

National Water Quality Monitoring Council

Water Information Strategies Work Plan

Draft 9/13/2012

Background:

The WIS workgroup defines and promotes strategies for monitoring designs; data management, access, and exchange; data integration and analysis; and information reporting to address water needs.

Goals:

1. Increase the visibility of the Water Information Strategies workgroup products and activities.
2. Develop tools/products/strategies to assist agencies, organizations or other entities with integrating data, sharing information and reporting information.
3. Build capacity for WIS and plan for succession of team members.

Actions:

1. Conduct 6-8 webinars a year. The webinars will serve as a forum for showcasing WIS workgroup products, sharing successful approaches on “water information”, and recruiting new workgroup members.
 - a. Schedule (calls will be the second Wednesday of the month at 11:00 EST unless otherwise noted).
 - i. September 2012: Water Quality Report Cards (Warren Kimball, MassDEP)
 - ii. October 2012: SMART Monitoring (Warren Kimball, Mass DEP)
 - iii. November 2012: Oregon Water Monitoring Summit (Aaron Borisenko, Oregon DEP)
 - iv. December 2012: Water Quality Indices Survey (Leslie McGeorge, New Jersey DEP)
 - v. January 2013: Arc Hydro Desktop (Rick Hooper, CUAHSI)

- vi. February 2013: Best Management Practice Effectiveness (Nancy Mesner, University of Utah)
- vii. March 2013: No webinar (NWQMC meeting)
- viii. April 2013: Reporting Tools (Aaron Borisenko, Oregon DEP)
- ix. May 2013: Web-based Reporting Tools (Mary Skopec, Iowa DNR)
- x. June 2013: Monitoring for Floods/Spills (USGS)
- xi. July 2013: No webinar (NWQMC meeting?)
- xii. August 2013: What Your Manager Needs to Know (Gary Kohlhepp, Michigan DEP)
- xiii. On-deck webinars without a date:
 - 1. Water Portal
 - 2. Integration of Water Data
 - a. Finalize white paper and post on the NWQMC website
 - b. Compile examples of successful integration for web
 - c. Provide link on website for other examples to be submitted (“share your example here”....)
 - 3. Monitoring for Floods and Spills and Droughts (Severe Weather)
 - a. Develop a portion of the NWQMC website to serve as an outlet or resource for agencies, entities working on flood or spill monitoring issues. Include examples of FAQs, Tips and Lessons Learned from other partners.
 - b. USGS has begun a working group (floods only?) and WIS will coordinate with USGS as they develop standard procedures or protocols.
 - c. Define issues needing further attention (such as improving laboratory report time, interpreting short-term health and/or environmental data, communicating with the public and decision makers, etc.)
 - d. Drought Health Issues - Harmful Algal Blooms, etc.
 - e. Event Response Monitoring
 - a. <http://water.epa.gov/scitech/datait/databases/wcit/index.cfm>
 - 4. Water Quality Portal
 - a. Coordinate with WQP team to have WIS involvement in defining the next steps or goals for future Water Quality Portal development.

- b. Provide feedback to the Water Quality Portal development team (Nate Booth) including areas for focus and prioritization of activities.
 - c. Conduct quarterly meetings with the WQP team. Respond to work plan elements from the WQP team.
5. What Your Manager Needs to Know about Water Quality Monitoring
- a. Develop Fact Sheet to Share with Managers
 - i. Define audience and potential other audiences, such as legislators, watershed groups, other programs {TMDL, 319}).
 - ii. Define message(s)
 - iii. Provide powerpoint “talking points” for message.
6. WIS Capacity Building
- a. Increase the number of “general interest” webinars and use the attendance list as a way to recruit new WIS members.
 - b. Keep past Council members involved in workgroup activities.
 - c. Utilize staff and other state partners in workgroups as a way to build for succession planning and building capacity for workgroup activities.
 - d. Create list of contacts (former membership, webinar attendees).
 - e. Documenting Duties for WIS chair, committee members; provide email lists, history of activities and functions, work plans.
7. Update Webpage Information
- a. Remove outdated information (National Water Quality Indicators)
 - b. Link to Webinar information noted above.
8. National Environmental Methods Index – Statistical and Assessment Methods Search (NEMI_SAMS) prototype
- a. Hold conference calls with WQSA workgroup to develop a plan for advancing the prototype, including populating the database

Task	WIS Action Items/Tasks	FY13 Q1	FY13 Q2	FY13 Q3	FY13 Q4	FY14 Q1	Ongoing
1	Webinars						
2	Integration of Water Data						
3	Monitoring Floods/Spills/Drought						
4	Water Quality Portal						
5	What Your Manager Needs to Know						
6	Capacity Building						
7	Web Page Information						
8	NEMI-SAMS						

DRAFT