NWQMC
NATIONAL WATER QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL
Working Together for Clean Water

Building and Sustaining Successful Monitoring Programs
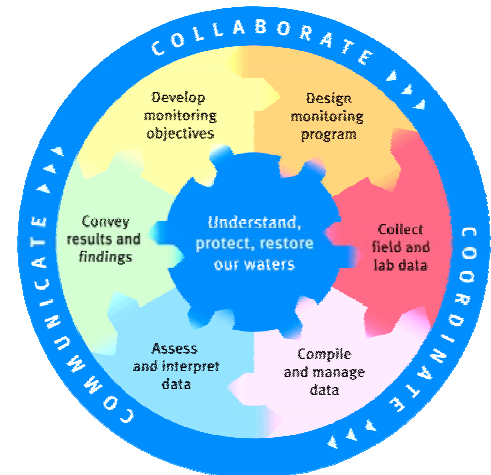
Road Map To The Conference

Welcome! This conference is designed to encourage discussion and interaction among all conference participants, a hallmark of all our conferences. We have organized this conference around the National Council's Framework for Monitoring, which debuted at the 2002 conference. This time, we will explore the framework as it relates to four overall themes critical to building and sustaining successful programs. They are:

✓ *Promoting collaborative efforts*

✓ *Ensuring data and information comparability*

✓ *Addressing changing expectations of monitoring*

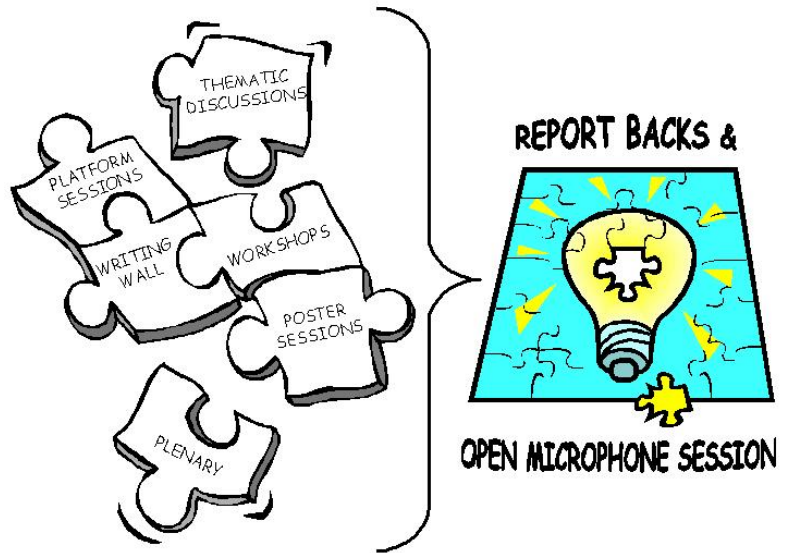✓ *Exploring new and emerging methods and technologies*

Throughout the conference, we'll be asking you to provide your thoughts on the five discussion questions below within the context of the four themes.

Framework for Monitoring

Building and Sustaining Successful Monitoring Programs is built around a variety of session types and feedback mechanisms that will allow us to explore and address the questions and conference themes:

✓ *Short courses & workshops*
(Half and full day training and interactive sessions on Monday morning and afternoon)

✓ *Opening plenary*
(Monday afternoon)

✓ *Platform sessions*
(90-minute sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday; presentations followed by questions and discussion)

✓ *Poster/exhibit sessions*
(Monday evening reception, Tuesday and Wednesday following lunch)

✓ *Writing wall*
(For use throughout the conference; we will have a bulletin board for each theme with each question posted. There will be index cards available for participants to post thoughts and responses to specific questions under any of the themes.)

PROMOTING COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

ENSURING DATA & INFORMATION COMPARABILITY

EXPLORING NEW & EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

THEMATIC DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. *What is the value of this theme? (collaboration, comparability, changing expectations, new/emerging technologies)*

2. *What are the barriers/challenges associated with moving forward?*

3. *What do you need to move forward (tools, resources, guidance, etc)?*

4. *What are the success stories, lessons learned, and tools you've encountered at this conference that you can apply to your own program?*

5. *What role(s) do you see for the NWQMC and monitoring stakeholders in moving this theme forward?*

ADDRESSING CHANGING EXPECTATIONS

- *Thematic discussions*
  (90-minute sessions on Wednesday afternoon; one session devoted to each of the four themes. Prior to the discussions, we will compile all feedback gathered through the short courses and workshops, platform sessions, and writing wall. During the discussions, we will prioritize responses to the thematic discussion questions, explore the issues in more depth, and begin to build consensus on how to advance each of these themes.)

- On Wednesday night, conference staff and planners will gather to compile all the feedback from the various sessions, discussions, and writing wall. This feedback will be turned into four report-back presentations—one for each theme—and presented to conference participants during the Thursday morning closing session. Following the report-backs, we'll have an open microphone give-and-take discussion.

Thursday's reports and the results of the open microphone session will serve as recommendations to the Council and documentation of the conference results.

We hope that you will fill out the conference evaluation and turn it in at the end of the conference. This gives you a final chance to provide feedback, essential for future conference content.

Your active participation in this process will make this conference a success!

The Conference at a glance…

What follows is a condensed schedule for getting around the conference on each day. Please refer to the full conference agenda for the presentation titles and authors.

Monday, May 17

	Room 2	Room 11	Room 12	Room 13	Room 14	Room 15
Morning Short Courses & Workshops **8:30 – 11:30 am**	International Perspectives on Water Quality Monitoring	Groundwater/ Surface Water Interactions: A Comprehensive Watershed Approach, Part 1	Determining Comparability of Biological Assessments	Evaluating State Water Monitoring and Assessment Programs and Strategies	Building and Sustaining a Collaborative Monitoring Council, Part 1	Statistical Techniques for Trend and Load Estimation, Part 1
Lunch, **11:30 am – 12:30 pm**						
Afternoon Short Courses & Workshops **12:30 – 3:30 pm**	Wetlands Biological Assessments: The 1 - 2 - 3 Approach	Groundwater/ Surface Water Interactions: A Comprehensive Watershed Approach, Part 2	Making the Most of Water Quality Monitoring Data: Applications of Water Quality Data Elements	Balancing Priorities: Developing a Monitoring Network to Meet Multiple Needs	Building and Sustaining a Collaborative Monitoring Council, Part 2	Statistical Techniques for Trend and Load Estimation, Part 2
Opening Plenary, **4:00 – 6:00 pm**						
Exhibit & Poster Reception, Elizabeth J. Fellows Award, **6:00 – 8:00 pm**						

Tuesday, May 18

	Room 11	Room 12	Room 13	Room 14	Room 15
Concurrent Session A **8:00 – 9:30 am**	What's in it for us? Identifying the Values of Collaboration	Combining Targeted and Probabilistic Approaches	New and Emerging Technologies: Toxics and Organics	Data Synthesis - Challenges and Approaches to Using Data from Multiple Sources	State Managed Volunteer Monitoring Programs
Concurrent Session B **10:00 – 11:30 am**	College - Community Monitoring Partnerships	Design to Meet Multiple Objectives	New and Emerging Technologies: Field Sampling and In-Situ Analyses	Data Sharing - Collaborative Access to Centralized or Distributed Datasets	Identifying Sources of Environmental Stress
Lunch, **11:30 am – 12:30 pm** ■ Poster/Exhibit Session, **12:30 – 1:30 pm**					
Concurrent Session C **1:30 – 3:00 pm**	Thinking Outside the Box: Creative Collaborations	Communicating with Public Audiences	Environmental Response to Development	Database Design and Development	Monitoring Objectives: Essential to Direct and Focus Monitoring Programs
Concurrent Session D **3:30 – 5:00 pm**	The BIG Picture: Large Scale, Long Term Monitoring Efforts	Communication Among Monitoring Entities	TMDL - Applying Science to Real World Problems	Database Presentation: In-house and on the Web	New and Emerging Technologies: Early Warning and Remote Diagnostics

Wednesday, May 19

	Room 11	Room 12	Room 13	Room 14	Room 15
Concurrent Session E **8:00 – 9:30 am**	Collaborative Monitoring Efforts In the International Arena	How Changing Expectations Affect Monitoring Design	Fresh Approaches to Data Analysis	What is *comparability* and how do we ensure it? Part 1	Lessons Learned for Sustaining Programs
Concurrent Session F **10:00 – 11:30 am**	Collaborative Monitoring Efforts In the Interstate Arena	Balancing Educational and Data Quality Needs in Volunteer Monitoring Programs	Facing Uncertainty in Data Analysis	What is *comparability* and how do we ensure it? Part 2	Water Quality Standards - Facing Today's Problems and Planning for Tomorrow's
Lunch, **11:30 am – 12:30 pm** ■ Poster/Exhibit Session, **12:30 – 1:30 pm**					
Concurrent Session G **1:30 – 3:00 pm**	Monitoring as a Tool for Building Community Capacity	Integrating Multiple Components to Assist Decision-making	Innovative Indices	New and Emerging Technologies: Sediment	Evolving to Meet Changing Needs

	Room 12	Room 13	Room 14	Room 15
Thematic Discussions **3:30 – 5:00 pm**	Promoting Collaborative Efforts	Exploring New and Emerging Methods & Technologies	Addressing Changing Expectations of Monitoring	Ensuring Data and Information Comparability

Thursday, May 20

Conclusions & Participant Open-Microphone, **8:30 – 11:30 am**
Field Trips, **12:30 – 4:30 pm**