

NPM Regional Meeting
October 13-15, 2009-Denver, CO
Follow-up Notes and Action Items

Attendees:

Region – Reagan Waskom and Julie Kallenberger
CO – Troy Bauder
MT – Jim Bauder, Suzanna Carrithers, and Adam Sigler
ND – Tom Scherer and Roxanne Johnson
SD – Dennis Todey
UT - Nancy Mesner
WY- Ginger Paige (via teleconference)

State Water Projects and Activities Overview

Troy, Jim, Adam, Suzanna, Roxanne, Dennis, and Nancy presented a brief overview of current water projects and activities in their states, addressing the following:

- 1) Who's on their team
- 2) Overview of primary thrust of program
- 3) In-depth on program efforts that might either be of interest, partnering, or connected to regional project
- 4) Primary efforts that relate to regional or national project
- 5) Partners – key, significant, minor
- 6) Multi-state and/or regional efforts
- 7) Current levels of Extension, research, teaching, administration appointments
- 8) Cool, new stuff going on (newly funded 406 and other water projects)

National Water Impact Exchange

- Regional partners will work with Julie to receive log-ins/account access.
- Julie will meet with Jennifer Kushner to discuss suggestions/comments for reporting tool (see list below).
- Regional partners will review their reports and make necessary immediate changes by November 10 for discussion on the regional conference call. This includes adding co-authors to your reports.
- It was discussed that reporting will be done on an annual basis for project renewals, CRIS, National Outcome Reports, etc. Reagan and Julie will use the information from the national reporting tool to produce these reports.

Suggestions/comments from NPM Regional Water Team on National Water Impact Exchange

1. It would be helpful to have a printable site map available right at the beginning.
2. Add Best Management Practices (BMP) under each subcategory under National Theme.
3. Under National Challenges, add a note to the author stating that a narrative is preferred versus single key words.

4. The abstract and statement of purpose seem like the same thing? Is this redundant?
5. Reward Activates & Outputs to *Intended* Activates & Outputs.
6. Include the option to add additional funding boxes (currently limited to 3) with the option to select the year funds were awarded. Also, an option that would keep track of the total funds for each year and the total funds for the life of the project.
7. Add the option to select different funding units (i.e. hours)
8. Materials Produced may not always be a publication or other document. It would be helpful to have the option to add some text to this area (i.e. 5 workshops and 2 conferences where held....)
9. It would be useful to have the option to add impacts *and* outputs under each material produced versus just impacts.
10. When cloning a report, having the materials produced come over from the original report would be a huge time saver and eliminate error.
11. It would be helpful to view multiple reports at one time without having to open a new window and login again.
12. It would be helpful to have a back-up option with a pop-up “do you want to save these changes?”

- Julie will add a mock report with additional guidelines as well as a printer-friendly version to serve as a site map.

EPA Water Quality Meeting

EPA Attendees: Jennifer Meints, Peter Ismert, Mike Wireman, Eric Steinhaus, Ayn Schmit, Stacy Eriksen, Marcella Hutchinson, Gary Kleeman, and Jim Berkley

Presentation and discussion of BMP Monitoring Guidance Document (Led by Nancy)

- Nancy and Ginger will provide Version 1.1 of the BMP Monitoring Guidance Document to Julie for:
 1. Posting on regional website.
 2. Distribution to appropriate EPA representatives for comment by November 15
 3. Distribution to regional team partners and their networks.

Group discussion on nutrient criteria workshop

EPA Attendees: Jennifer Meints, Karen Hamilton, Jim Berkley, Ayn Schmidt, and Mike Wireman

- The purpose of the workshop and state meetings is to develop a shared understanding of the problem with a focus on Nitrogen and Phosphorus criteria
- Troy will attend CO stakeholder meeting (first of 6 state meetings) on November 16, 2009.
- Reagan will re-group with Mac McKee and Jim Berkley.
- Julie has requested the list of meeting attendees' contact information from Jennifer Meints.

Collaborative Research Opportunities with BOR

BOR meeting representatives included: Chuck Henning, Del Smith, and Miguel Rocha

- There was some interest in the Ag Water Conservation Symposium
- Discussion of Federal Agency Climate Change Working Group
- Discussion of alternatives to PAM

The NPM Regional team and BOR will communicate with each other as future collaborative work arises.

Discussion on Fountain Creek nutrient issues and potential partnerships for water programming and development with HSI partners

Representatives included: Dave Lehmpuhl, CSU Pueblo; Scott Herrmann, CSU Pueblo; and Perry Cabot, CSU Extension

The NPM Regional team and CSU-Pueblo will communicate with each other as future opportunities for partnerships arise. Dave plans to attend the 2010 National Water Conference.

Team Based Planning and Programming for Successful Outcomes and Impacts

Watershed Monitoring and Management

- 1) BMP Guidance Document and Approach - Nancy and Ginger
 - a. Version 1.1 will have been commented on by EPA and printed in time for the symposium at the 2010 National Conference.
 - b. Commitment to doing a pre and post survey and retrospective case study of actual data at symposium.
- 2) Water Quality Monitoring Training and Certification – Ginger
 - a. MT will certify 2 groups.
 - b. WY will continue program.
 - c. ND will discuss with their state director of water quality.
- 3) Youth and Educator Education – Nancy
 - a. Will use Nancy's grad student to contact each state on youth education interests and needs.
- 4) Tribal, HSI, and 2-year College WQ Curriculum Capacity Building – Adam
Adam distributed the WQ curriculum CD to the regional team and to HSI partners
 - a. Nancy will follow-up with her NSF contact regarding interest a regional REU that includes Tribal colleges and HSIs.

Ag Water Conservation and Protection

- 1) CCA-CEUs On-line Web Study Materials – Troy and Jim
 - a. 2 modules currently on-line- Guide to Choosing Crops for Limited Irrigation and Irrigation Management for Limited Water
 - b. 3rd is being finalized (Limited Irrigation of Alfalfa).
 - c. 4th will cover Ag water and Climate Change.
 - d. Module assessment includes an online survey.
- 2) Ag Water Conservation Clearinghouse – Troy
 - a. Jim and Teresa will assist in FAQs and expanding tools. The new library and resources will be ready by 2010 National Water Conference.
- 3) Multi-regional Ag Water Conservation Symposium – Troy and Jim
 - a. Jim and Troy are starting to assess the need for this project.
- 4) Sioux Falls Urban Water Conservation – Dennis
 - a. Currently in the impact assessment stage. Looking to expand the project to UT and other areas.
 - b. Dennis and Nancy will talk to Kelly Kopp about inclusion in and eXtension Water Conservation for Lawns and Landscapes COP.

Drinking Water – Human and Livestock Health

- 1) Water Quality Interpretation Tool – Troy
 - a. Irrigation and treatment processes will be circulated to regional team for edits.
 - b. Will use web assessment to calculate use and impact.
- 2) Well and Septic DVD – Adam
 - a. Adam will use mail back surveys for assessment.
- 3) Regionalizing Well Educated – Adam
 - a. Assessment will be by state and specific project
- 4) Coordinated, Regionally Consolidated, ‘one-stop-shop’ Extension, Outreach, and Information Package for Private Well and Septic Owners – Adam
 - a. Assessment will come from 1-3 projects listed above.

BMP Development, Training, and Assessment

- 1) Multi-Regional BMP Development for Tile Drainage and Saline Wasters - Tom
 - a. Tile Drainage Forum, Fargo, ND in February 2010. Includes SD, ND, and MN
 - b. Assessment will include a short survey to states for conservation districts to answer a needs assessment; face to face surveys with farmers and practitioners; change in practice of BMPs; and the use of Turning Point or other technology for interactive presentations at workshops, conferences, etc.

2010 Regional Evaluation – tentatively planned for summer 2010

Regional Advisory Committee

- Julie will send an email to committee members inviting them to the 2010 National Water Conference.
- Group will plan for a spring 2010 regional meeting with advisory committee members to discuss program, impacts, and priorities for the next budget cycle.

Wave Pages and Website

- Please send ideas and information to Julie at any time.
- Update Ag Water Conservation Clearinghouse wave page once the new library is launched.
- Julie will work with Jim and Troy on a wave page for the CCA-CEU modules.
- Julie will post wave pages on regional website and send to Mike O'Neill and Advisory Committee.

2010 Land Grant and Sea Grant National Water Conference

- Conference Schedule, lodging, and registration is now posted (see above link).
- Region 8 Symposiums
 - Water Supply, Drought, and Climate Variability – Monday, February 22, 1:00-5:00 pm (Dennis)
 - Approaches and Tools for Effective Water Quality Monitoring Programs – Wednesday, February 24, 10:00 am -12:00 pm (Nancy and Ginger)
- Region 8 meetings: Monday February 22, 7:00-9:00 pm and possibly Wednesday (TBD)
- Jennifer Meints has been invited and provided conference information.
- Nancy will invite Kelly Kopp (USU) to the conference.

Regional Water Monitoring Workshop

- Adam is working with Nancy and Ginger on gathering data that was collected previously for development of the BMP document.

Regional Website

- Different variations of our regional website url have been used recently. www.region8water.org is preferred for presentations and publications.
- Julie will add information from requests from MT and ND.
 - Roxanne will send Julie tile drainage/BMP pictures.
 - Roxanne will send Julie an electronic version of *North Dakota Rural Living Handbook* if available.