



Meeting Notes – National Water Quality Monitoring Council (Council) November 15-17, 2011 Salt Lake City, Utah (Agenda and list of participants on pages 4-6)

Actions, Decisions and other Information

(Detailed notes on workgroup discussion will be compiled and posted on the website)

1. **National Network of Reference Watersheds**
 - **Decision:** Upon a motion duly made (Dave Chestnut), seconded (Curtis Cude), and carried, the Governance Document for the National Network of Reference Watersheds was approved by the Council.
 - **Decision:** Upon a motion duly made (Mike McDonald), seconded (Peter Tennant), and carried, the interim Executive Committee comprised of Bill Wilber (USGS), Rick Haeuber (EPA), Neil Kamman (VT DEC), and Doug McLaughlin (NCASI) was approved by the Council.
 - **Action:** The Council's Charge to the workgroup – Prepare a workplan in the next 3 months (by Jan or Feb 2012) to be presented to Council. When completed the plan will be emailed to Council members for review.
2. **Decision:** Upon a motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the May 5, 2011 Council Meeting minutes were approved and will be posted on the website (Kim Martz).
3. **Conference Planning Updates:**
 - **Decision:** Jeff Schloss finalized a reciprocal registration agreement between Council and River Network that will make things cheaper for people who want to attend portions of both events (NMC and River Rally).
 - **Local planning committee activities (Greg Pettit chair):**
 - **FYI: Suggested field trips include** –Hood River trip including stops at Multnomah Falls and Boulder Dam; Bull Run Watershed trip, including Marmot Dam site; a bicycle tour of City of Portland's green infrastructure; Mount St. Helens; wine country tour; tour of sewage treatment plant on the Tualatin River; Willamette River tours, including wildlife refuge kayaking; Spirit of Portland, which would make a good dinner cruise for Thursday night (May 3); canoe tour in Willamette Harbor area.
 - **Action:** Local planning committee will decide which field trips will be offered and costs by January when the conference registration site goes online.
 - **Action:** Local committee will continue to solicit more sponsors.
 - **Accomplishments:** Local committee has secured an Oregon plenary speaker.
 - **Action:** Maggie Craig and Dave Mueller will combine all five abstract review team suggestions into a master spreadsheet for the Program Committee to review.
 - **ACTION BY COUNCIL:** DECIDE on what venue (e.g., special session) to give the broad audience an update Council Products and activities and ask participants for their input.
4. **Action:** List of Topics for WIS Calls or Webinars to be determined.
5. **Action:** Reporting Water Quality Info (Held Over from May 2011 meeting):
 - **Compile Tool Examples** such as State Tools (examples – Iowa, California), Beach Act Example, and EPA's "My Environment" information.
 - **What Your Boss Needs to Know** (Gary Kohlhepp). Gary will send this out for review – by ???.
6. **Action:** Pathogens (Held Over from May 2011 meeting):
 - **Steve Wolfe** – write an article for the Newsletter updating the status.
 - **All members send info** if your state/region is doing qPCR or pilot studies to Mary.
7. **Action:** Monitoring for Effectiveness of BMPs (Held Over from May 2011 meeting):
 - **Council will pursue a more active participation of NRCS:** Greg Pettit will contact Shaun McKinney of NRCS National Technology Support Center to explore interest to join the Council. Mike Yurewicz suggested Shaun provide a webinar on their activities so that Council members can be aware of how NRCS could contribute to the Council.
 - **Future WIS Call may include:**
 - Nancy Mesner, University of Utah (?) – Manual for Monitoring for BMP Effectiveness
 - State Models of 319 Monitoring (Webinar – Gary, Neil and Jeff).
 - Work more closely with **National Nonpoint Source Monitoring Program**.

8. **Action:** Monitoring for Spills & Natural Disasters (Mary, Susan, Jeff O., and Chris Piehler) (Held Over from May 2011 meeting):
 - Write a "Monitoring Spill" White Paper
9. **Action:** Water Quality Statistics and Assessments (Doug McLaughlin, Dan Sullivan):
 - **WQSA in need of responses and filled out spreadsheets** with what works and doesn't.
 - Demonstrate WQSA NEMI at May 2012 Conference
 - Webinar on NEMI for Council
 - Doug will circulate the spreadsheet to the Council by **Dec 1**; Council will send submission intention to Doug by **Dec 9th**. Deadline to send links and barebones information to **Dan/Doug by Dec 25th**
 - Dan will create on-line form by **Dec 10th**
10. **Action:** Standards for Data Sharing – Rick Hooper
 - Set up a future Webinar to demo HydroDesktop
 - Rick will write a Fact Sheet by May 2012 (in preparation for Portland Conference)
 - Rick is willing to work with States to make our data "discoverable". Pilot a State (IA and SD – borehole data)
11. **Action:** Capacity Building for WIS
 - Create list of contacts (former membership). Keep past Council members involved in workgroup activities.
 - Use staff and other state partners in workgroups as a way to build for succession planning and building capacity for workgroup activities.
 - Identify Priorities and Workplan for WIS
12. **Action:** Draft Questionnaire on Development of Water Quality Indices (Leslie McGeorge)
 - Link to the WQSA NEMI (enter indices into NEMI).
 - Leslie will send the questionnaire WIS via email.
 - Comments due back to Leslie by **Dec 1st**.
13. **Action:** **Council Steering committee** will identify a new co-chair for WIS as **Peter Tennant** will be stepping down as Co-Chair after the May 2012 conference.
14. **Action:** Program and Monitoring Integration
 - Finalize the white paper "Toward an Integrated Approach to Assessing Our Nation's Waters" (Susan Holdsworth, Neil Kamman, Aaron Borisenko, Mary Skopec, Terry Fleming, Leslie McGeorge, Gary Kohlhepp, Jeff Schloss, Dave Chestnut, Mike Yurewicz).
 - Highlight some examples of this integration at different scales (federal, state and volunteers/others).
 - Capacity Building – extend our technical capacity to other groups to integrate with other groups (WWTP, volunteers, agriculture groups).
15. **Action:** Marketing of Council Effort
 - Use Language of Benefits/Results of Council products and activities vs Features
 - Redo Webpages (Dan S., Cathy T., Barb H., Wendy Norton, Kim Martz, Jen Bruce)
 - Define Target Audiences
 - Becoming More Proactive and Strategic
 - Calling Card for several audiences/ use Council's Wheel
 - Get Marketing Advice (Barb Horn)
 - Run Photo Contest
 - **Action:** Barb Horn will contact Eric Eckl (Water Words that Work) for help on the calling card, website and marketing ideas.
16. **Action:** Council Web Site Photos
 - Send your best photos of scenic water bodies, monitoring photos (chemical, physical, biological sampling), people working in the laboratory, or people using water (boating, fishing, drinking water) to Cathy Tate, Barb Horn, or Dan Sullivan. (ALL)
 - Look at photos from newsletters to find new pictures for the website, especially pictures including people. (Cathy, Barb, Dan, Wendy)
17. **Website updates**
 - **Action:** Dan Sullivan will post the results of the Council matrix of State, Regional, and Tribal Councils on the website.
 - **Action:** Volunteer Monitoring web pages will be added to the website prior to the 2012 Conference (Barb, Dan).
18. **Outreach / Network for Council**

- New Council Initiation (material, webinar, etc.) -- **Action:** Set up a webinar for new Council member to bring them up to date on what tools and products the Council has available (NEMI, WQDE, webinars), how those tools and products can help their organizations, and how they can be an ambassador for the Council. (Steering Committee)
 - **Recommendation:** Use Council Meetings for Council Work (especially when meeting in person) and communication among Council members (e.g., Roundtables). Use WebEX for technical or numerous presentations that are of interest to the Council.
 - **Action:** Council should consider inviting more local State/Regional Council members and EPA Regional representatives to future NWQMC meetings.
 - **Action:** Greg Pettit to contact Shaun McKinney to inquire if Shaun would be willing to give a webinar for Council members on what his NRCS programs do.
19. **2012 National Monitoring Conference Follow up**
- **State/Regional Council Workshop** – “The making and breaking of state or regional monitoring councils.”
 - **Action:** Check abstracts and extended sessions to search for representatives from State/Regional/Tribal Councils to tap for workshop. Continue to contact Council’s to solicit their participation in workshop. (Barb, Cathy)
 - **Action:** Give Maggie Craig a list of participants in the workshop so they would not be schedule for other Conference activities at the same time.
 - **Action: Field Trips** –Online registration will start in January. Field trip information, logistics, fees, etc., need to be resolved by January. (Greg Pettit and local planning committee).
 - **Action:** Contact Maggie Craig to get spreadsheet of potential **sponsorships and exhibitors** that local committee can use. (Cathy, Jeff, Greg)
 - **Action: Volunteers to help at Conference** – Typically Council members volunteer at Conference. Cathy Tate will send out the spreadsheet from the last conference to show other volunteer opportunities.
 - **Action: Conference PR by Council** -- Greg Pettit’s PR people have offered to help with local PR such as, press releases. Greg will follow up with them.
 - **Action: Volunteer Monitoring Fundraiser – 5K Race** – Barb Horn will continue to work planning/organizing the run with local contacts and with Program Committee.
 - **Action: Council Members Involvement in Conference** – Council members should contact their representatives (e.g., States in their EPA regions) prior to conference and invite them to meet you at the Conference.
20. **Newsletter** – 4th edition released on November 10, 2011:
http://acwi.gov/monitoring/newsletter/National_Monitoring_News_fall2011.pdf
- **Action: Articles and photos** for 5th edition in the Spring 2012 are currently being accepted and are **DUE February 3, 2012**. Please “spread the work to your colleagues and staff about this opportunity to communicate (ALL)!”
 - “**Guidelines for contributors**” can be founds at: <http://acwi.gov/monitoring/newsletter/index.html>
 - **Send articles** to Cathy Tate (cmate@usgs.gov), John Hummer (jhummer@glc.org), Alice Mayo (mayio.alice@epa.gov), Dan Sullivan (djsulliv@usgs.gov), or Wendy Norton (wenorton@usgs.gov)
 - **ACTION:** Greg Pettit to send Cathy additional names for the newsletter distribution list.
21. **Council Webinars**
- Possible topics for future webinars:
 - SPARROW model
 - Clean Water Act 40th anniversary
 - Tribal continuous monitoring (canoes drag continuous monitoring instruments behind them),
 - Linda Green’s survey on how volunteer monitoring programs evaluate success.
 - Infomercial for 2012 Conference
 - From WIS Group: Set up webinars for Council on NEMI, CUAHSI HydroDesktop, and Jeff Deacon’s work on integrated database in the northeast.
 - **Action:** Send in your ideas! (ALL)
 - **Action:** Continue to pursue recording Webinars with an accompanying blog (Cathy, Dan, Wendy)
 - **Action:** Check list of email addresses of webinar attendees as a way to solicit ideas for future webinars. (Cathy, Dan)
22. **Action:** Plans for the launch of the **Water Quality Data Portal** next spring should be considered by the C&O workgroup. Mike Yurewicz will provide current information to Council Steering Committee and help set up webinar on launch of portal.
23. **Action: 2014 Conference Site Location** – **Jeff Schloss** will modify a request for proposals that NALMS uses to send out to potential groups that nominated sites for 2014 Conference.

24. **Steering Committee Updates:**
 - **Action:** Council will develop a strategic plan after the 2012 conference.
 - **Action:** Prior to the 2012 Conference the steering committee will develop a workplan.
 - **Action:** Each workgroup will develop a workplan/strategic plan that will be revisited annually.
 - **Decision:** Steering Committee will develop a succession plan for Council members that will try to recruit active members with diverse interests.
 - **Decision:** A launch/marketing plan will be developed for Council products or activities that will address different audiences (C&O Workgroup).
25. **Action:** Steering Committee will begin search for a Champion for the National Monitoring Network for Coastal Waters; preference would be for NOAA and/or EPA Coastal Program to lead/co-chair this group.
26. **Action:** Set up a NWQMC webinar meeting sometime early in 2012 to check in prior to conference on Council activities and allow for completion of Roundtable. (Steering Committee).
27. **FYI:** Eric Vowinkel's email address is eric.vowinkel@aol.com; please send emails.
28. **FYI:** Group photos from the meeting will be posted on SharePoint site.(Cathy Tate and others)
29. **THANK YOU** to Jeff Ostermiller for serving as our local host!
30. **SPECIAL THANKS** to our conference program planning guests – Dave Mueller, Alice Mayo, and Maggie Craig!
31. **THANK YOU** to Abstract Review Team Leads!

MEETING AGENDA
November 15 - 17, 2011

Utah Department of Water Quality
195 North 1950 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Tuesday, November 15th, 2011

TIMES are MOUNTAIN TIME

SHUTTLE: Meet in lobby at 7:40 am

8:00 a.m. – Meet & Greet Room: Board #1024

8:30 a.m. – Welcome & Introductions (Co-Chairs) Room: Board #1024

- Housekeeping and logistics (Susan Holdsworth and Mike Yurewicz)
- New Council Members – Jim Dorsch, Mike Eberle,

8:45 – 9:45 a.m. – *Discussion and Decisions on National Reference Site Network* – Bill Wilber and Jeff Deacon

Topic: NWQMC meeting - Ref. Site Network

Webex: <https://usqs.webex.com/usqs/j.php?ED=165519972&UID=480781817&RT=MIMxMQ%3D%3D>

Teleconference: 1-866-299-3188, Access code: 5661187#

9:45 – 10:00 a.m. - BREAK

10:00 – 10:30 – Conference updates

- Jeff Schloss on the overall status of conference activities (sponsors, exhibits, facility, etc)
- Greg Pettit on local planning group
- Maggie Craig – Process for abstract review during and after the meeting

10:30 – 11:30 p.m. – Breakouts for abstract-review groups

Team 1 - Room: Board #1015

Team 2 - Room: Red Rocks Room #3132

Team 3 - Room: Four Corners East #4100

Team 4 - Room: Four Corners West \$4100

Team 5 - Room: Board #1015

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. - LUNCH

12:30 – 4:45 p.m. – Breakouts for abstract-review groups (same rooms)

SHUTTLE: At front of building at 4:45 p.m.

5:00 p.m. – Steering Committee Meeting – meet at happy hour at hotel

Wednesday, November 16th, 2011

SHUTTLE: Meet in lobby at 7:40 am

8:00 a.m. – Meet & Greet (Main Street Lobby on Main Floor)

8:30 – 12:30 - Breakouts for abstract-review groups

Team 1 - Room: Canyonlands #2124

Team 2 - Room: Bonneville #4138

Team 3 - Room: Great Salt Lake West #3134

Team 4 - Room: Great Salt Lake East #4134

Team 5 - Room: Wasatch #4124 (8:30 – 10:00); Zion #1150 (9:30-12:30)

12:30 – 1:30 p.m. - LUNCH

1:30 – 4:00 p.m. – Report outs by abstract review groups, synthesis/discussion with full Council (led by Maggie Craig, Jeff Schloss, Alice Mayo, Dave Mueller and Cathy Tate)

4:00 – 4:45 p.m. – If time, begin Workgroup Breakouts (otherwise continue conference planning)

NAME	PURPOSE	PLACE
Collaboration and Outreach Work Group with Conference Planning Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conference planning or see Thursday agenda	Room: Great Salt Lake #3134
Water Information Strategies Work Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• See Thursday agenda	Room: Board #1024

SHUTTLE: At front of building at 4:45 p.m.

5:00 p.m. GROUP PHOTO IN HAWAIIAN SHIRTS with beverage in hand in honor of Dave Tucker

Thursday, November 17th, 2011

SHUTTLE: Meet in lobby at 7:40 am

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. - Workgroup Breakouts

NAME	PURPOSE	PLACE
Collaboration and Outreach Work Group with Conference Planning Committee Room: Board Room	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8:15 am. Web page – making it work for the public• Volunteer monitoring website• Calling card• Conference planning, if needed• Plan for C&O Workgroup Workshop• Other (newsletters, webinars, etc.)	Webex: https://usgs.webex.com Topic: (5) NWQMC C&O workgroup Teleconference: 1-866-299-3188 Access code: 5661187#

<p>Water Information Strategies Work Group Room: Zions #1050</p>	<p>Follow-Up Items from Previous Calls or Council Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrating Monitoring (draft white paper and Jeff O. conceptual framework) • Monitoring for Spills and flooding • WQSA Database • Reference Network (covered earlier) • "What Your Manager Needs to Know about Monitoring" fact sheet/presentation <p>New Discussion Items (future calls, work products, etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring for BMPs • Reporting Tools (Oregon Gov Portal, etc.) • NJ Survey of State Water Quality Indices • Jeff Deacon – Compilation of Ambient Monitoring Data • Communicating Your Message and/or • Connecting Monitoring to Policy 	
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12:00 – 1:00 p.m. -- Lunch

1 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Room: Board #1024 – Workgroup report-out to Council; Council business: Suggestions for the 2014 Conference location; Approval of New Orleans minutes; Roundtable, and closing comments; next steps; actions

SHUTTLE: At front of building at 4:15 p.m.

Friday, November 18th, 2011

8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Map meeting: Room Great Salt Lake East and West #3134

Listing of Attendees and Participants:

Apeti, Dennis	NOAA
Baker, Tyler	Tennessee Valley Authority
Chestnut, Dave	The States of EPA Region 4
Craig, Maggie	Tetra Tech
Cude, Curtis	Municipal / Drinking Water / Public Health
Deacon, Jeff	USGS
Dorsch, Jim	NACWA
Eberle, Michael	U.S. Forest Service
Fuller, Dave	National Tribal Water Council
Horn, Barb	Volunteer Monitoring
Hooper, Rick	CUAHSI
Iles, Derric	AASG
Jones, Jason	The States of EPA Region 9
Kohlhepp, Gary	The States of EPA Region 5
Kimball, Warren	The States of EPA Region 1
Mayio, Alice	EPA
McDonald, Michael	EPA
McGeorge, Leslie	The States of EPA Region 2
McLaughlin, Doug	NCASI
Mueller, Dave	USGS
Norton, Wendy	USGS
Ostermiller, Jeff	The States of EPA Region 8
Pettit, Greg	The States of EPA Region 10
Schloss, Jeff	North American Lake Management Society
Shaw, Tony	The States of EPA Region 3
Skopec, Mary	The States of EPA Region 7
Sullivan, Dan	USGS
Tate, Cathy	USGS
Tennant, Peter	River Basin Commissions / ORSANCO
Wilber, Bill	USGS
Wolfe, Steve	Gulf of Mexico Alliance
Yurewicz, Mike	USGS