



Nontidal Network Workgroup Monthly meeting

Wednesday, April 19th, 2023
1:00PM – 2:30PM

Meeting Materials: [Link](#)

This meeting was recorded for internal use to assure the accuracy of meeting notes.

Actions:

- Relevant individuals will respond to an email from Durga Ghosh (USGS) regarding selecting dates for field audits.

Minutes:

1:00 PM Welcome and announcements

- National Water Quality Monitoring Council's 13th [National Monitoring Conference](#) - April 24-28, 2023, Virginia Beach, VA.
- [Species on the Move](#) – May 15-19, 2023, Everglades National Park, FL.
- [Interagency Conference on Research in the Watersheds \(ICRW8\)](#) – June 5-8, 2023, Corvallis, Oregon.
- [CERF 2023 Conference: Resilience & Recovery](#) – November 12-16, 2023, Portland, Oregon. [Abstracts](#) due May 10, 2023.
- [Citizen Science Association conference, C*Sci 2023](#) - May 22-26, 2023, Arizona State University campus in Tempe/Phoenix, Arizona.

Announcements:

- Peter Tango (USGS): Continuous RIM monitors updates: Patuxent and Choptank sites are next to be added. Others will follow as equipment is purchased.
- Doug Moyer (USGS): Appomattox at Mattaponi is instrumented with 5 parameters for continuous monitoring. Still waiting on the continuous nitrate equipment. It has pH, Dissolved Oxygen (DO), specific conductivity, and turbidity. The delay of Appomattox at Mattaponi is due to a condemned bridge that must be rebuilt.

1:15 PM Update on small agricultural watershed monitoring sites – Mark Nardi (USGS) and Peter Tango (USGS)

- Peter Tango (USGS): This came out of the PSC monitoring review. There was a commitment in the recommendations to having at least 5 small watershed sites. There has been funding committed by USGS.

- Mark Nardi (USGS): The USGS SIMPLE team is putting together an approach. They are working on building a coalition of support for the work. Sites have not yet been selected, but they are working on that with partners. They've talked to folks in Delaware, and NRCS in Virginia. Everyone is supportive and trying to help us find funding for the shortfall. If we haven't spoken with you yet, we will be in touch soon.

1:20 PM **Compilation of historical NTN database for loads and trends through 2022** –
James Colgin (USGS)

This compilation is needed in preparation for the FY2022 updates of loads and trends estimations.

- Peter Tango (USGS): Do you expect loads/trends computation and analysis to include publication of results?
- James Colgin (USGS): Yes.
- Doug Moyer (USGS): It takes 5 months from receiving the data to publishing. The driving factor for this effort is the historical data (prior to 2005). We want to make sure it's reproducible and that we can always pull all data from the data hub. The OFR will be a documentation of the process we used to build the database and make it reproducible.
- Tammy Zimmerman (USGS): In USGS we have a screening tool for water quality data that flags data issues. We wanted to make sure that all the agencies submitting data are using standardized QA/QC. We can have future conversations with NTN and DIWG.
- Doug: We'll look to each sampling agency for the following help: as James Colgin and Nieko Santoro try to piece together the database, we're identifying what's missing. You can tell us how we may be able to obtain any missing data points. As we start to QA this historical data, we may ask the sampling agencies how to proceed with outliers that we identify.
- Kaylyn Gootman (EPA): Thank you, this sets us up for future success.
- Chris Mason (USGS): We'll want to continue checking in with the group on this process.
- Tom Parham (MD DNR): James - I believe Mark Trice, MD DNR's data manager, has already or will be reaching out to you to make sure MD datasets meet your needs for upcoming trend work.

1:35 PM **Discussion on data submission, quality assurance and consistency across jurisdictions** – *all*

The workgroup will discuss standardizing data QA across jurisdictions prior to data submission, updates to the database, and any other data-related issues.

- Doug Moyer (USGS): Our analysis team is pursuing how we incorporate continuous data field data plus direct measures into discrete time series measures for load and trend computation. It is a complex approach, and the methodology is not yet developed. A

group is working on it and we're seeking funding. It started Chesapeake Bay specific but has moved to a national and global challenge.

2:20 PM Field Audits Check-In – Durga Ghosh (USGS)

- Durga Ghosh (USGS): We are utilizing an audit system where USGS will self-monitor and respective USGS would monitor the jurisdictions. Maryland will work with PA, VA with WV, PA is responsible for SRBC audits as well. We received some dates for SRBC spring/summer 2023, VA summer 2023. I will send out another email – all, please fill out dates you have in mind for these audits.