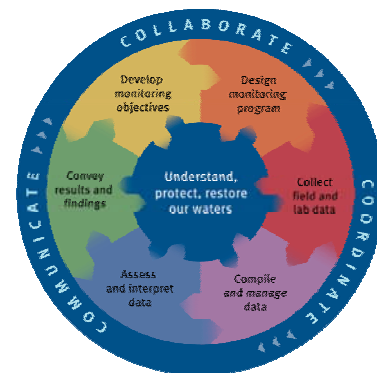




Mark your calendars for the
Fifth National Monitoring Conference
Monitoring Networks: Connecting for Clean Water
May 7-11, 2006 – San José, California

In May 2006, the **National Water Quality Monitoring Council** (NWQMC) will present its 5th National Monitoring Conference, *Monitoring Networks: Connecting for Clean Water*. The conference will highlight how various networks – including monitoring designs, information exchanges, and the Internet – connect all of us working for clean water. Networks promote and foster the communication, collaboration, and coordination integral to each of the elements of the Council's *Framework for Monitoring*. These human, technological, and programmatic support systems create the connections we need to better understand, protect, and restore our water resources.



Of special note...

The conference will provide an **expanded national forum for volunteer monitoring program coordinators** to exchange information, develop skills, and build better networks. Also, the **USGS National Water-Quality Assessment (NAWQA) Program** will showcase new findings on the quality of the Nation's streams and groundwater and highlight recent innovations and cutting-edge tools in water quality assessment. The conference program will include **technical and entertaining field trips** that take advantage of San José's beautiful surroundings!

Key themes will focus on:

- Designing monitoring programs and networks at different scales to address multiple objectives
- Linking and sharing data among multiple users
- Establishing and sustaining state/regional monitoring councils, partnerships, and coalitions
- Improving communication among scientists, managers, policy makers, and the public
- Exploring the growth of information technology and ways to capitalize on these advances
- Addressing multi-jurisdictional and international monitoring issues

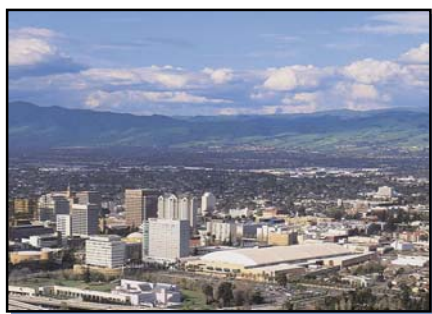


Photo courtesy of the San Jose Convention & Visitors Bureau

San José, the *gateway to the San Francisco Bay area*, is an ideal location for the next National Monitoring Conference. Conveniently located at the southern tip of the Bay, San José is 40 miles south of San Francisco and 50 miles north of Monterey. Rich in history and cultural diversity and recognized as a city of innovation, San José offers plenty of access to world-class cultural arts, nightlife, recreational parks, and nationally recognized hotels and restaurants. The convention and cultural facilities are located in the heart of downtown, just minutes from the airport.

More to Come – Watch for the Call for Abstracts!

If you have questions about the conference or would like to be placed on our mailing list, contact the 2006 Monitoring Conference Coordinator at NWQMC2006@tetratech-ffx.com.

For more information about the Council, visit <http://water.usgs.gov/wicp/acwi/monitoring/>

