



# National Ground-Water Monitoring Network

Advisory Committee on Water Information—Subcommittee on Ground Water

## Status of the National Ground-Water Monitoring Network

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# Presentation Outline

- Review of work to date
  - Funding
  - Tip sheets
  - USGS Science Center sites
  - Program Board
- 2016 competitive funding opportunity
  - Introduction
    - webex dry run Thursday afternoon
  - Plans to spread word



# Accomplishments- Funding

- USGS began process of starting new cooperative funding opportunity
  - CFDA Number, Paperwork Reduction Act, Privacy Impact Assessment
  - Program Announcement
  - Technical Evaluation Plan
- USGS initiated noncompetitive cooperative agreements to help support data providers before competitive process could be put in place
  - FY 2015
    - Complete work on existing Pilots/Pilot States (MT, TX, IL, UT)
    - New Data Providers (OR, SC)
  - FY 2016
    - New Data Providers (NC, DE, KS, OK, MS)

# Accomplishments- Tip Sheets

- Current tip sheets
  - NGWMN Subnetwork
  - NGWMN Monitoring Categories
  - NGWMN WL Criteria
  - NGWMN WQ Criteria
  - NGWMN Well Registry
  - NGWMN Minimum Data Elements
- Available on the NGWMN page at:  
<http://cida.usgs.gov/ngwmn/learnmore.jsp> on the 'Data Provider' tab. Resources for New Data Providers

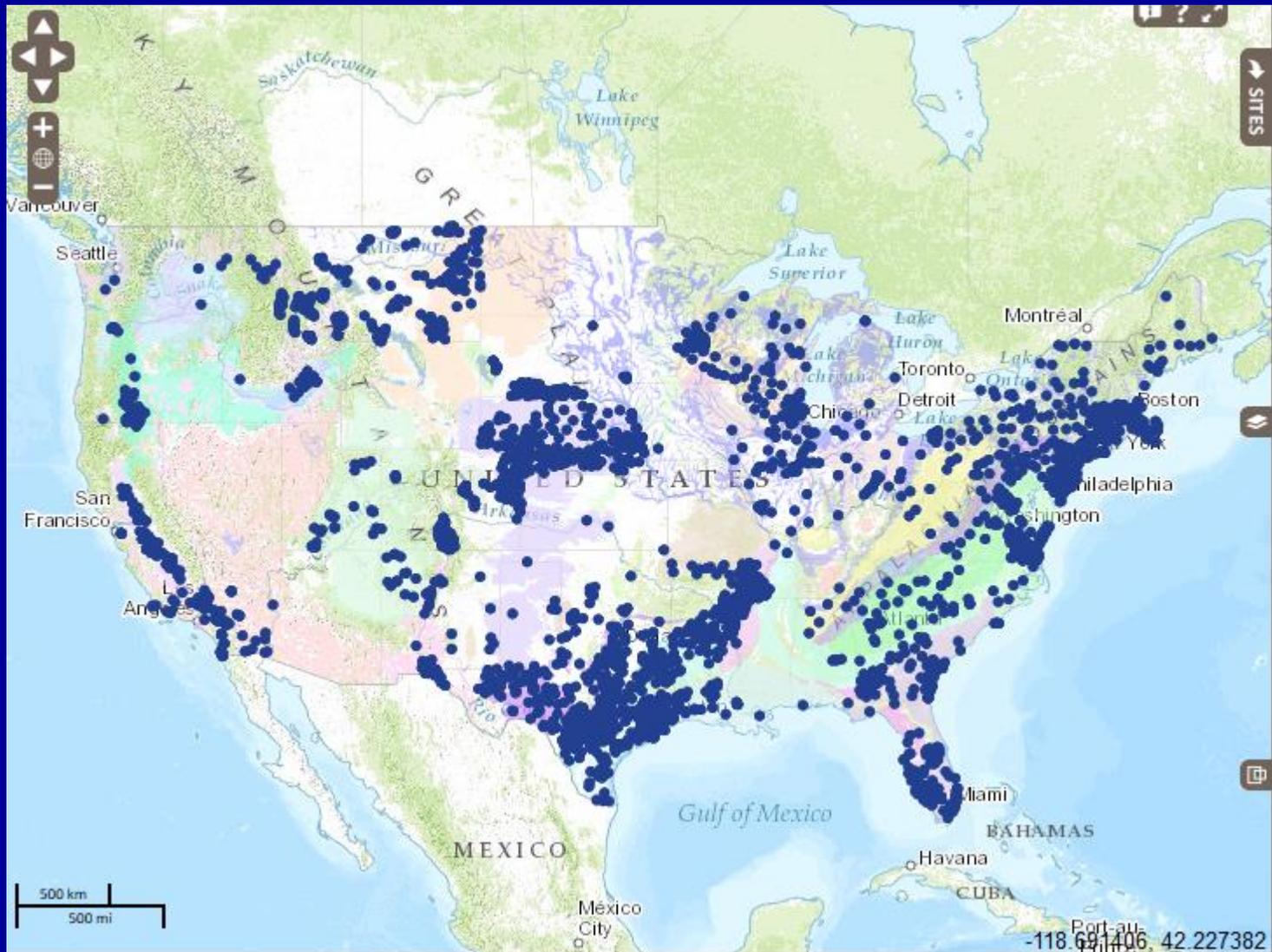
# Accomplishments- USGS Science Centers

- Request to USGS Water Science Centers to add appropriate sites to NGWMN
  - Asked them to coordinate with cooperators in site selection
  - Data for sites comes from NWISWEB
  - In progress– need to followup with some states
- Number of USGS WL sites went from 1948 to 2477
- Number of USGS WQ sites went from 220 to 231 (added 69)

# Additions

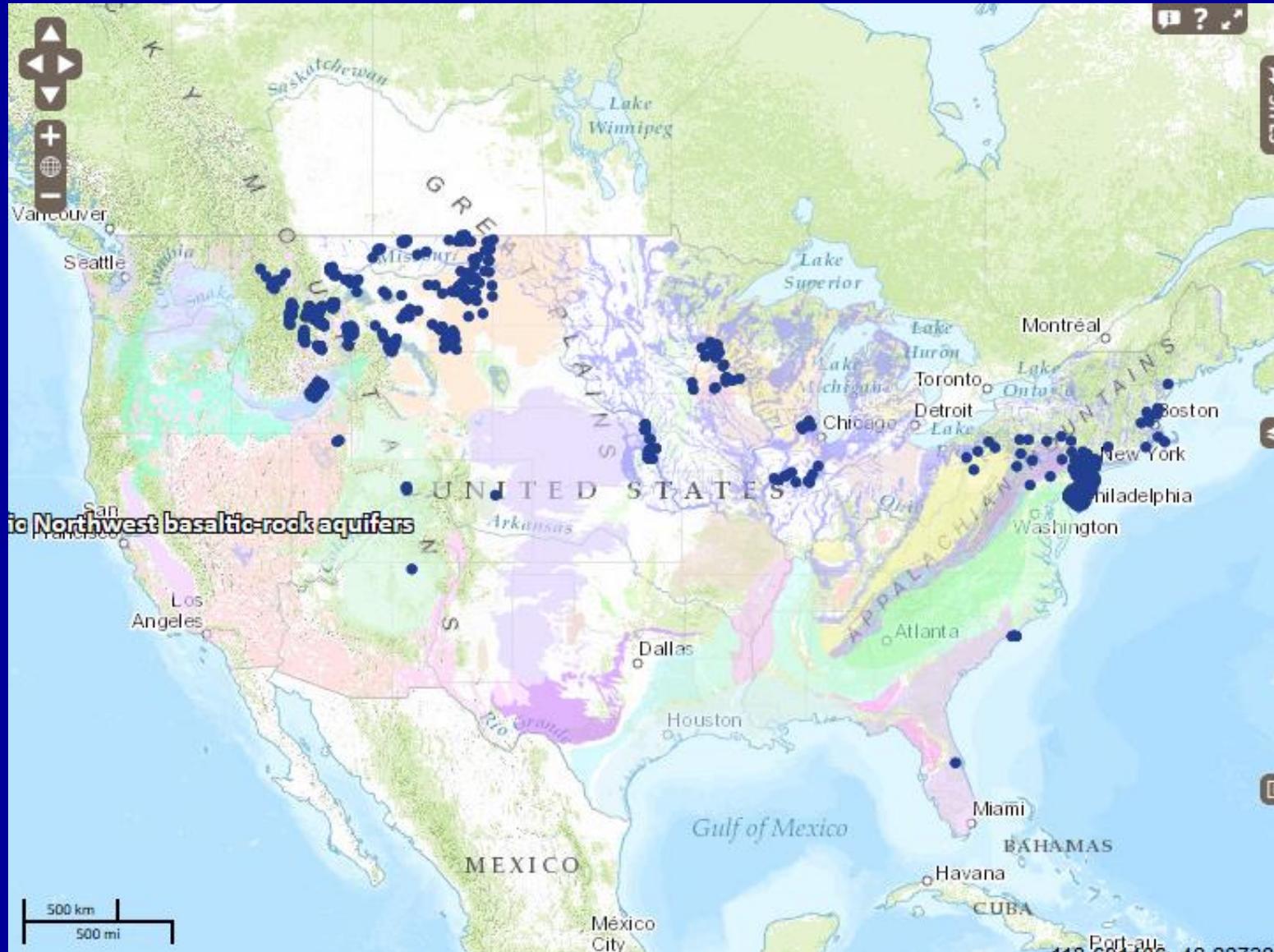
- **Water-Level Network**  
HI, ID, MT, NM, OR, UT  
KS, NE, OK, WI  
FL, KY, LA, ME, MI, NY, PA, TN
- **Water-Quality Network**  
HI, ID  
CO, NE,  
FL, IL, ME, NC, PA

# Water-Level Network





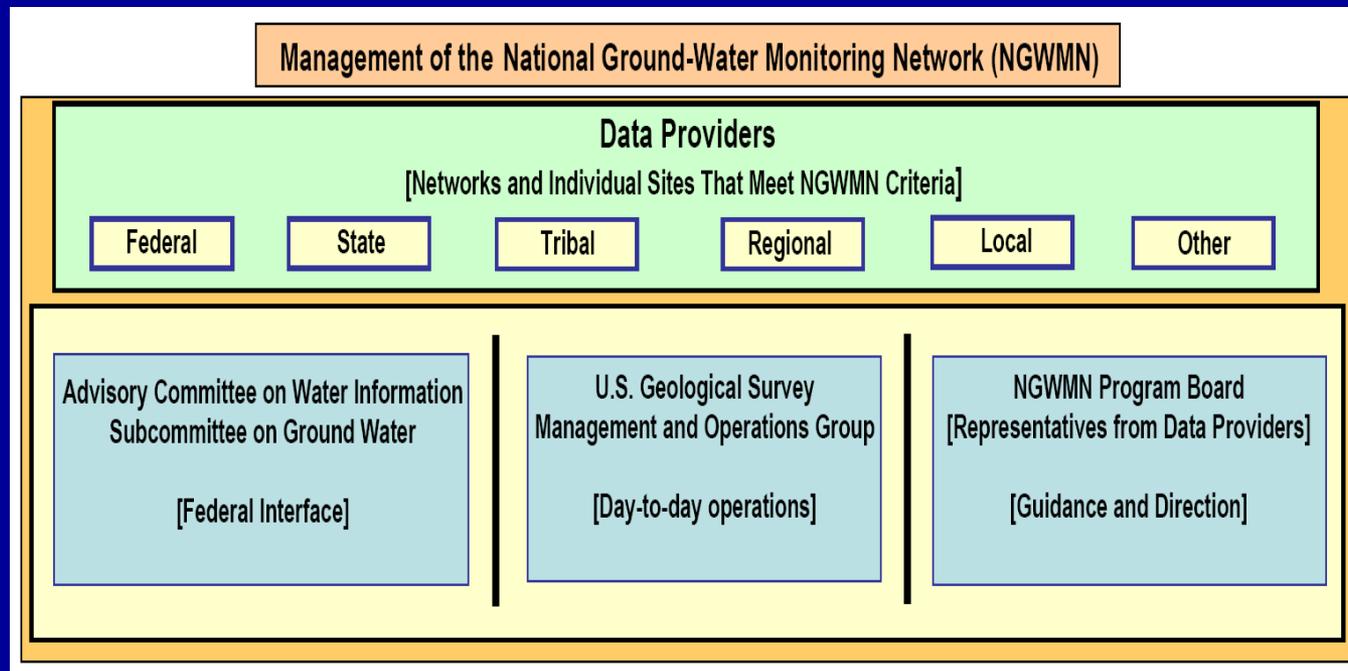
# Water-Quality Network





# Accomplishments- Program Board

- SOGW work group Developed Operating Principles document for the new ‘NGWMN Program Board’
- Available on SOGW web page

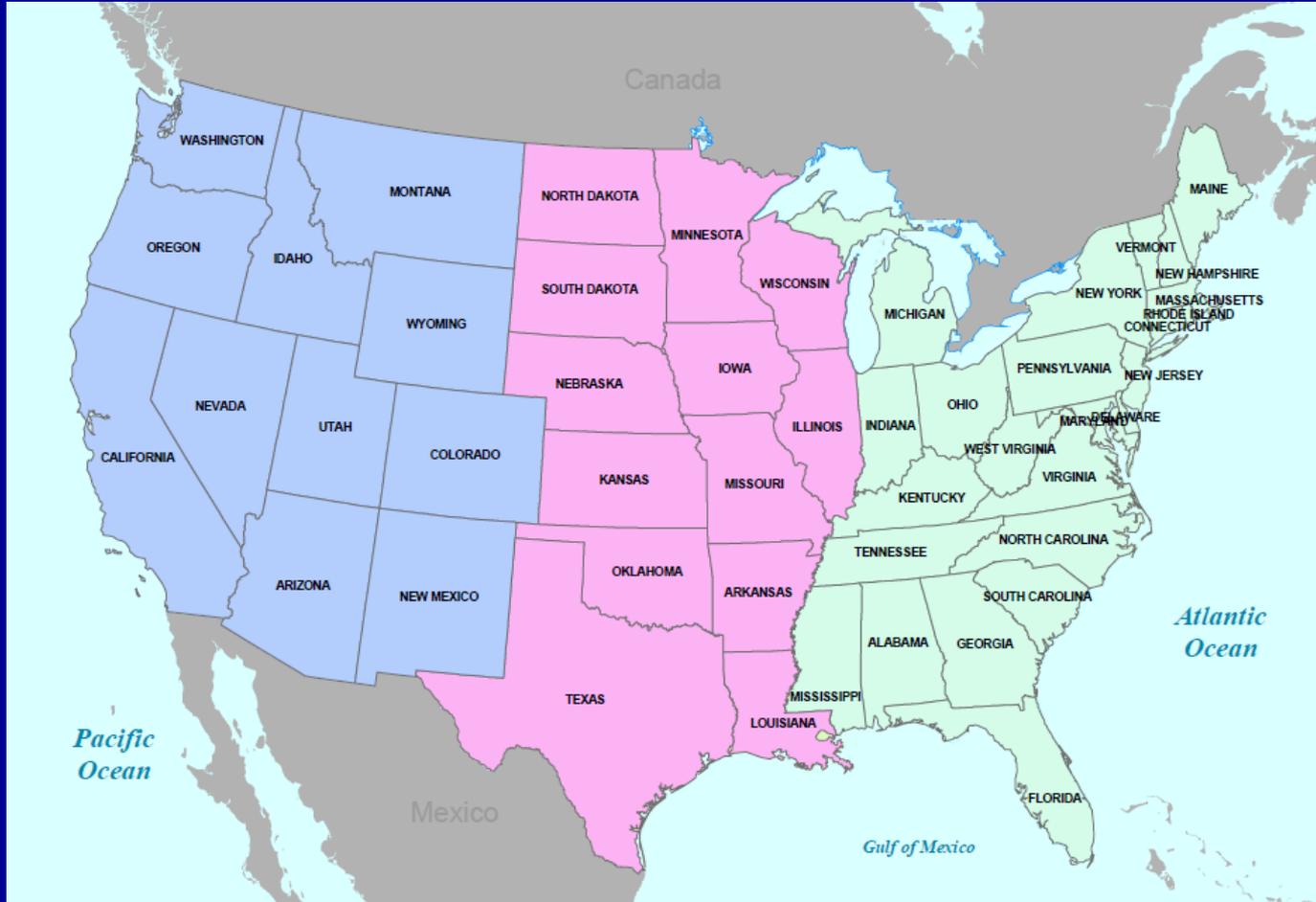


# Program Board

- Purpose:
  - Represent NGWMN data providers.
  - Provide input on issues related to network growth, development, and operation
  - Assist in evaluating proposals submitted to the NGWMN for cooperative funding.
- National Ground-Water Monitoring Network Program Board-- Structure and Operating Principles. Available on SOGW web page.
- Membership
  - Ten total members
  - Six data providers from three regions
  - Federal and SOGW representation
- Beginning to recruit Board members



# Program Board Regions



# Competitive Funds Available in Federal FY16

- The initial Program Announcement to be issued in Grants.gov within the next few weeks.
- Informational Webex sessions will be held for guidance and questions (tentative dates are 11/4 and 11/18)
- Funds for new data providers to:
  - Select wells/springs
  - Classify wells/springs
  - Establish database connection to NGWMN portal using web services
  - Document Field Techniques
  - Produce report
- Funds for ongoing support to existing data providers
- Available to state or local water-resource agencies

# Plans to spread word

- A USGS 'Technical Announcement' has been drafted and it will be available on the USGS news page
- Lauren will distribute this to the SOGW mailing list
  - Please revise as desired and pass on to interested organizations/agencies
  - NGWA, GWPC, NWQMC, etc
- Daryll will notify ACWI
- Bill will send email to USGS Water Science Centers to have them contact State/local agencies that may have networks for consideration
- Pixie Hamilton will help spread word
- Daryll will directly notify agencies that have directly enquired
- Daryll will notify current data providers about opportunity to apply for Maintenance funding

# NGWMN Projects



- USGS will fund data providers
- Projects must provide matching via in-kind services
- Projects can be up to a 2-year duration
- New data providers establish sites in first year. These agencies may apply for maintenance funding for 2nd year
- Current data providers may apply for maintenance funding for both years
- Report is required at end of project



# New data provider project application

- Description of Agency and purpose of monitoring.
- Identification of USGS principal or other major aquifers.
- Description of the Agency's existing monitoring networks
  - Water level
  - Water quality
- IT Infrastructure
- Work Plan
  - More details on next slides
- Personnel/Timeline

# Project Workplan Elements for New Data Providers

- Evaluate monitoring sites
- Provide data for required data elements
- Classify sites into subnetworks and monitoring categories
- Populate NGWMN Well Registry with site information and Network classifications
- Set up web services to provide data to NGWMN portal
  - Water Level, Water Quality, Lithology, Well Construction
- Document field and data management practices
- Prepare a brief report documenting project
- Maintenance funding for year 2

# Technical Evaluation Plan

- Proposals will be initially reviewed by contracting office and the USGS NGWMN management to make sure they are acceptable
- Proposals evaluated and ranked by Program Board
- Members required to fill out Conflict of Interest statement. Will be asked to leave room when proposals with conflicts of interest are discussed
- Each proposal will be assigned to one Board member who will serve as the Lead for that proposal
- The Lead will moderate the discussion and be responsible for drafting a 'Proposal Summary'. Guidelines for proposal summaries are included in the Technical Evaluation Plan. These will be reviewed and returned to applicants to provide feedback for future proposals

# Proposal Evaluation

- Evaluation Criteria
  - Availability of groundwater data (25%)
  - Geographic areas and Principal aquifers monitored (10%)
  - Compliance with Framework Document (20%)
  - Project Proposal (25%)
  - Products (10%)
  - Maintenance (10%)
- Each Board member will rank the proposal on a scale of -10 in each of these categories
- Results will be entered into a spreadsheet. Weights above will be used to determine a score for each member
- These will be averaged to determine a score for each proposal