



## National Water Quality Monitoring Council (Council) – February 3, 2011 (Agenda and list of participants on pages 4-6)

**Actions and Decisions** (in order of general occurrence; not importance) (Detailed notes on workgroup discussions are posted on the website)

1. **Decision: Meeting minutes approved, December 6, 2011** – will be posted as finalized on website (Kim Martz)
2. **Decision: Next Council meeting** - May 3-5 –New Orleans, Louisiana – please hold the date on your calendars  
**Action:** Please submit agenda items to Susan H., Pixie H., and Cathy Tate. Suggestions thus far,
  - USDA-NRCS presentation on MRBI program
  - Presentation/session by States on Council role and focus (i.e. including actions needed for improved strategies for addressing Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, etc)
  - Update on the Safe and Sustainable Water Resources Research Program (integrated research plan by EPA-ORD) (Mike McDonald)
  - Update from subcommittee on groundwater – status of Pilots and next steps (Pixie Hamilton)
  - AASG – Now and in the future (Derrick Iles)
3. **Action: A Doodle poll will be sent out for setting dates for subsequent meeting – possibly week of Oct. 24 or Nov. 8** in Iowa, IA (lead: **Cathy Tate**)
4. **Decision:** Please book *non-refundable* flights – please closely follow instructions provided by Sheri Alcalde for meetings
5. **Decision:** Thank you notes to presenters/guests/meeting organizers (leads: Wendy, Pixie H., Susan H., and Cathy Tate)
6. **Action: New Members** - Susan and Pixie will welcome/call new members (Derrick Iles and Michael Eberle) and point them to resources on web
7. **Decision: Filling in gaps in membership** – Need to pursue more
  - NOAA representation (leads: **Pixie, Gunnar**)
  - USDA-NRCS gap left by Jeff Loser (leads: **Pixie, Jeff Schoss, Susan H.** (talk with Katie F), **Greg Pettit** (has possible lead in Oregon)
  - Environment Canada (organization expressed interest through Donna Myers) (leads: **Pixie, Donna**)
  - EPA “standards” representative (to connect monitoring to standards, criteria, and assessment) (leads: **Pixie, Susan H., Wendy**)
  - NACWA (currently filled by Dave Tucker) – Wendy will continue to work with Dave on his availability or finding a suitable replacement (lead: **Wendy, Dave**)
8. **Action:** A list of regional monitoring coordinators and state monitoring colleagues will be distributed to Council and on Council website (leads: **Susan Holdsworth and Cathy Tate**)
9. **Action:** Please provide feedback on online diatoms guide (<http://westerndiatoms.colorado.edu/>) to **Sarah Spaulding** ([sspaulding@usgs.gov](mailto:sspaulding@usgs.gov), (303) 492-5158). Visit the site; test out the process for submitting a diatom page for inclusion. One outcome of the discussion is for Council representatives to “spread the word” on its availability. State representatives may consider inclusion of the guide in laboratory contracts. Steve Moulton ([smoulto@usgs.gov](mailto:smoulto@usgs.gov)) will write some verbiage for laboratory contracts and pass onto Council members. A possible enhancement, suggested at the Council meeting is to retrieve data in tables that match ITIS. (Note: an online guide for zooplankton is available at [www.cfb.unh.edu](http://www.cfb.unh.edu) (contact: **Jeff Schloss**))
10. **Action:** Council members to provide feedback on water-quality exchange (WQX) and raise awareness among colleagues on its availability. State representatives to encourage its use by all States (currently 37 States participate). Other participation – such as volunteers and Tribal – is also encouraged to continue. Templates for water-quality exchanges should be shared (such as the one by New Jersey) – possible agenda topic next meeting. Geospatial association – such as to NHD – is cited as a priority by Council members. Contacts for questions: Kristen Gundhardt ([gundthardt.krisen@epa.gov](mailto:gundthardt.krisen@epa.gov)) and Nate Booth ([nlbooth@usgs.gov](mailto:nlbooth@usgs.gov)).

11. **Decision:** Mike McDonald to let Council members know when DRAFT research framework and website are available for comment on EPA-ORD's integrated research plan – referred to as Safe and Sustainable Water Resources Research Program (SSWR) (lead: **Mike McDonald**)
12. **Decision:** "Barry Long" Award considered by the C&O as a biennial conference award to a State/Regional council in memory of Barry Long. Characteristics of recipient that should be considered in the award should be forwarded to **Cathy Tate and Gary Rosenlieb**.
13. **Action: Council Calendar** – Please submit workgroup and subcommittee meeting dates and conference calls to Dan Sullivan and Cathy Tate
14. **Decision: Council blogs** will be initiated as a mechanism for dialogue following webinars, with a time window. Potential for blogs and other social media tools will continue to be explored by the C&O workgroup (leads: **Wendy, Dan, and Cathy**)
15. **Action: Comments/new ideas on webinars** are welcome – refer to those suggested by the C&O workgroup in presentation on web (leads: **Cathy Tate and Barb Horn**)
16. **Newsletter** – target date for 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, April 11, 2011

**Action: Please submit articles and photos by February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011; please "spread the word" to your colleagues and staff about this opportunity to communicate.**

Selected current ideas:

- New Council members (Derric Iles, Michael Eberle)
- Outgoing members (Dave Wunsch)
- GOMA/Council joint meeting
- Federal programs (WaterSmart, NAWQA Cycle 3, Highlights); NARS wetlands starting this summer
- SWAMP (California)
- GLRI (Dan Sullivan)
- CDC Harmful Algal Blooms – Curtis Cude
- Volunteer monitoring Iowa (Mary Skopec)
- Tribal monitoring
- Workgroup updates
- New Tools and Technology – Diatoms (Sarah Spaulding)
- Interesting articles - invasive species; nutrients
- Announcements

17. **Decision - Calling card** – No action needed by Council members at this point; C&O will modify current version based on discussions and input at meeting (such as version may be modified to different audiences (scientists, managers); enhanced words on why Council exists; Barb will run by marketing person) (lead: **C&O group**)
18. **Decision: How To Establish a Council Kit - Model analysis** will be done based on updated information on water monitoring councils – a solicitation for information from Councils will be sent by co-chairs, Susan and Pixie (lead: **Barb Horn**)

**NOTE:** Utah is approaching its one-year anniversary; Oregon is in the process of forming a council

19. **2012 National Conference, Portland, Oregon, April 30 - May 4 (overlap day with River Rally, Friday, May 4)** (lead: **C&O**)

**Action:** Send ideas for conference themes – to Jeff Schloss and Cathy Tate (**February 10, 2011**)

**Action:** Sign up for a committee (Choices: Program committee, NWQMC/River Rally overlap committee, local planning, plenary, workshops/panels/field trips, awards, sponsorships/exhibits, conference volunteers) (**Email Jeff Schloss and Cathy Tate**) (**February 10, 2011**)

**Action:** Fill out the survey for the overlap day – themes, etc; will be available February 10, 2011 (leads: **Barb and Cathy**)

**Action:** Susan, Jeff Schloss, and States will pursue discussions/ways to support States (lead: **Susan Holdsworth**)

**Decision:** Gunnar L will help with possibilities for NOAA representation on local planning; Dave Fuller and Ann Jochens will talk with Jan Newton (NANOOS) for interest in participation

**Decision:** Jane Lubchenko (NOAA) will be added to candidate plenary list

**Decision:** "Save the Date" announcement by March 1, 2011 – **Action:** spread the word

**Decision:** "Call for Abstracts" out May 15, 2011 – **Action:** spread the word

**Decision:** Deadline for abstracts, September 23, 2011 – FIRM – **Action:** spread the word

20. **Decision:** WIS calls will be at 11 EST, second Wednesday each month; Cathy will put on Council calendar (leads: **Peter Tennant and Mary Skopec**)
21. **Decision:** WIS subcommittee formed to review current South Carolina survey for use by Council to assess use of volunteer monitoring data (leads: **Dave Chestnut, Barb Horn**)
22. **Decision:** Reference site collaborative - Council expressed strong support.  
**Actions:** Bill Wilber and Jeff Deacon to revise DRAFT resolution and briefing sheet based on Council feedback at meeting. Cathy will distribute to Council members. Council members to submit comments on the DRAFT resolution and briefing sheet to Bill Wilber by February 17, 2011. Pending edits, the reference site resolution will be submitted for approval by ACWI. Bill Wilber will work with Wendy on timing and getting on the ACWI agenda (teleconference, webinar, or face-to-face meeting). A subcommittee was formed to work with USGS to scope out reference site definitions, criteria and an inventory of existing sites. (leads: **Bill Wilber**, [wqwilber@usgs.gov](mailto:wqwilber@usgs.gov) and **Jeff Deacon**, [jrdeacon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrdeacon@usgs.gov))
23. **Decision:** Council expressed strong support for developing program and monitoring integration products (exact nature not determined except agreement that multiple forums are needed to meet different audience needs). The subcommittee was expanded to represent State perspectives (Leslie, Jason, Mary S., Gary K., Toni, Chris P., Jeff O. (review only), Dave Chestnut).  
**ACTION:** The current DRAFT of ideas will be updated with Council ideas provided at this meeting by Pixie and Susan and distributed to group (leads: **Susan H., Pixie H., Steve Paulsen, Greg Pettit, Gary Rowe**).
24. **Action:** Please provide comments on NAWQA Cycle 3 plan to **Gary Rowe** ([glrowe@usgs.gov](mailto:glrowe@usgs.gov)) by **February 28<sup>th</sup>**. The plan can be accessed on an ftp site: <ftp://ftpext.usgs.gov/pub/cr/co/denver/NAWQA%20Cycle%203%20Science%20Plan/>. Contact Gary if you cannot access the file.
25. **Action:** "Hold the date" for participation on webinar/teleconference, **April 7<sup>th</sup> 1 to 4 p.m. ET** on the current status of the National Monitoring Network (lead: **Pixie Hamilton**)
26. **Meeting presentations** to be placed on web (leads: **Cathy and Wendy will work with Kim Martz**)
27. **FYI:** Council link will be set up with CDC Harmful Algal Bloom and surveillance information (lead: **Curtis Cude**)
28. **FYI:** NALMS conference in Spokane, WA, October 24-26, 2011 (contact: **Jeff Schloss**)
29. **FYI:** Vermont Water Quality Monitoring Plan and integrated Surface Water Management Strategy available at [www.vtwaterquality.org](http://www.vtwaterquality.org) (contact: **Neil Kamman**)
30. **FYI:** Ann Jochens, GCOOS, will help in soliciting IOOS and regional association support for 2012 conference
31. **FYI:** Asian carp/Chicago Area Waterway System Study available at: <http://www.glc.org/announce/11/01waterway.html> (contact: **John Hummer**)
32. **FYI:** Monitoring in 32 national parks (<http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/monitor/index.cfm>) (lead: **Gary Rosenlieb**)
33. **Action:** Please pass on any other notes and links of interest for inclusion in FINAL minutes of the meeting.

## AGENDA

### Tuesday, February 1, 2011

8:00 a.m. – Meet & Greet in **Room: Coral Reef**

8:30 a.m. – Welcome & Introductions (Co-Chairs Pixie Hamilton and Susan Holdsworth) **Room: Coral Reef**

- Housekeeping and logistics
- Introductions
- Member updates – Wendy Norton

8:45 – 11:30 a.m. – **Updates on selected Council activities and priorities**

- 8:45 a.m. – Tribute to Barry Long (slideshow and remembrances) and ideas for memorial (Cathy Tate)
- 9:15 a.m. – Collaboration and Outreach
  - Strategic Plan, webinars, blog, newsletter, website, Council Matrix, Calling card (Cathy Tate and Barb Horn)
  - 2012 Conference Updates (Cathy Tate, Jeff Schloss and Greg Pettit)
- 9:35 a.m. – Methods Board and Sensors Developments (Dan Sullivan)
- 9:50 a.m. – Data management updates on WQX and new developments with NOAA and others (Nate Booth; Kristen Gundthart)

10:20 – 10:35 a.m. – **BREAK**

- 5-8 minute update on ORDs integration of its water research – Mike McDonald
- 10:35 a.m. – Water Information Strategies Updates (Peter Tennant, Mary Skopec), Water Quality Statistics and Assessment (WQSA) workgroup (Doug McLaughlin), and Update on Program and Monitoring Integration (Pixie Hamilton)
- 10:50 a.m. – Integrating reference sites across the Nation (Bill Wilber, Jeff Deacon and Mark Nilles NADP)
- 11:00 a.m. – Updates on NAWQA Cycle 3 (Gary Rowe) and EPA Monitoring and Assessment Program (Susan Holdsworth)
- 11:15 a.m. – National Monitoring Network Update (Pixie Hamilton)

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. – **LUNCH**

WebEx: <https://usgs.webex.com/> Choose "NWQMC meeting" and click on "Join"

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

1:00 – 5:00 p.m. – **Technical Session – Nutrient criteria, including representatives from federal and state agencies**

- 1:00 p.m. – Overview and objectives of session (Susan Holdsworth)
- 1:10 p.m. – *EPA – methods for developing Inland Criteria*, Jacques Oliver, USEPA, Office of Science Technology
- 1:50 p.m. – *EPA – methods for developing Estuary Criteria*, Jim Hagy, USEPA, ORD, Gulf Ecology Division

2:50 – 3:05 p.m. – **BREAK**

- 3:05 p.m. – *Implementation of Nutrient Criteria in Florida*, by Julie Espy, FL Dept. of Environmental Protection
- 3:50 p.m. – *GOMA Nutrient Criteria Program*, by Kim Caviness, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
- 4:15 p.m. – Group Discussion (i.e., data challenges and gaps) (Facilitator, Pixie Hamilton)

5:00 p.m. – **ADJOURN**

### Wednesday, February 2, 2011

7:45 a.m. – Meet & Greet in **Room: Coral Reef**

8:15 – 8:30 a.m. – Recap of first day – Group thoughts (Pixie Hamilton and Susan Holdsworth) in **Room: Coral Reef**

8:30 a.m. Presentation - *USGS NAWQA and USEPA EMAP and NARS release of a web-based guide, Diatoms of the United States*

- 8:30 am History of web-based Diatom guide (Steve Moulton)
- 8:40 am Demonstration of Diatoms of the United States web site (Sarah Spaulding)
- 9:10 am Discussion (Facilitator, Pixie Hamilton)

9:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – **Technical Session - Gulf of Mexico Updates** (Holdsworth, Wolfe, Tennant, Hamilton, Tate)

- 9:15 a.m. – Objectives of Session (Susan Holdsworth)

- 9:25 a.m. – *Gulf of Mexico Alliance [GOMA] Overview*, Steve Wolfe, Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection
- 9:35 a.m. – *Gulf Research Initiative*, Phil Bass, GOMA Executive Director
- 9:50 a.m. – NOAA – Reports coming out from oil spill (Gunnar Lauenstein) (10 minutes); USGS updates on oil spill, (Donna Myers) (10 minutes)
- 10:10 a.m. – *Restoration Task Force*, Jan Kurtz, USEPA Gulf Breeze (15-20 minutes)

**10:30 – 10:45 a.m. – BREAK**

- 10:45 a.m. – *Hypoxia Task Force*, Richard Ingram, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
- 11:05 a.m. – *Gulf of Mexico Coastal Ocean Observing System [GCOOS] Overview*, Ann Jochens, Texas A & M University (20 minutes); *Florida Coastal Ocean Observing Systems*, Peter Sheng, University of Florida (5 minutes)
- 11:30 a.m. – *NOAA Gulf Data Bases supporting the GOM Digital Atlas*, Fred Zeile, NOAA NCDDC
- 11:45 a.m. – Discussion and ideas for joint meeting (Facilitators, Susan Holdsworth and Pixie Hamilton)

**12:15 – 1:30 p.m. – LUNCH**

1:30 p.m. – Council regroup and charge to workgroup (Pixie Hamilton) Room: Coral Reef

1:45 - 5:00 p.m. Workgroup Breakout Sessions (below)

**Thursday, February 3, 2011**

8:00 a.m. – Meet & Greet in Room: Coral Reef

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 p.m. – Workgroup Breakout Sessions (below)

1:00 – 4:30 p.m. – Report outs by Workgroups, and closing comments; next steps; and actions with full Council (led by Pixie Hamilton and Susan Holdsworth with Workgroup chairs: Dan Sullivan, Cathy Tate, and Peter Tennant/Doug McLaughlin)

NAME	AGENDA ITEMS	PLACE
Collaboration and Outreach Work Group Room: Lantana	2011 Strategic Plan Online newsletter Webinars Expand communications "How To" tool kits Council matrix Blog Webpage and updating information	Webex: <a href="https://usqs.webex.com/">https://usqs.webex.com/</a> Choose "NWQMC C&O workgroup" and click on Join  Teleconference: 1-866-299-3188, passcode: 5661187#
Water Information Strategies Work Group Room: Coral Reef	Integration paper Reference sites (NADP model) Water Quality Statistics and Assessment (WQSA) workgroup NAWQA Cycle 3 Volunteer monitoring Monitoring of spills MAP – EPA status and progress	Teleconference: 712-432-0950, Participant passcode: 380095# Hostcode: 380095*
Methods Board Room: Oleander	1:00 -3:00 p.m. Meet with Nate B. and Kristen G. re: database/data elements for sensors	

## Listing of Attendees and Participants:

Alcalde, Sheri	USGS
Baker, Tyler	Tennessee Valley Authority
Bass, Phil	Gulf of Mexico Alliance
Booth, Nate	USGS
Caffrey, Jane	American Society of Limnology and Oceanography
Caviness, Kim	MS Department of Environmental Quality
Chestnut, Dave	The States of EPA Region 4
Cude, Curtis	Municipal / Drinking Water / Public Health
Deacon, Jeff	USGS
Espy, Julie	FL Department of Environmental Protection
Fuller, Dave	National Tribal Water Council
Gundhart, Kristen	NOAA
Hagy, Jim	EPA
Hamilton, Pixie	USGS
Holdsworth, Susan	EPA
Horn, Barb	Volunteer Monitoring
Hummer, John	Great Lakes Commission
Ingram, Richard	MS Department of Environmental Quality
Jochens, Ann	Texas A&M University
Jones, Jason	The States of EPA Region 9
Kamman, Neil	The States of EPA Region 1
Kohlhepp, Gary	The States of EPA Region 5
Kurtz, Jan	EPA
Lauenstein, Gunnar	NOAA
McDonald, Mike	EPA
McGeorge, Leslie	The States of EPA Region 2
McLaughlin, Doug	NCASI
Myers, Donna	USGS
Nilles, Mark	USGS
Norton, Wendy	USGS
Ostermiller, Jeff	The States of EPA Region 8
Pettit, Greg	The States of EPA Region 10
Piehler, Chris	The States of EPA Region 6
Rosenlieb, Gary	National Park Service
Rowe, Gary	USGS
Schloss, Jeff	North American Lake Management Society
Shaw, Tony	The States of EPA Region 3
Skopec, Mary	The States of EPA Region 7
Spaulding, Sarah	USGS
Sullivan, Dan	USGS
Tennant, Peter	River Basin Commissions / ORSANCO

Wilber, Bill	USGS
Wolfe, Steve	Gulf of Mexico Alliance
Tate, Cathy	USGS
Zeile, Fred	NOAA

### Participants by Phone:

Dvorsky, Chuck	TX CWQMN
Iles, Derrick	AASG
Kimball, Warren	MADEP
Lipoti, Jill	NJDEP
Mart, Kim	USGS
Minerich, Shannon	
Moulton, Steve	USGS
Oliver, Jacques	EPA, OST
Paulsen, Steve	EPA
Sheng, Peter	University of Florida
Tucker, Dave	NACWA