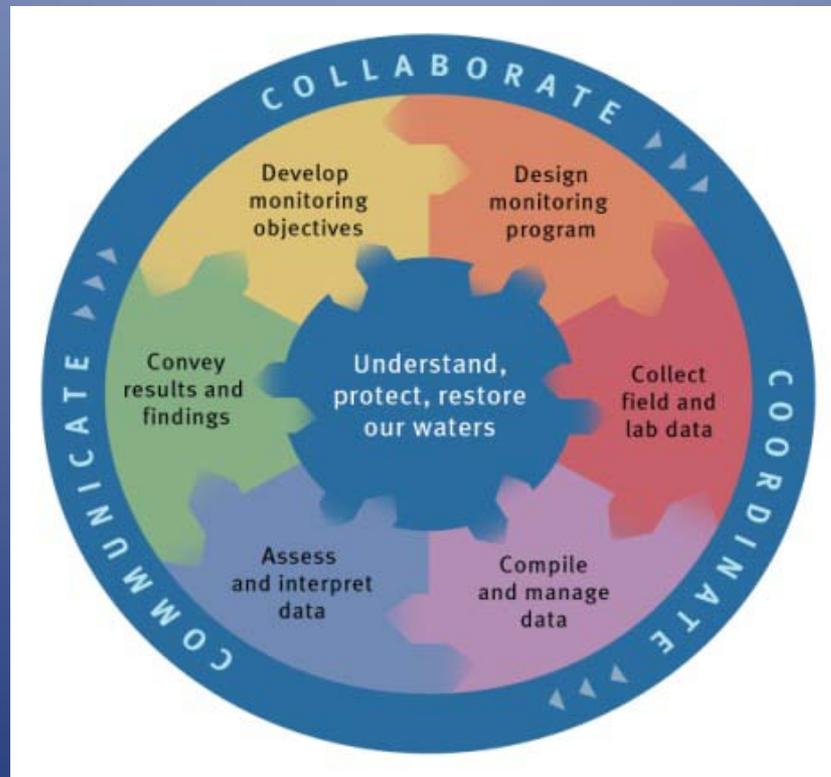


National Water Quality Monitoring Council Collaboration and Outreach Workgroup Report-Out July 15, 2010

The Collaboration and Outreach Workgroup supports partnerships that foster collaboration among the water monitoring community, including State, Regional, and Tribal councils, as well as watershed groups, partnerships, and alliances



Collaboration and Outreach Workgroup

Major Products and Outreach Activities

- Web seminars for water community
- Online newsletter “*National Water Monitoring News*”
- Council Webpage updates
- Online “How-To Tool Kit” for creating and sustaining partnerships and councils
- National Monitoring Conferences



The National Council currently interacts with more than 17 Councils and partnerships across the Nation.





Web Seminars



Past presentations included:

- Sept. 2009: Kickoff Webinar
 - Updates on the California, Florida, and Lake Michigan Monitoring Councils
 - Ideas to facilitate use of data and data sharing among the National and individuals councils
 - Status of Tribal monitoring groups
- Nov. 2009: Integration of citizen monitoring data into Virginia's state assessment report and an online database tool managed by the Virginia Monitoring Council
- Feb. 2010: New web technologies and social media tools for the water monitoring community by reps from Fed Gov, Trade Org, and Citizen/Vol Mon Group
- May/June 2010: An Introduction to Aquatic Sensors and the Aquatic Sensor Workgroup



Web Seminars Goals

- Small packaged webinar (1 hr long, offer 2x)
- Promote charge of council
- Encourage formation and sustaining of other councils and monitoring groups
- Share success and challenges of other Councils
- Provide products of the Council and other tools for water practioners (e.g.NEMI, stats, WQX)
- Keep Newsletter as PR with updates and overviews (Gulf Oil spill, Reference sites) – these may be facilitated discussions on panels at NMCs
- Council may help facilitate panels, workshops, and specialty conferences for hot topics (which need to occur sooner than NMCs)



Web Seminars

Some Suggestions for Future Topics

- NMC: hot talks, panels, and workshops
- NMN: updates and success stories
- More on web technologies and social media tools
- Other Councils: successes and challenges
- Methods Board & NEMI– overview – what it can do for you
 - Surface Water Quality guidance and training, panel to consider developing standardized methods (Peter Evans)
- Data Exchanges (examples of or demos and requests for review and testing)
- WIS Stats tool box (when they have a product or need to solicit testing)
 - Clearinghouse of state & EPA data
 - Collaboration between states/feds/academics
- WaterSMART Program (Evenson), grant program, implementation plan for review, products
- EPA Monitoring Assessment Partnership (MAP)
- Ancillary/supporting data to water quality, programs such as stream stats
- Request suggestions for topics during WebEx sign-in process and ask verbally during teleconf calls



"National Water Monitoring News"

From the Collaboration & Outreach Workgroup

Find out about all the goings-on in our newsletter!

Goal: release 2x per year



Highlights

- Welcome to our Newsletter
- Partnerships and Collaboration
- Council Web Seminars
- 7th National Conference
- Volunteer Monitoring Community Grows
- National Tribal Water Council
- Web Services for Water-Quality Data
- Aquatic Sensor Guides
- NEMI Celebrates 10th Year
- Physical Habitat Data
- Statistics and Assessment tools
- National Monitoring Network Updates
- Ground Water Network Pilots Announced



Volunteer monitor collects fish for aquatic habitat assessment surveys in Colorado.

National Water Monitoring News

National Council Highlights

Collaboration through Partnerships

Methods - Across the Board

National Monitoring Network

The National Water Quality Monitoring Council provides a voice for monitoring practitioners across the Nation and fosters increased understanding and stewardship of our water resources.



Taughannock Falls, New York
Photograph by Chris Burns, CHA, Inc.

The National Water Quality Monitoring Council
Editor: Tracy Hancock
(804) 261-2618 (phone) • email: thancock@usgs.gov
<http://acwi.gov/monitoring/>

“National Water Monitoring News”

An Online Newsletter for the Water Monitoring Community

- ✓ **Launched in April 2010 at National Conference**
- ✓ **Selected Topics:**
 - **Success stories/challenges with State & Regional Councils**
 - **Data integration**
 - **Announcements (conferences, meetings, grants, projects)**
 - **Monitoring (volunteer, Tribal, national, coastal, groundwater)**
 - **Water Information Strategies (assessment tools)**
 - **Methods**
 - **Sensors**



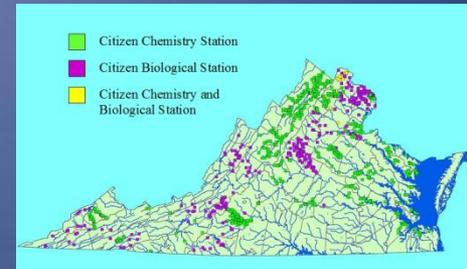
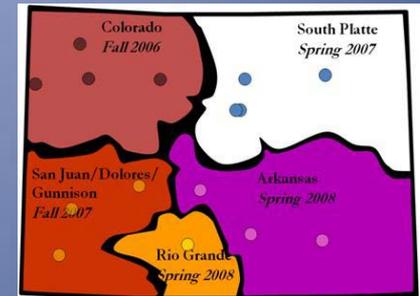


NEWSLETTER

“National Water Monitoring News”

Newsletter Spotlights on Councils

- State Council: CO’s data sharing network on effective info exchange at watershed level through SWAPs
- Volunteer Monitoring: VA Integration of Citizen Monitoring Data into State Assessment Report and On-line Database Tool
- Tribal Monitoring Councils: National, Yukon, and Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission



Newsletter Articles - Suggestions for Fall 2010 Issue

(need by Sept 15)

- National Conference: (Jeff Schloss)
 - In review, who attended...
 - Announce power pts location
 - Promo for 2010 NMC
- Tribes: (Dave Fuller)
 - Columbia Intertribal Fisheries Commission (CRITFC) – coordinated monitoring or
 - Alaska Villages, protecting salmon streams and Pebble Mine Issue
- Vol Mons: (Barb Horn, Julie Vastine, Alice Mayo)
 - Marc. Shale
 - GA Adopt a stream database
- State and Regional Council highlight (need a story)
- SOGW update (Dave Wunsch)
- NMN updates and Ocean Policy Task Force (Pixie Hamilton & Jawed Hameedi)
- Methods Board (Dan Sullivan)
- WIS and/or Statistics Tool Box (Peter Tennant & Doug McLaughlin)
- Data Exchanges (Pixie Hamilton; Nate Booth)
- Highlight Council Member: Gunnar and Gulf Oil Spill (Tracy Hancock or Pixie Hamilton)



Newsletter Articles - Suggestions for Fall 2010 Issue

(need by Sept 15)

- General Announcements:
 - EPA Healthy Watershed Initiatives
 - National Surveys for Lakes and Rivers/Streams
 - USGS Climate Effects Network
 - WaterSMART
 - NAWQA Cycle III planning efforts
 - New Council Members
 - World Water Monitoring Day (WEF)
 - Other Council meetings and announcements



Newsletter

Suggestions for Future Topics

- **Data exchanges:**
 - Need a concrete example and/or pilot on overview of use (DEMO of gathering of data and analysis)
 - solicit review or testing.
 - Highlight a Council's use of data.
 - USGS, EPA, WQX and NOAA.



Newsletter

Suggestions for Future Topics

- **Data exchanges:**
 - Involve CUAHSI, States, Non-profits
 - NWQMC (& NSF) to make recommendations for data standards and elements
 - Coded by organization and project
 - Integrated Climate Effects Network
 - Monitoring Platforms as research tool (Caffrey) and process level work, CUASHI collaborate with academics
 - European Science Shops model (Vastine)
 - Sustainability and environmental management; academia tap into networks
 - NJ Council (McGeorge)
 - Michigan (Kohlhepp) data for reports on for ex invasive or endangered species
 - Model framework of CDC internships with students (Charles ..., EPA)
 - Can be used to make course work relevant (Ostermiller)



Newsletter

Suggestions for Future Topics

- **Integrated Climate Effects Network: Topic: developing infrastructure to incorporate Vol Mon and Tribal data into Climate Change studies**
 - National Climate Change Science Center
 - Global Change Program
 - Data sharing and management with CUAHSI and Water Smart
 - Value of other programs like HBN
 - Include Tribes re adaptation and QW monitoring (*may fit in elsewhere, broader than just climate change*)
 - Yukon River sampling and outreach
 - Waterhouse canoe journey Puget Sound, continuous QW sensors
 - Vol Mons – a lot of interest
 - Phenology program
 - Rain fall monitoring network (NSF, NASA, and NOAA interest)
 - EPA interested in exploring connections
 - FS report: Pacific NW (Barry Long check about include???)
 - Lakes Monitoring Program does temp, micro climate change in surface waters, ice in/out dates (back to 1800s)
 - Reference Sites



Newsletter

Suggestions for Future Topics

- **National Reference Sites Programs: topics on reference sites changing due to land use and if needed for climate change studies. Solicit input for challenges, interests.**
 - Definition
 - Why pursuing?
 - How selected?
 - Needs (climate signals, inter-annual variability)
 - Alternative approaches
 - Involvement from many
 - Feds (see Wilber's slides)
 - States
 - Local expertise needed to screen sites, but case-by-case basis



Web Seminars and Newsletter Suggestions for Future Topics

- **Gulf Oil Spill - How Council can help? Newsletter article – example of collaborative monitoring councils can facilitate response and lessons learned and future prep (use of wheel). Council member or cooperator participated. New Council member: Gunnar on site.**
- **Future: NEMI tools for prep**
 - Sharing of INFO
 - Coordination and standardization
 - Field and labs protocols, including proprietary compounds
 - Sample collection bottles
 - Decontamination of equipment
 - Parameters, including proprietary compounds
 - Benchmarks; toxicity testing
 - Chain of Custody
 - Consistent Indicators
 - NCA Design (EPA)
 - OSHA standards
 - Recovery Sampling
 - Fate and transport of contaminants
 - USGS methods report
 - GOMA



Newsletter

Suggestions for Future Topics

- **Gulf Oil Spill - How Council can help (cont.)**
 - Ad-hoc conf calls open to others
 - Data management and exchange
 - EPA annual “State of Gulf “ Report
 - Consider hypoxia
 - Preparedness of Feds for future oil spills



Newsletter

Suggestions for Future Topics

- **USGS NAWQA Cycle III – let NAWQA Liaison Committee handle this. Possible small blurb on Newsletter, not a webinar. Session at 2012 NMC.**
 - Open structure, but open so others can contribute
 - States repeat basic protocol and then do assessment



Newsletter

Suggestions for Future Topics

- **Ocean Policy Task Force – Water Quality Objective (Hameedi) – Give to NMN Steering Committee**
 - Eight Fed Agencies involved in Ocean Issues
 - Strategic Action Planning Committee
 - Theme teams like Council
 - or Regional Teams (suggestion to use IOOS)
 - Similar goals (actionable item #7) to NMN (which connects to NWQMC), but this will involve OMB to help move it forward
 - Connections to USGS work on river inputs of contaminants
 - See CEQ website and Coastal Marine Spatial Planning website
 - Russell Calendar leading NOAA involvement



Online “How-To Tool Kit” for creating and sustaining Councils

- Factsheet on “Accomplishing More Together”
- Power Point presentations for creating and sustaining partnerships and councils
- Examples of water quality monitoring collaborative efforts
- Power point presentations from Web Seminars

http://acwi.gov/monitoring/regional_councils_files/rc_howto.html



Online “How-To Tool Kit” for creating and sustaining Councils

Action Items

- Consider student intern help to do the following:
 - Add presentations from NMC panel
 - Review and check links
 - Review timeliness of ideas
 - Product a model analysis (or matrix) of Councils including, organization/design and other features.
 - Review old matrix and create new (Alice Mayo to check with Abby Markowitz and EPA site & Kathy Tate to check with Robert Ward ‘s student work).
 - Consider EPA report on the status of state, tribal and regional councils (produced ~8 years ago) which provides analysis of challenges and approaches.
- Update successful collaborations (get from latest Newsletter)
- Create updated power point slide show which any Council member can take on the road from presentation Chuck gave to NH (Jeff S. to find) and from one Hancock gave to ND



National Council website update

- Estimated release: Aug. 1, 2010
- Current status:
 - Design complete
 - Undergoing browser compatibility testing
 - Some updates still to be done
 - Add vertical link for webinars





NATIONAL WATER QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL

Working Together for Clean Water

ACWI

[NWQMC Home](#)

About the Council

Workgroups

Methods and Data
Comparability Board

Collaboration & Outreach

Water Information
Strategies

National Monitoring
Network

Products

Framework

National Environmental
Methods Index (NEMI)

Publications

Partners

State & Regional Councils

Success Stories

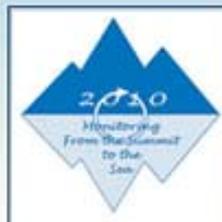
Conferences

Upcoming conferences

Results and abstracts

The National Water Quality Monitoring Council (Council) provides a national forum for coordination of comparable and scientifically defensible methods and strategies to improve water quality monitoring, assessment and reporting, and promotes partnerships to foster collaboration, advance the science, and improve the management within all elements of the water quality monitoring community. Vital to this role, the Council provides a national forum for monitoring practitioners across the Nation and fosters increased understanding and stewardship of our water resources. [Learn more about the Council's activities through 2010.](#)

Council Highlights and New Products



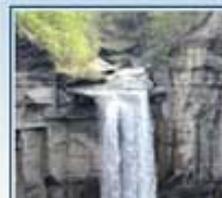
Highlights from the 7th Biennial National Conference

- Conference Program ([Abbrev. 3MB](#); [Full. 6MB](#))
- [Plenary Remarks by Anne Castle](#), Department of the Interior (April 26, 2010)
- [Plenary Remarks by Tracy Mehan](#), The Cadmus Group (April 26, 2010)
- [Plenary Remarks by Tom Tidwell](#), Chief of the U.S. Forest Service (April 29, 2010)
- Recipients of the [Elizabeth J. Fellows](#), [Vision](#), and [YSI Foundation](#) Awards



Webinar Series

The Collaboration and Outreach workgroup is sponsoring a webinar series on topics of interest to the water quality monitoring community. Recent topics have included real-time monitoring, social media web tools, and the integration of volunteer monitoring data to a state system. [More...](#)



Online Newsletter: *The National Water Monitoring News*

The National Water Quality Monitoring Council provides a voice for monitoring practitioners across the Nation and fosters increased understanding and stewardship of our water resources. The first edition highlights products and services that the Council has worked on over the last two years. [More...](#)



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[Org Chart](#)

[Terms of Reference](#)

Federal Representation



[U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#)

- [Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water](#)
- [Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds](#)
- [EPA Regions](#)



[U.S. Department of the Interior](#)



- [U.S. Geological Survey](#)
 - [National Water Quality Assessment Program](#)
 - [Water Information Coordination Program](#)



- [National Park Service](#)

8th Biennial National Conference in 2012

- CPC: Schloss, Pettit, Glysson, and Tate
- Location: Portland (check Double tree)
 - Backup: FL: Ft. Lauderdale, Tampa
- Local Planning Committee to start in January 2011
- Include side meetings:
 - Fed: USGS, EPA, NPS, FWS
 - Greater involvement of other Feds: NOAA, Army Corp
 - States
 - Others: Vol Mons, Tribes
- Date: April or May (Note: Easter is April 15, 2012)

8th Biennial National Conference in 2012

Program

- CPC develop a skeletal framework of program (#s of sessions, workshops, side meetings...)
- Start first day in early morning with opening plenary
 - Consider one big name plenary
- Allow for post meetings keep people at conference, but no closing plenary
- Preference: one poster session but assigned times
- End middle day early for field trips or fun event

8th Biennial National Conference in 2012

Program

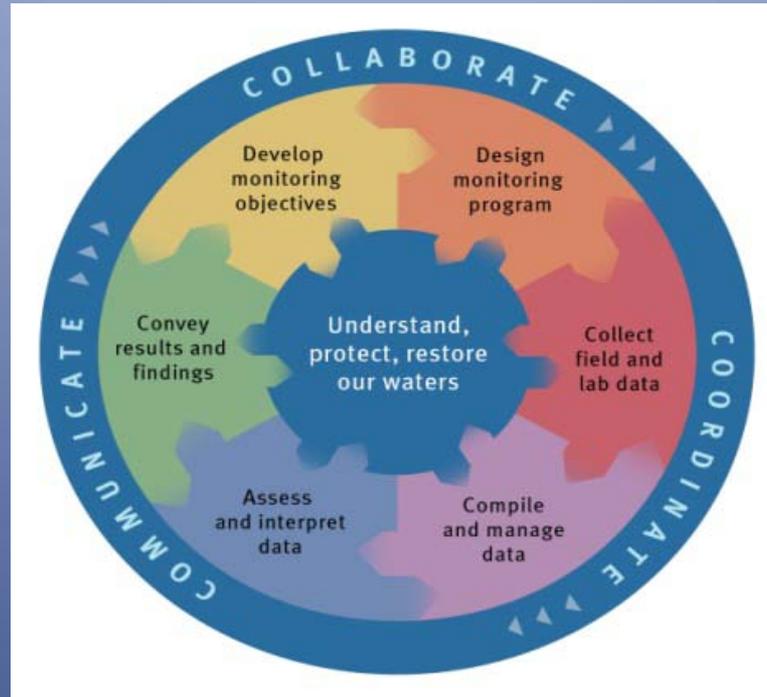
- Mon: Plenary with breakfast first thing in morning; at least 6 concurrent sessions in afternoon, evening session with posters with food & drinks
- Tues: concurrent sessions all day, with time in evening for small group meetings
- Wed: concurrent sessions with offsite social activity
- Thrs: half day of concurrent sessions, afternoon could be field trips and/or post meetings
- Extended Breaks for posters - networking with heavy snacks (instead of dinner time reception)
- Dinner (or lunch meetings) for small groups (Sensors, SOGW, Vol Mons) – don't schedule at same time as posters
- Dinner Cruise ship – pay a small fee

8th Biennial National Conference in 2012 Program

- 6 concurrent sessions
- 1-2 workshops/short course or 1 workshop and 1 interactive panel discussions
- Charge for workshops and courses; do not charge for interactive panel discussions

NWQMC Collaboration & Outreach Workgroup

Collaborate, Communicate, Coordinate through Partnerships



We welcome new members to the workgroup. Also, we want your ideas for web seminars and articles for the newsletter!

Please contact: Tracy Hancock, Co-Chair, Collaboration and Outreach Workgroup
Email: thancock@usgs.gov; tel: 804-261-2618.