

HIGHLIGHTS OF  
CHATTANOOGA MEETING  
MAY 13-16, 2003

# GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE PARTICIPATION

- Barbara Patterson, GAO, attended meeting and interviewed Council members in relation to:
  - **Request of Congressional Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment to speak to Federal entities that collect water quality and water quantity data; site visits to watershed groups; to interview State water quality organizations that collect water quality data as well as volunteer monitoring, academia, and river basin commissions.**
  - **Report will probably come out next year--January 2004.**

# EPA ACTION PLAN

- **EPA has an action plan (\$4M to State programs) for emphasis on monitoring; will work with other Federal agencies , ASWIPCA, and the NWQMC.**
- **This will begin a 2- or 3-year period with increased interest in water quality monitoring.**

# ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON WATER INFORMATION

- **Renewal of ACWI charter signed by the Secretary of the Interior on May 9, 2003.**
- **The ACWI membership process is in place.**
- **The next meeting of the Advisory Committee will take place on September 9 and 10, 2003, at the Days Hotel, Herndon, Virginia.**
- **Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, the North American Lake Management Society, and American Chemistry Council are also members of the ACWI. The TVA declined membership on the advisory committee but will continue work through the Council.**

# JOINT MEETING WITH CANADIAN COMMITTEE

- **Joint meeting with Canadian Water Quality Coordinating Committee**
  - **Work Groups are to consider the joint meeting of Council with the Canadian WQCC to develop focus as to what actions would develop from this joint meeting.**

# FRAMEWORK LOGOS

- **Subgroup of Council agreed upon the Council logo and banner for a consistent and recognizable look for Council products.**
  - **The banner will be used mainly for letters, certificates, minutes, etc.**
  - **The full logo will be used on Fact Sheets, publications, etc.**
  - **Fact Sheets will be revised to use the approved format.**
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# COUNCIL POSTER

- **Charlie Peters requested review and comments on poster from Council members before completing final version.**
- **The poster will be accessed through a password protected website for review.**
- **Charlie will send PDF File and deadline for review to Council members.**

# COLLABORATION AND OUTREACH WORK GROUP

- **The C&O Work Group requests:**
  - Each work group consider necessity for outreach and list projects, issues.
  - Each Work Group name a liaison to meet with the C&O Work Group on issues of concern. The liaison might meet at other times rather than during the Work Group sessions so that the liaison does not miss his/her own Work Group meeting .

# OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (OMB)

- **Framework Presentations to OMB**
  - **Those attending were Bob Hirsch, Tim Miller, Toni Johnson, and Gail Mallard, USGS; Diane Regas, Chuck Sutfin and Chuck Spooner, EPA; Tom Christensen and Jeff Loser, USDA.**
  - **OMB is interested in how data are collected and how used, and we expect to continue our discussions with OMB.**
  - **Presentations are posted to Council's website.**
  - **Council members can use the Framework presentation (by Gail) if you have occasion to give a briefing on the framework.**

# ASWIPCA AND OTHER MONITORING SURVEYS

- **Sources of funding showed 45% from state; 10% fees; 12% other sources; and 33% Federal grants.**
- **States that did not answer survey--CA, TX, NC, WV, MT, CO, NM, OH, and WI.**
- **ASWIPCA has been sending the results to their membership.**

# USGS/EPA AGREEMENT

## **NWIS/STORET COMPATIBILITY:**

**Agreement signed January 13, 2003, and to be implemented over next several years, at a pace dependent on funding.**

**Agreement calls for a commitment for USGS and EPA to work together to solve the problem and a work plan defining five phases for the work.**

**Tim Miller will prepare a summary of his understanding regarding the agreement between NWIS and STORET and post to Council website.**

# AWRA “IMPACT” ARTICLES

- **Draft articles still need approval of authors’ agencies.**
- **Final articles to be delivered to AWRA by July 1.**

# PLANS FOR 2004 NATIONAL MONITORING CONFERENCE

- **Conducted tour of Tennessee Aquarium for reception event at conference.**
- **Conducted tour of the Chattanooga Convention Center and discussed events for conference.**
- **Conference Planning Committee met with TVA Conference Management to complete interagency contract to manage conference activities in Chattanooga.**

# MONITORING NEEDS OF AGRICULTURE

– **Panel discussed:**

- **2002 Farm Bill**
- **Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan**
- **Upper Mississippi Basin Protection Act, H.R. 961**
- **State Agriculture concerns**

# UPCOMING MEETINGS

- **Summer meeting, August 18-22, 2003—site selected is Baltimore, Maryland.**
- **Winter meeting, proposed date is week of December 8, 2003. Site to be selected; looking for southern location.**
- **Possible meeting of Conference Planning Committee, March 2004, for finalization of conference activities.**
- **National Conference, May 17-21, 2004.**
- **Summer meeting, week of July 19, 2004, possibly a site in Michigan (soon after the WEF Watershed 2004 meeting).**