



Collaboration and Outreach Workgroup Minutes May 3-5, 2011 New Orleans, Louisiana

Participants: Cathy Tate, Barb Horn, Wendy Norton, Sheri Alcalde, Sharon McKinney, Dave Fuller, John Hummer, Jeff Schloss, Greg Pettit, Gary Rowe, and Dave Tucker.

Updates/Highlights/Action Items:

Webinar topics and speakers

2011 Web Seminars:

- Jan: *"Marcellus Monitoring: The role of volunteers in baseline data"* by Jinnie Woodward, Julie Vastine, and Candie Wilderman, Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM).
- March: *"Water Quality Monitoring Sensors"* by Dan Sullivan, USGS, Aquatic Sensor Workgroup, co-sponsored by the California Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network
- April: *"Tribal Science, Monitoring and Partnerships to Address Environmental Issues"* by Dave Fuller, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe.

Future Web seminars:

- June 16, 2011: *"Introduction to the Environmental Methods Index (NEMI)"* by Dan Sullivan co-sponsored by the California Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network.
- **ACTION:** Send in your ideas

Blogs and Social Media Tools

- Council Calendar – let Cathy Tate or Dan Sullivan know when there is something going on!
- Council Blog – Wendy Norton is pushing it through the proper channels at DOI.
- NWQMC "SharePoint" site was set up for internal information exchange (e.g., planning for conference, workgroups). <https://xcollaboration.usgs.gov/wg/wiWSC/NWQMC/>
 - Remember to add "PARTNERS" in front of your user ID
- **ACTION:** If you DO NOT have access to SharePoint and want access, please send name, email address, and phone number to Cathy Tate (cmtate@usgs.gov).

"National Water Monitoring News"

- 3rd Edition of National Monitoring News released April 29, 2011
- **ACTION:** Articles with photos for Fall 2011 - now being accepted
- Send articles to Editorial Board: Cathy Tate, cmtate@usgs.gov; John Hummer, jhummer@qlc.org; Alice Mayo, mayio.alice@epa.gov; Dan Sullivan, djsulliv@usgs.gov; Wendy Norton, wenorton@usgs.gov

Topics for the Fall issue of newsletter:

- NADP
- Chesapeake Bay
- Great Lakes energy/water nexus
- Tribute to Pixie Hamilton
- Introduction New USGS Council Co-Chair, Mike Yurewicz
- Thanks to Outgoing Council Member – Dave Tucker
- St. Vrain/Left Hand Colorado Data SWAP
- Release of USGS BioData
- San Diego Coastkeeper successfully incorporates toxicity testing into volunteer water quality monitoring program. Travis Prichard and Shane Mudd
- Other?

Expand communication with other Councils and partners in monitoring – Calling card

- Barb Horn conducted an information gathering exercise (quiz) during Joint C&O and WIS workgroup meeting to use in updating the Calling Card.
- **Next step:** Council “calling card” will be revised or several versions will be made for reviewing – Barb Horn will pass it around among her marketing-oriented friends

Refine online “How to” tool kit for state, regional, and tribal councils

Create/Update power point presentations:

- **ACTION:** Still need a lead this effort!

Water Monitoring Council Matrix

- Team included Barb Horn (lead), Jody Arthur, Alice Mayo, and David Fuller
- Constructed an information gathering form
- Sent to monitoring communities to fill out on April 19th, 2011
- California, Colorado, and Florida have filled out form
- **ACTION:** If you represent a State, Regional, or Tribal council -- please fill out form!

Website:

- Council approved using the **NWQMC Volunteer Monitoring page** as a home for the now defunct Volunteer Monitoring Newsletter. Council approved the proposed content for that page. A Volunteer Monitoring subgroup will populate the site, overseen by the NWQMC Volunteer Monitoring Position. Dan Sullivan will work on webpage once Barb Horn and volunteer monitoring group develop the basic content.

8th National Monitoring Conference

Updates since February NWQMC meeting:

- Conference theme selected
- Conference Subcommittees formed and working hard!
- Proposed Agenda of overlap day (May 4th) of NWQMC Conference and River Network’s National River Rally sent to Conference Planning Committees
- Released of “Save – the – date”

Next steps for Conference Planning:

- **Action:** Dave Mueller and Cathy Tate will finalize 10 questions for abstract submittal and Web site for abstract submission will be active in mid-May (lead: Dave Mueller, Cathy Tate, Philip Forsberg, Jeff Schloss).
- **Action:** Finalize the "Call For Abstracts" to go out in mid-May (lead: Cathy Tate, Dave Mueller, Jeff Schloss)
- **Action:** Finalize session description, proposal application for workshops/short courses and panels for launch of web site (leads: Cathy Tate, Dave Mueller, and others).
- **Action:** CHARGE to Council and C&O Workgroup – to market, create a buzz, encourage and where (if) appropriate require folks to attend the last day of the NWQMC Conference, first day of the River Rally also referred to as the "bridge" day. Editable handout available if helps effort, contact Barb Horn. (ALL).
- **Action:** CHARGE TO COUNCIL: Is there Council work or product we want to present, get feedback on, like tools that exist, tools thinking of, etc. WIS? NEMI? Monitoring Network? Stats tools? AWS group? ACWI?, etc.. --- (ALL)
- **Action:** CHARGE TO COUNCIL – Think about how your own entity can leverage training, sessions with Bridge Day that either add to the day or extend it (trainings, etc.) and contact program committee. (ALL)

What does C & O Committee need to do before next meeting re: conference?

- **ACTION:** Ask our 17 councils what they might need at conference, have a C&O Workgroup call on this topic and work on figuring out best mechanisms to meet need (panel, workshop, abstract, etc.), recap did last time. (leads: Cathy Tate and Barb Horn).
- How to create and sustain state or regional councils---solving water resource problems through state regional councils----put any topic that eludes to hands-on working together on the bridge day.
- **DEADLINE:** Abstracts and Workshops, Short Courses, Panels proposals due **September 23, 2011.**