a spending limit for conferences of $100,000, which may limit USGS's participation.
   - There is no CPC call scheduled yet. It will be scheduled once the conference venue is finalized.

4. WIS Update (Mary)
   - Mary is working to get all of the fact sheets uploaded to the website and advertised on the homepage
   - Fact sheets should be uploaded by Friday, 4/14

5. Volunteer Monitoring (Julie)
   - VM submitted a proposal to NSF and it was rejected; however, Julie had a good conversation with the coordinator at NSF
   - The next step in this NSF proposal is to come up with a master proposal and strategic plan. NSF also encouraged VM to hold a workshop at the 2018 NMC, which could make their proposal more competitive.
   - VM is holding a webinar on April 13th and is trying to schedule additional webinars.

6. NNRW (Mike)
   - Mike got discouraged trying to schedule a call but will try to find a new way to make progress
   - Mike is planning to attend the NADP meeting on April 24th and present the NNRW to that group
   - The EPA RMN sites will be uploaded in May. Mike will have more time to dedicate to the NNRW in May, June, and July.

7. Sensors and Methods Board (Dan)
   - The BioComparability Subgroup is having productive calls.
   - Dan is processing results from the Sensor Survey. It's a lot of information to chew through, so he is categorizing and organizing answers.
   - The Aquatic Invasives group is looking at going in a different direction and may end up waiting on USGS guidance, or moving ahead on their own.
   - NEMI has some new biological protocols.
8. **Collaboration and Outreach (Candice)**
- We've had several successful webinars and have three more planned.
- The Newsletter is in layout and should be sent out in the next week or two.
- One of Julie's students has been helping Candice to compile information on State and Regional Monitoring Councils. We plan to update the website with this new information.