
CSREES State Water Quality Coordinators' Meeting

January 12, 2004 - Clearwater, Florida





United States Department of Agriculture



Cooperative State, Research, Education
and Extension Service

CSREES Water Program

2004 State Water Quality Coordinator's Meeting

Michael P. O'Neill

*CSL Co-Chair; and National Program Leader
Natural Resources and Environment Unit*

Robin Shepard

*CSL Co-Chair; Great Lakes Region; and
Water Quality Coordinator-Wisconsin*

Current Directions for The CSREES National Water Program



AREERA Sec. 406 Integrated Water Quality Grants Program

- Established a **competitive** grants process for USDA-CSREES water quality funding.

4 major funding categories:

- Extension Education projects
- Integrated (Res./Ext./Educ.) projects
- National Facilitation projects
- **Regional Coordination projects**



Regional Coordination Projects



Committee for Shared Leadership for Water Quality (CSL-WQ)

Primary Role

To foster a national water quality program through a network of regionally based projects that support local programs.



Committee for Shared Leadership for Water Quality (CSL-WQ)

- **Goal 1:** The storefront for water quality related activities within CSREES.
- **Goal 2:** Fostering information sharing and clearinghouse functions.
- **Goal 3:** Growing the program through relationships.



Committee for Shared Leadership for Water Quality (CSL-WQ)

➤ Membership (14)

- 1 representative from each of the 10 Regional Projects (initially the PIs)
- 1890 and 1994 Institution reps. (1 each)
- 2 CSREES reps. (NPL-WQ and WR)

➤ Additional input and support is solicited from all partners.



Committee for Shared Leadership for Water Quality (CSL-WQ)

➤ Current Members

Regional Reps (PIs)

1 - Art Gold, RI

2 - Jeff Potent, NY

3 - Tom Simpson, MD

4 - Greg Jennings, NC

5 - Robin Shepard, WI

6 - Mark McFarland, TX

7 - Jerry Miller, IA

8 - Lloyd Walker, CO

9 - Kitt Farrell-Poe, AZ

10 - Bob Mahler, ID

1890 - Cass Gardner

1994 - Jim Hafer

CSREES Rep – Mike O'Neill



CSL-WQ Organization

➤ Standing Leadership Teams (SLTs)

- Regional Agency Liaisons (EPA/others)
- National Facilitation Projects (PIs)
- Regional Projects (PIs)
- Executive Committee

➤ Sub-committees for Program Support

- Communication
- National Conference
- Policy
- Marketing
- Partnership
- Reporting



CSREES National Water Program



Overview of National Headquarters

- The People
- The Resources
- Model for Shared Leadership
- Summary



CSREES National Water Team

- All Program Units (NRE, PAS, ECS, F4HN, CP) participate on Water Team
- Lead NPLs
 - O'Neill, Cavallaro, Norland, Knighton, Rozum, Crosby
- Represents all three missions
 - Research, Extension, Education



Leadership From State Partners

- Committee for Shared Leadership for Water Quality (CSL-WQ)
 - Regional Water Quality Coordinators, 1890 Institutions, 1994 Institutions
- State Water Quality Coordinators
- Other Research, Extension, and Education Leaders



Funding Sources for WQ

- Federal Funds (Competitive)
 - National Integrated Water Quality Program (Section 406)
 - Watershed Processes and Water Resources (NRI – Research)



Funding Sources for WQ

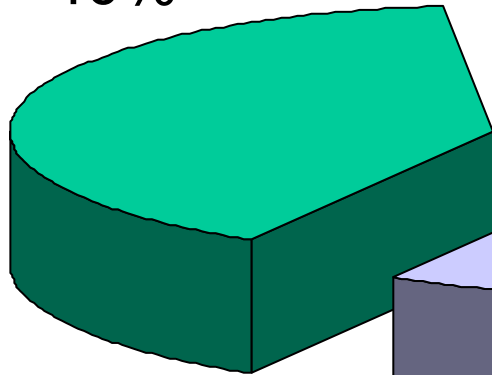
- Non Competitive
 - Hatch / Multi-State Projects
 - McIntire-Stennis
 - Evans-Allen
- Special Grants (Congressional)
 - (\$2.4 M – O’Neill)



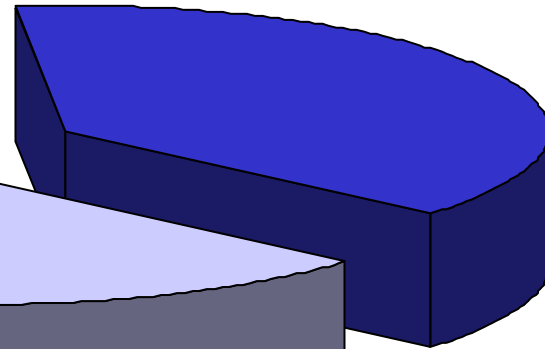
CSREES

Research and Integrated Funds - 2003 (\$632 million)

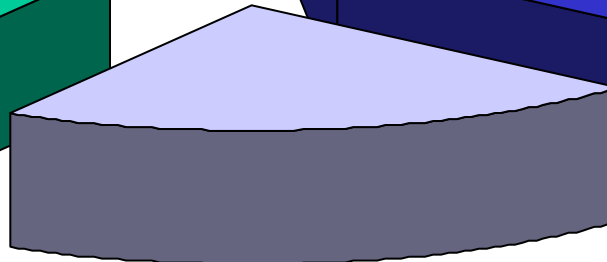
Competitive – 40%

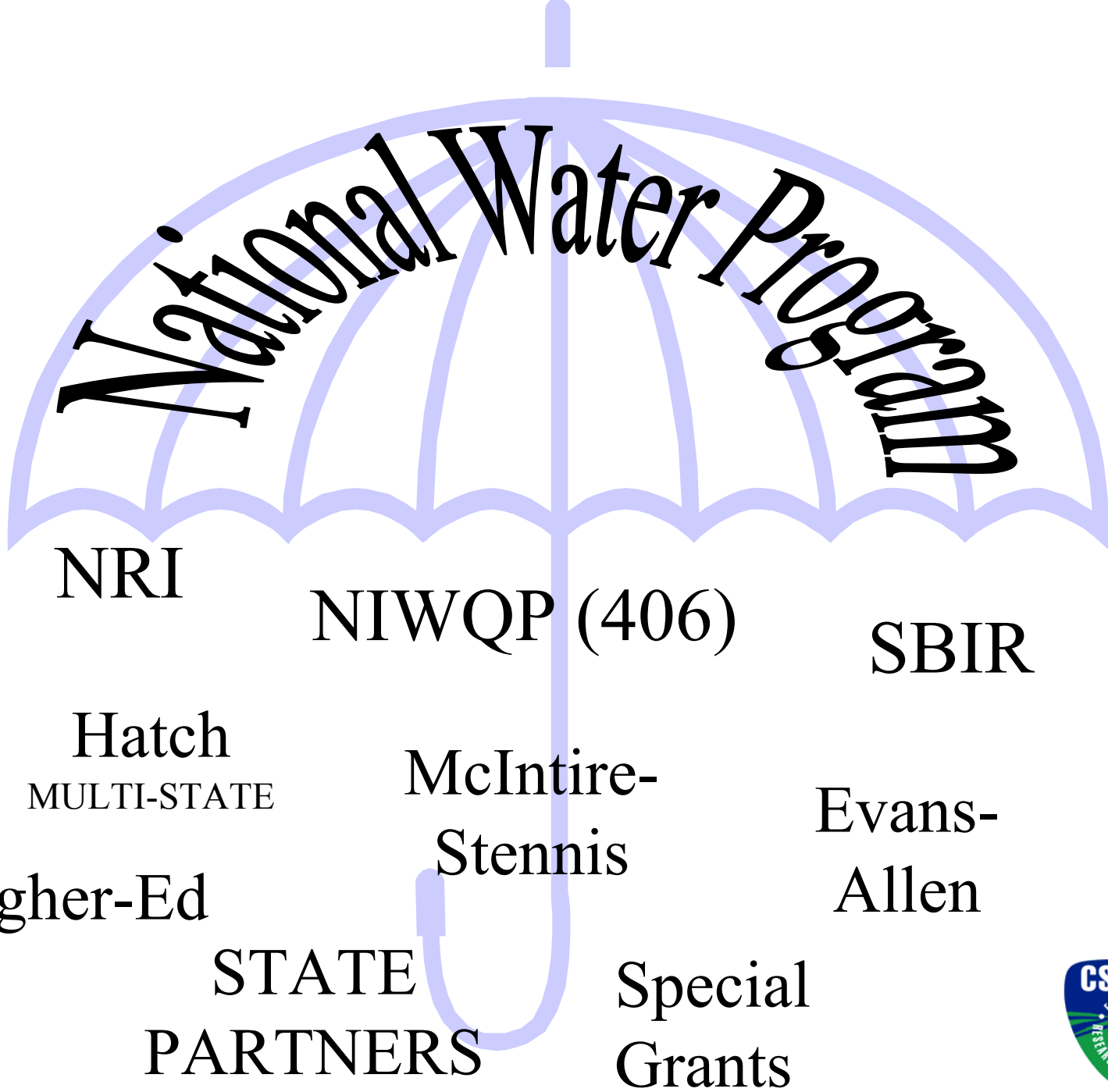


Formula – 38%



Special Grants – 22%





National Water Program

NRI

NIWQP (406)

SBIR

Hatch
MULTI-STATE

McIntire-
Stennis

Evans-
Allen

Higher-Ed

STATE
PARTNERS

Special
Grants



CSREES

National Water Program

- The National Program is driven by issues - not funding.
- The National Program includes activities by the State Partners that extend beyond the scope of 406 Funding.
- The National Program integrates research, extension, and education projects from multiple disciplines.



CSREES

National Water Program

- Partnerships are critical to the success of the National Program.
- Eight core “Themes” define the key issues of the National Program.



CSREES WQ “Themes”

- Eight Themes Identified for Research, Education, and Extension Programs
 - Animal Waste Management
 - Drinking Water/Human Health
 - Environmental Restoration
 - Nutrient and Pesticide Management
 - Pollution Assessment and Protection
 - Watershed Management
 - Water Conservation & Management
 - Water Policy & Economics



Shared Leadership

What Does this Mean?

- Joint priority setting for Programs between Federal and State Partners
- Opportunities for “Scholarship” on Water Quality Policies / Programs
- State Partners Representing CSREES within the Regions
- Jointly defined evaluation and reporting mechanisms



Shared Leadership

How Should this Work?

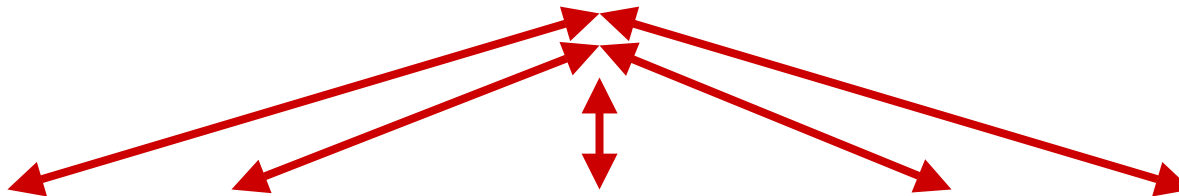
- This Model will require CHANGE!
 - CSREES must change
 - State Partners must change
- Partnership \neq \$\$\$
- Partnership = “Two Way Street”
- Need an OPEN Dialogue
- Acknowledge/Accept Limitations of Partners



CSREES

National Water Quality Program

Applying Knowledge to Improve Water Quality



CSL-WQ

Regional
Projects

Regional
Liaisons

National
Facilitation
Projects

State
Programs



State and Regional Relationships



Being Part of a Region

- There is a regional spirit – a call for regional and national citizenship to the overall cause.
- An understanding that we are much stronger together, than we are as individual state – on the other hand, we are only as strong as the weakest link in the chain.



Being Part of a Region

- Being part of a regional team means a collective and stronger supporting role for local programs.
- A focus on “**C**-ing” success:
 - **C**ommunication
 - **C**oordination
 - **C**ollaboration



Regional Collaboration

- A decision making structure that provides:
 - planning
 - role definition and clarity
 - priority setting
 - relationship building
 - funding, leveraging, strategic partnerships
 - recognition



Regional Projects Provide

- funding
- project visibility
- organization & structure for priorities
- internal and external communications
- cross state, and multi-regional decision making
- capacity development
- policy perspectives
- identify opportunities to integrate with partners
- materials and publications



Regional Liaisons

- Promote communication within the region
- Identify and nurture agency relationships
- Represent regional teams with key stakeholders
- Support communication among regional projects
- Promote integration of extension with research and education/instruction
- Advise/consult with state and local programs



Evolving Expectations



Goal:

The storefront for water quality related activities within CSREES.

- the State WQC is an portal to CSREES and its network of universities
- provide visibility to local programs
- displays how the state is part of a national network
- demonstrates accessibility to the national network
- connects the state extension system
- a focal point for state program priorities
- connects to regional activities, expertise, materials and funding



The Evolving State Water Quality Coordinator

- You operationalize the national program – make it real!
 - Synthesis of local needs
 - Programming in theme areas
 - Help establish, as well as respond to a national agenda.
 - Function as a clearinghouse of information for overall university water quality programs in your state.
 - Make state-wide decisions about many different types of water quality extension programs (beyond your own area of research expertise and even beyond Section 406 supported activities).



The Evolving State Water Quality Coordinator

- Actively participate, and share responsibility for regional project decision making, and its implementation.
- Increasing responsibility for managing soft competitive funding (in a long-term management strategy).
- Increasing supervisory and administrative responsibilities.
- Actively work to clarify program roles and opportunities for your state program leaders and administrators in routine meetings, updates and reports.



The Evolving State Water Quality Coordinator

- Accountable to your own university for communication and connections with internal colleagues and extension stakeholders.
- Work with other universities (1890s, 1994s and non-Land Grants) within your respective state to communicate, coordination and collaborate.
- Provide state-level reporting, and pursue more extensive evaluation for program improvement.



Responding To The Challenge

Elevate the role of the State Water Quality Coordinator

- ✓ internally within our institutions
- ✓ externally with partners and agencies
- ✓ externally with our clientele

Expand our professionalism

- ✓ skills
- ✓ effectiveness of our programs
- ✓ increase our own expectation for accountability



Assessing Our Strengths

National Inventory Tools

