

NGWA Bay State Groundwater Forum September 26, 2013



The Federal Advisory Committee on Water Information (ACWI) and How It Benefits the Bay State

Robert Schreiber, PE
Brandon Kernen, PG
David Wunsch, PhD, PG

(Pictures courtesy of USGS and ACWI websites)

WICP Water Information Coordination Program

ACWI Advisory Committee on Water Information

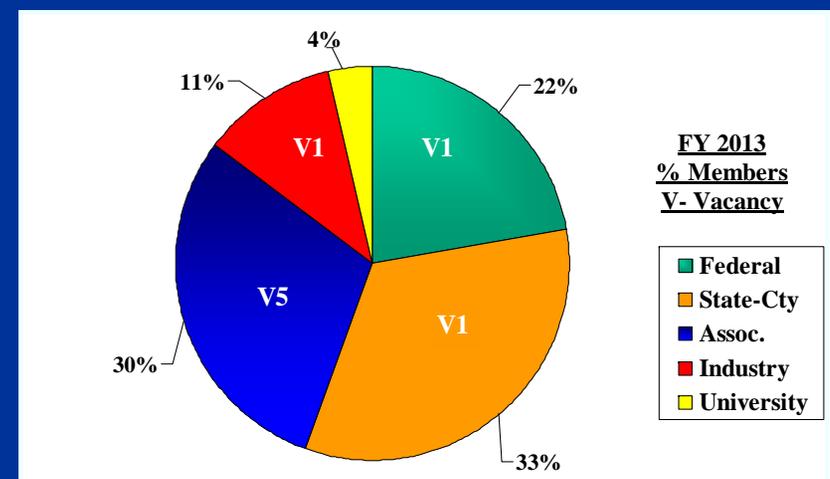
Outline & Objectives

- What is ACWI and Why Was It Created?
- Why Should You Know About ACWI?
- Who Participates in ACWI Efforts?
- How Does ACWI Do Its Work?
- How Can You Get Involved?



ACWI – What is it?

- Federal Advisory Committee
 - One of Many
 - Act of Congress
- Merger of Prior Similar Groups
 - Federal Agencies
 - Non-Federal Sectors
- Started in 1997



ACWI – Why Was It Created?

- To Represent the Interests of:
 - Water-Information Users
 - Water Industry Professionals
- To Advise the Federal Government on:
 - Effectiveness of Water Info Programs
 - Improving Information for Decision Making:
 - Natural Resources Management
 - Environmental Protection



ACWI – Why Should You Know About It?

- Work-Products & Results Such As:
 - Technical Guidance & Best Practices
 - Improved Access to Data
 - Increased Amounts & Accuracy of Data
- Opportunities for You & Your Organization to:
 - Influence Federal Gov't Agencies
 - Participate in “Front-Line” Action
 - Work with Colleagues from All Sectors & Areas
 - Get Involved with New England Specific Tasks



ACWI – Why & How Does It Do Its Work?

- Overall – Interacts with Federal Agencies to:
 - Improve Access to Information
 - Improve Data Comparability
 - Ensure Reasonable Geographic Coverage
- Specific Work Efforts:
 - Annual Full Committee Meetings:
 - Sub-Group Reports
 - Special Topics / Invited Guests
 - Sub-Groups:
 - Meet More Frequently
 - Conduct Most of the Work
 - Open to Volunteer Participation



Who Participates in ACWI Efforts?

- Designated Representatives from:
 - Federal, Regional, State, & Local Gov't
 - Industry, Professional, & Academic Orgs



- Key Federal Agencies:
 - Chaired by Assistant Secretary of Interior
 - Administered by USGS HQ
 - Significant Participation by USEPA



- Other Participants:
 - Interested Volunteers from All Sectors
 - Specially-Invited Speakers & Collaborators



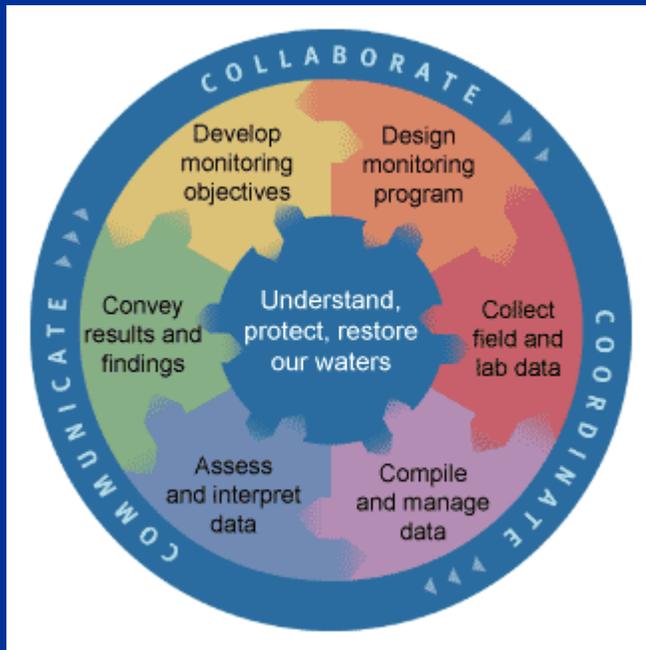
ACWI's Many Sub-Groups

- Climate Change
- Monitoring Challenges
- Monitoring
- Methods
- NAWQA Liaison
- Groundwater
- Hydrology
- Sedimentation
- Spatial Water Data
- Sustainable Water

→ Selected ACWI Sub-Groups Are Explained Next

National Water Quality Monitoring Council

Mission Statement



Provide a national forum for coordination of consistent and scientifically defensible methods and strategies to improve water quality monitoring, assessment and reporting. Promote partnerships to foster collaboration, advance the science, and improve management within all elements of the water quality monitoring community

Methods and Data Comparability Board

Mission Statement



The NWQMC Methods and Data Comparability Board provides a forum for exploring, evaluating, and promoting methods that facilitate collaboration and further comparability between water monitoring programs.

National Water Quality Monitoring Council

- Water Quality Portal – waterqualitydata.us
- Aquatic Sensor Workgroup - watersensors.org
- Reference Watershed Efforts
- Newsletter and Bi-Annual Conferences
- Ocean & Estuaries – National Monitoring Network



Methods and Data Comparability Products

- National Environmental Methods Index – nemi.gov
- Water Quality Statistical and Assessment Methods Online Database – nemi.gov



NAWQA, National Liaison Committee

Mission Statement



The National Liaison Committee (NLC) for the National Water Quality Assessment Program (NAWQA) creates an ongoing national liaison process for external organizations to work interactively with the NAWQA Program in joint problem solving on water quality issues.

Subcommittee on Ground Water

Mission Statement



The overall goal of the SOGW is to develop and encourage implementation of a nationwide, long term ground-water quantity and quality monitoring framework that would provide information necessary for the planning, management, and development of ground-water supplies to meet current and future water needs, and ecosystem requirements.

Next Presentation

Subcommittee on Hydrology



Mission Statement

The Subcommittee on Hydrology desires to improve the availability and reliability of surface-water quantity information needed for hazard mitigation, water supply and demand management, and environmental protection.

Major work product right now is updating Bulletin 17B
“Guidelines for Determining Flood Flow Frequency”

Subcommittee on Sedimentation

Mission Statement

The Subcommittee on Sedimentation promotes and supports development and standardization of equipment, methodologies, and calibration and performance criteria for the collection, analysis, interpretation, and interchange of fluvial-sediment data and related technical information.



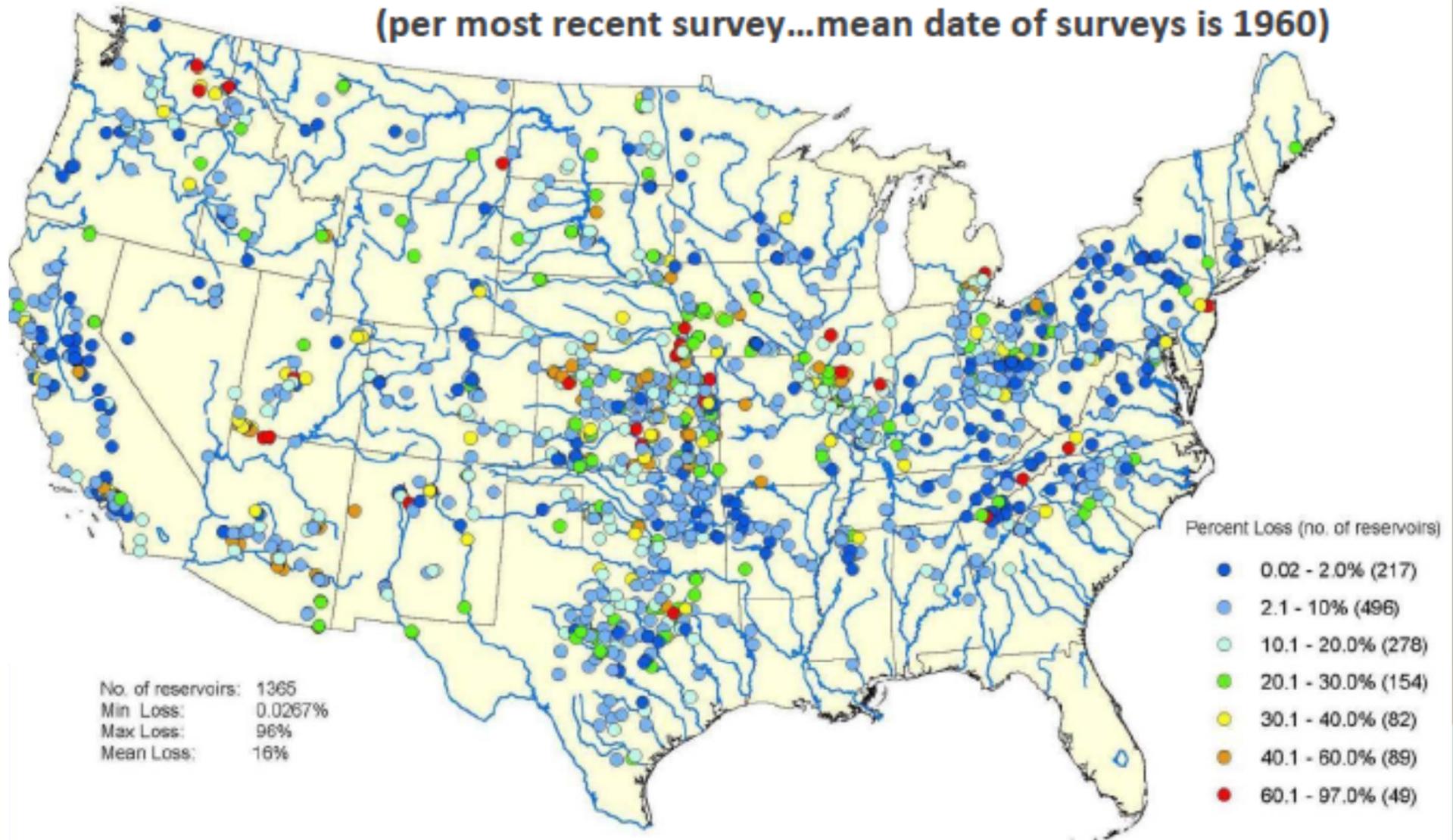
RESERVOIR SEDIMENTATION (RESSSED) DATABASE

<http://ida.water.usgs.gov/ressed/>

Total Reservoir Capacity Loss in Percent

RESSED Total % Capacity Loss

(per most recent survey...mean date of surveys is 1960)



~32% have lost 10-30% capacity as of last survey (432/1,365 reservoirs)

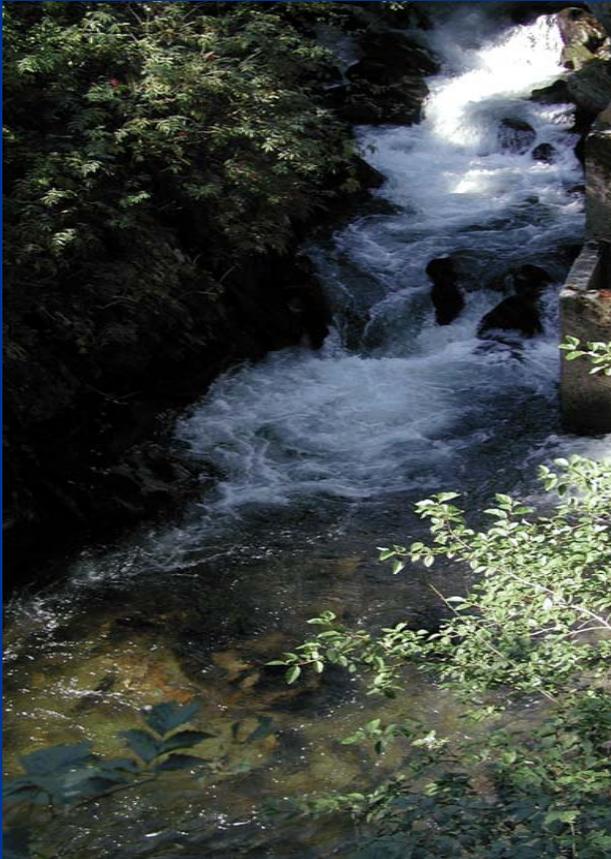
Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data



The Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data jointly is sponsored with the **Federal Geographic Data Committee** and develops water resources components of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure.

Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable

Mission Statement



The Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable Task Force serves as a forum to share information and perspectives that will promote better decision making regarding the sustainable development of our Nation's water resources.

The Water Resources Adaptation to Climate Change Workgroup

Mission Statement



The Water Resources Adaptation to Climate Change Workgroup identifies research, data, and policy necessary for effective management and protection of water resources in the United States as the climate continues to change.

USGS Monitoring Challenges Workgroup

Mission Statement



The ACWI/USGS Monitoring Challenges Workgroup is to provide advice and recommendations to help USGS and Interior leadership continue to provide high quality water monitoring and related science within the framework of constrained financial resources.

How Can You Get Involved in ACWI?

- Volunteer on an ACWI Sub-Group:
 - Several Roles to Choose from
 - Open Slots Always Available
- Participate in Person:
 - Annual Meeting
 - Sub-Group Events
- Serve as Representative or Alternate:
 - Must be Nominated by Organizational Member
 - Potential to Add an Organization

Main Website

www.acwi.gov

→ TALK WITH PRESENTER & CO-AUTHOR DURING BREAK