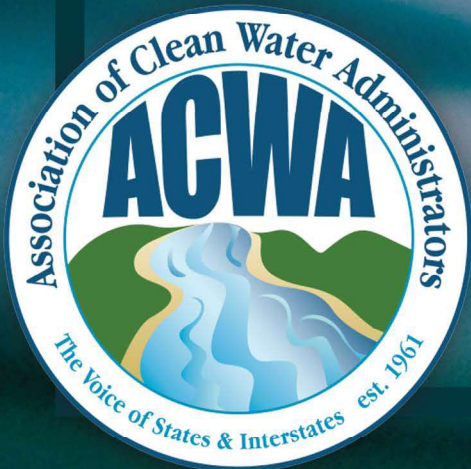


# ACWA Mid-Year Meeting 2020

March 17-18, 2020



Hilton Alexandria Old Town  
1767 King Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

# TUESDAY, MARCH 17

This is a CLOSED Meeting

Sessions are only open to States, EPA, other invited Federal Partners and State Association Representatives

- |               |    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10:30 – 11:00 | AM | <p><b>Welcome &amp; Keynote</b></p> <p>Melanie Davenport, ACWA President, Director, Water Division, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality</p> <p><b>Next Generation Compliance: Environmental Regulation for the Modern Era</b></p> <p>Cynthia Giles, Guest Fellow, Harvard Environmental and Energy Law Program</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 11:00 – 12:00 | PM | <p><b>National Water Reuse Plan – Collaborative Implementation</b></p> <p>Representatives from states and EPA will discuss content and implementation of the recently launched Plan in a moderated panel, as well as explore the history and future of water reuse in the regulatory context and revisit the first inaugural State Regulatory Summit on Water Reuse.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Jeff Lape, National Program Leader for Water Reuse, US Environmental Protection Agency</p> <p>Erica Gaddis, Director, Division of Water Quality, Utah Department of Environmental Quality</p> <p>Shellie Chard, Director, Water Quality Division, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality</p> <p>Rebecca Roose, Director, Water Protection Division, New Mexico Environment Department</p> <p>Jake Adler, Environmental Analyst, ACWA</p> |
| 12:00 – 1:15  | PM | <p><b>LUNCH</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1:15 – 2:30   | PM | <p><b>WOTUS Replacement Rule &amp; How States are Responding to Potential Jurisdictional Changes</b></p> <p>Representatives from states, EPA, and the Army Corps of Engineers will offer their perspectives on the <i>Navigable Waters Protection Rule: Definition of “Waters of the United States”</i> and engage in a moderated panel discussion.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Krista Osterberg, Surface Water Quality Improvement Value Stream Manager, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality</p> <p>Richard Friesner, Director, Water Quality Programs, New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

Chris Wieberg, Director, Water Protection Program, Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Mindy Eisenberg, Associate Director, Oceans, Wetlands & Communities Division, Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds, Office of Water, US EPA

Stacey M. Jensen, Assistant for Regulatory and Tribal Affairs, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works)

Mark Patrick McGuire, Environmental Program Manager, ACWA

2:30 – 3:30 PM

**A View from the Hill: What Lies Ahead for Congressional Action on Clean Water Act Priorities**

What lies ahead in the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress? What water policy issues will be considered by legislators this Congress? Will we see an SRF Reauthorization, the next WRDA, PFAS legislation or action to change the scope of section 401? This panel will touch on the prospects for these and other important issues.

**Speakers:**

Susan Sullivan, Executive Director, New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission

Navis A. Bermudez, Professional Staff, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

Christophe Tulou, Senior Minority Counsel, Senate Environment and Public Works Committee

Elizabeth Horner, Majority Senior Counsel, Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works

3:30 – 3:45 PM

**BREAK**

3:45 – 5:00 PM

**ACWA Partners Update: Updates from ECOS, NCSL, ASDWA, GWPC and ASWM**

Representatives from ACWA's state partner organizations – The Environmental Council of the States (ECOS), the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), the Association of Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA), the Groundwater Protection Council (GWPC) and the Association of State Wetland Managers (ASWM) will join in a moderated panel discussion focusing on key issues and areas ripe for collaboration.

**Speakers:**

Melanie Davenport, Director, Water Division, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

Donald Welsh, Executive Director, Environmental Council of the States

Kristen Hildreth, Senior Policy Specialist, National Conference of State Legislatures

Alan Roberson, Executive Director, Association of State Drinking Water Administrators

Mike Paque, Executive Director, Groundwater Protection Council

Marla Stelk, Executive Director, Association of State Wetlands Managers

5:00 – 6:00 PM

### **Hot Topics in Clean Water Law**

Representatives from states will present on the most important legal developments of the present, specifically, United States Supreme Court case *County of Maui v. Hawaii Wildlife Fund* and its potential effect on discharges of pollutants to groundwater, Massachusetts' MS4 litigation, national litigation on Residual Designation Authority, and the national litigation regarding CWA Section 401 Certification.

#### **Speakers:**

Robert Brown, Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Bureau of Water Resources, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Shellie Chard, Director, Water Quality Division, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality

Thomas Young, Assistant Attorney General, Washington State Office of the Attorney General

Mark Patrick McGuire, Environmental Program Manager, ACWA

6:00 PM

### **Wrap Up Day 1**

## **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18**

**This is a CLOSED Meeting**

**Sessions are only open to States, EPA, other invited Federal Partners and State Association Representatives**

10:30 – 10:35 AM

### **Welcome & Kick Off to Day Two**

10:35 – 11:35 AM

### **Using 319 & MS4 Programs to Achieve Common Goals**

Representatives from states and EPA will present examples of where and when collaboration is possible between the 319 and MS4 programs.

#### **Speakers:**

Veronica Crow, Nonpoint Source Program Manager, Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Amanda Reed, Chief, Watershed Management Section, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Lynda Hall, Chief, Nonpoint Source Management Branch, EPA Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds

Jasper Hobbs, Environmental Program Manager, ACWA

11:35 – 1:00 PM

### **Tools for CSO Communities**

The goal of this session is to update the ACWA Membership on the work of the State/EPA Workgroup and to share some of the near term tools and products that EPA and states will be working on to support CSO communities who have completed/are nearing completion of their long-term control plans. The discussion will be moderated by ACWA Environmental Program Manager Sean Patrick McGuire.

Speakers:

Jennifer Dodd, Director, Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation

Shari Barash, Branch Chief, Office of Science & Technology, U.S. EPA

Chris Kloss, Branch Chief, Office of Wastewater Management, U.S. EPA

Loren Denton, Branch Chief, Office of Civil Enforcement, U.S. EPA

Ed Dunn, Branch Chief, Department of Energy & Environment, DC

Pete LaFlamme, Director, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

1:00

PM

**Adjourn**

Thanks for tuning in & we look forward to seeing you in Memphis!



## ACWA 2020 Annual Mid-Year Meeting Funding and Congressional Relations Committee Fact Sheet

### Background Information

Chair:

*Vacant*

ACWA Representative:

*Julia Anastasio*

### Activities

#### **319 Testimony**

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee held a hearing on January 8, 2020, entitled *The Nonpoint Source Management Program Under the Clean Water Act: Perspectives from States*. This hearing featured testimony from Jennifer Zygmunt, Nonpoint Source Program Coordinator, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, and Ben Grumbles, Secretary of the Environment, Maryland Department of the Environment. The archived webcast and written testimony may be found [here](#).

In response to the hearing, ACWA members provided input on the program both as it stands now and ways in which it could be improved. These recommendations include greater funding flexibility, reductions in the match requirements, and incentivizing partnerships between organizations. ACWA's written testimony may be found [here](#).

### Updates

#### **Administration Budget Proposal**

The Trump Administration released its Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Request, [A Budget for America's Future](#), last month and continues the Administration's focus on cutting federal spending. The Administration requested \$6.7 billion to fund the Environmental Protection Agency, an amount that is 26.5% below the levels enacted by Congress in December. The budget proposal continues the Administration's trend of requesting lower levels of funding for key Clean Water Act (CWA) programs, including the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) and Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) programs. The budget proposal calls for \$1.11 million for the CWSRF, \$863,235 for the DWSRF, and \$25 million to implement the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program. The budget proposal zeroes out several important programs including the 319 Grant Program, the BEACH Act Grant Program, and several regional programs including the Puget Sound, Long Island Sound, Gulf of Mexico, and Lake Champlain. Finally, the budget proposal also includes \$6 million for the EPA to implement the National PFAS Action Plan and \$15.0 million for the Nutrient and Harmful Algal Blooms Reduction grants program, a competitive grant program to fund prevention and response efforts for harmful algal blooms (HABs) with significant health or economic impacts. ACWA updated funding chart is available [here](#).

#### **Administration Budget Proposal H.R. 1497: [The Water Quality Protection and Job Creation Act](#)**

H.R. 1497 was introduced by House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Peter A. DeFazio (D-OR), Water Resources Subcommittee Chairwoman Grace F. Napolitano (D-CA), and Reps. Don Young (R-AK) and John Katko (R-NY) to authorize federal appropriations the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF). The CWSRF was last reauthorized by Congress in 1987. Its authorization expired in 1994.

The legislation authorizes a total of \$16.68 billion over five years in wastewater infrastructure through the CWSRF. The bill includes set-asides to assist small and rural communities in addressing their infrastructure needs, as well as additional permit flexibility to help communities address local water quality challenges.

Section 7 of H.R. 1497 creates a new authority for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and requires the agency to issue an NPDES permit that the state has not reissued on time. Permits that extended beyond the initial permit term are referred to as having been “administratively continued.” Under the bill, if the state fails to issue a final permit renewal by the last day of the previous permit term, the state is required to notify Congress and then has 180 days to finalize that permit. Should the state fail to renew in 180 days, the EPA is required to reissue that permit within the next 180 days. ACWA staff thought it would be helpful to better capture what the universe of administratively continued permits looks like and share that information with Congress. To learn more about the specific provisions in H.R. 1497 view the associated [fact sheet](#).

The extended permit terms concept will likely be part of the Republicans’ Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) package. Staff has been working to educate Senate staff on states’ feelings about extended permit terms and any associated provisions like those included in the House bill on administratively continued permits.

#### **S. 1087, The Water Quality Certification Improvement Act of 2019**

S. 1087 would revise Section 401 of the CWA to limit the timeline and scope of water quality certification reviews by states. [ACWA’s comments](#) focused on states’ concerns over curtailing or reducing state authority under Section 401, or the vital role of states in maintaining water quality and protecting water resources within their boundaries, would inflict serious harm to the division of state and federal authorities established by Congress. Any statutory change to the Section 401 permitting process should not come at the expense of state authority and should be developed through genuine consultation with state environmental and public health agencies. Congress should ensure the CWA continues to effectively protect water quality while maintaining the partnerships and the essential balance of authority between states and the federal government. ACWA also joined a [group of associations](#) representing government officials, like Western the Governors Association, National Conference of State Legislatures and the Council of State Governments, in commenting on S. 1087.

#### **Contact**

For more information on the Funding and Congressional Relations Committee, contact Julia Anastasio at [janastasio@acwa-us.org](mailto:janastasio@acwa-us.org) or at 202-756-0600.



## ACWA 2020 Annual Mid-Year Meeting Legal Affairs Committee Fact Sheet

### Background Information

#### Chairs:

*Carin Spreitzer*, Associate Attorney, Office of General Counsel, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

*Robert Brown*, Deputy Assistant Commissioner for the Bureau of Water Resources, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

#### ACWA Representative:

*Mark Patrick McGuire*

The ACWA Legal Affairs Committee (LAC) is made up of ACWA members and their staff, both technical and legal. The Committee also includes some state attorneys general and members of private firms that work on clean water issues. The Committee holds four calls each year, one each quarter. Typically, each call covers two recent clean water legal issues (the co-chairs solicit presentations on recent reported decisions believed to be of high interest to the members).

### Activities

#### Calls

The LAC held three calls since the ACWA Annual Meeting:

On September 26, 2019, Myla Kelly, Acting Bureau Chief of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality's Water Quality Planning Bureau, and Attorney Kurt Moser of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, presented *Upper Missouri Waterkeeper v. EPA*, a case dealing with a closely watched variance from water quality standards for nutrients. The call also featured a panel of experts discussing recent developments in Clean Water Act Section 401 litigation and regulatory developments. The panel included Tatiana Gaur, California Deputy Attorney General, who presented EPA's proposed 401 update rule and revised 401 guidance, Sita Crounse, Senior Attorney, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, who presented a recent Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Waiver Order in the matter of National Fuel Gas Supply, and David Rose, Office of Chief Counsel, California State Water Resources Board, who presented a recent FERC Waiver Order in the matter of Placer County Water Agency.

On December 4, 2019, Attorney Eric Buescher of Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy presented *Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Association v. Glaser*, a Ninth Circuit decision involving the Central Valley Project, the largest federal water management project in the nation, and the Grasslands Bypass Project, a tile drainage system that consists of a network of perforated drain laterals underlying farmlands in California's Central Valley that catch irrigated water containing selenium and other pollutants and directs the water to surrounding surface waters. The core issue on appeal was whether the discharges from the drainage project were exempt under 33 U.S.C. §1342(l)(1). In addition, David Dickman, General Counsel for the District of Columbia Department of Energy & Environment, presented *Anacostia Riverkeeper, et al. v. Wheeler and District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority*, a U.S. District Court decision finding that Congress intended the EPA to set Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) that are actual maximum daily values rather than constructs of averaged data.

On March 5, 2020, Attorney Jeff Porter of Mintz Levin presented *Conservation Law Foundation v. Longwood Venues*, a U.S. District Court decision upholding the EPA's interpretation that the Clean Water Act (CWA) does not regulate discharges into groundwater that is hydrologically connected to navigable waters in a lawsuit concerning a wastewater treatment facility on Cape Cod. In addition, Attorney Jean Coleman of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency presented *In the matter of the reissuance of an NPDES/SDS Permit to United States Steel Corporation*, a decision by a Minnesota appellate court reversing the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's decision to reissue a NPDES permit for an iron ore mine in northeast Minnesota. The court deferred to the agency's determination that the CWA did not govern discharges of pollutants to groundwater but found the agency erred in interpreting the state's administrative rules governing water quality standards by applying standards for Class 1 waters to groundwater when it determined conditions of the permit. Both cases considered the current legal status of discharges to groundwater pending the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *County of Maui v. Hawaii Wildlife Fund*.

### **Other**

The LAC has joined with other ACWA Committees and Workgroups to respond to potential regulatory and statutory changes to Clean Water Act Section 401 certification. In October 2019, ACWA submitted a [comment letter](#) on the EPA's Proposed Rule – Updating Regulations on Water Quality Certification. In November 2019, ACWA submitted a [letter](#) to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works on S. 1087, the Water Quality Certification Improvement Act of 2019.

The LAC has been following [Hawaii Wildlife Fund v. County of Maui](#), a case asking whether the CWA requires a permit when pollutants originate from a point source but are conveyed to navigable waters by a nonpoint source, such as groundwater. On November 6, 2020, the U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments in the case. A decision is expected to be issued in 2020.

The LAC has also been following *Center for Regulatory Reasonableness v. EPA*, consolidated cases in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit challenging the small municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) general permits for Massachusetts and New Hampshire. The outcome of this case is likely to set an especially important precedent defining the scope of the EPA's regulatory authority relative to local governments and their MS4s, because the two general permits in question were issued by the EPA rather than states.

### **Contact**

For more information on the Legal Affairs Committee, contact Mark Patrick McGuire at [mpmcguire@acwa-us.org](mailto:mpmcguire@acwa-us.org) or 202-756-0604.





## ACWA 2020 Annual Mid-Year Meeting Monitoring, Standards and Assessment Fact Sheet

### Background Information

#### Chairs:

*Connie Brower*, Toxicology/Water Quality Standards Coordinator, North Carolina Dept. of Environmental Quality

*Tish Robertson*, Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Scientist, Virginia Dept. of Environmental Quality

#### ACWA Representative:

*Jake Adler*

The ACWA Monitoring Standards and Assessment (MSA) Committee is composed of approximately 280 members. It tracks and informs members on criteria development, monitoring initiatives, and assessment challenges; shares state information on standards and monitoring approaches; and, participates in review of related EPA products to generally improve state water quality standards (WQS) program implementation. Several workgroups stem from the MSA Committee, each involving between 5 and 15 state and interstate participants.

### Workgroups and Focus Groups Under MSA Committee

- Lake Numeric Nutrient Criteria (NNC) Workgroup - *with EPA*
- Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB) Recreational Criteria Focus Group
- 304(a) Prioritization Workgroup
- Complex Criteria Workgroup - *with EPA*
- Variance Policy Workgroup - *with EPA*
- Contaminants of Emerging Concern Workgroup - *with ASDWA*
- PFAS Subcommittee

### Activities

In January, Tish Robertson (VA) joined Connie Brower (NC) as Co-Chair of the Committee. Welcome, Tish!

### Criteria and Implementation Guidance

Workgroups primarily composed of MSA Committee members maintain a significant role in the development of implementation guidance for new or updated water quality criteria and advisories.

- 304(a) Prioritization: Conversation continues with the EPA to evaluate approaches for systematically and jointly prioritizing criteria development and formalizing the process for state/interstate engagement. In late 2019 and early 2020 criteria activities, the EPA has used ACWA workgroups' suggested (but not yet formalized) approach for co-developing criteria implementation guidance.
  - Lake NNC: Ahead of the criteria's release, ACWA established a workgroup with the EPA Office of Water and EPA regions to address implementation materials related to the National 304(a) Nutrient Criteria for Lakes. Two calls occurred before the criteria were made available for review.
  - HABs: The EPA released the [\*Draft Technical Support Document: Implementing the 2019 Recommended Recreational Ambient Water Quality Criteria or Swimming Advisories for Microcystins and Cylindrospermopsin\*](#) in December 2019 for a final round of comments, and members of the ACWA HAB

- Recreational Criteria Focus Group reevaluated it in light of their prior comments during development. Several states ultimately provided specific comments.
- Aluminum: Work by the EPA and states/interstates on the aluminum implementation materials per the Complex Criteria Workgroup has resumed as of January 2020. A call in February examined state comments to the changes to date. The “formal draft” is scheduled for review by the entire MSA Committee prior to the 2020 ACWA Annual Meeting.
  - State Criteria Search Tool: 13 states worked with the EPA and ACWA to review the functionality of the to-be-published State Criteria Search Tool, which allows for criteria parameter-specific comparison across states as well as all criteria by state.
  - PFAS: The PFAS Subcommittee has been involved in several efforts.
    - Two calls on problem formulation for, and initiation of, human health and aquatic life criteria for PFOA/PFOS.
    - Participation in development and peer review of ECOS’ PFAS Standards Whitepaper (February), as part of the ECOS PFAS Caucus.
    - Evaluating and commenting, with ECOS and ASDWA, on EPA’s ANPRM, “Addition of Certain Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances: Community Right-to-Know Toxic Chemical Release Reporting,” also addressing PFAS-related provisions in the 2019-20 National Defense Authorization Act.
    - Evaluation of (but no comment on) proposed Systematic Review Protocol for pending PFDA, PFNA, PFHxA, PFHxS, & PFBA Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) Assessments.
  - Analytical Methods: The EPA published the 2019 Methods Update Rule (MUR) for comment in late 2019. Despite interest in new nutrients methods per discussions at the 2019 Nutrients Permitting Workshop, ACWA/MSA Committee ultimately chose not to comment on this “routine MUR” and will focus on nutrients methods and more during the next “complex MUR” cycle.
  - Rescinded Guidance: MSA helped evaluate the impact of EPA’s Rescinded Guidance policy (9/2019) to the state/interstate programs (discussion with EPA occurred on a Watersheds Committee call). On February 28, 2020, EPA published a database of all existing guidance – including technical analyses and papers in addition to water quality implementation guidance – and warned of an August 2020 rulemaking to “establish processes and procedures for issuance of new guidance.” MSA is evaluating the correctness of the database and will be prepared to engage on the rulemaking.

### Variance Policy

The Variance workgroup remains intact but has met infrequently while EPA addresses states’/interstates’ prior concerns about variance policies. A focus group, and the broader MSA Committee, is currently working with the EPA on development of public outreach materials for state staff use when exploring use changes and variances. Lastly, select Variance Workgroup members attended the EPA’s “Frequency and Duration Experts Meeting” that occurred September 2019.

### Contaminants of Emerging Concern

Since publishing the CEC Recommendations Report, the CEC workgroup and ACWA staff integrated the recommendations into their work on PFAS and other unregulated parameters, and are evaluating interim actions to take which address the *Recommendation’s* actions, goals and strategies. In late 2019, ACWA staff presented the *Recommendations* to both an interagency convening hosted by Association of Public Health Labs as well as the Monitoring and Assessment Partnership.

### Calls

The MSA Committee continues its “as-needed” approach for calls. The next call is scheduled for March 26, 2020.

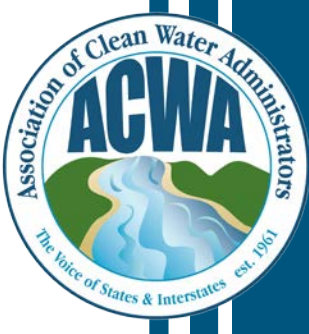
In a September 2019 call, the EPA briefed the Committee on the draft Aluminum Criteria Implementation Guidance document that the Complex Criteria workgroup had worked with the EPA to refine to that point. In an October 2019 call, Jay Benforado of the EPA Office of Research and Development discussed the *Using Citizen Science at EPA Vision and Principles* draft and provided states opportunity to review. The conversation focused on three driving questions: how can the EPA (1) Sustain and improve current citizen science projects and programs? (2) Invest in citizen science

approaches for the greatest future value in environmental protection? and, (3) Increase the impact of knowledge and data generated via citizen science? Discussion also focused on ambient water applications of citizen science, such as mapping blooms, coastal acidification, invasive species, etc., and how to use the [Citizen Science QA Handbook](#) (March 2019).

#### **Contact**

For more information on the Monitoring Standards and Assessment Committee, contact ACWA's Jake Adler at [jadler@acwa-us.org](mailto:jadler@acwa-us.org).





## ACWA 2020 Annual Mid-Year Meeting Water Resources Management Committee Fact Sheet

### Background Information

#### Chairs:

*Jeff Manning*, Chief of Classifications, Standards & Rules Review Branch, Water Planning Section, Division of Water Resources, N.C. Department of Environmental Quality  
*Erica Gaddis*, Director, Division of Water Quality, Utah Department of Environmental Quality

#### ACWA Representative:

*Jake Adler*

The Water Resource Management (WRM) Committee has around 80 members and has historically focused on climate adaptation and resiliency topics, as well as cross-cutting issues such as emergency response, source water protection, and water security. Since 2019, the committee has pivoted to focus on state challenges and successes in water quantity management, water reuse, and other water planning topics. Typically, the committee has 1-2 webinars per quarter or as needed.

### Activities

The WRM Committee has led review and engagement on water reuse for ACWA, in partnership with ASDWA. This culminated in the [Final National Water Reuse Action Plan: Collaborative Implementation](#). ACWA and ASDWA, with the help of the Committee, was substantially involved with the EPA in development and review of the document throughout the process. This included the inaugural Water Reuse Regulator Summit at the 2019 WaterReuse Symposium. ACWA and ASDWA, along with several states, provided the EPA sets of comprehensive comments before the draft was released (July); in response to the published draft (September); and, just before “Final” was released on February 27, 2020.

ACWA is designated as a leader, partner, or collaborator in ~~21~~2 actions in the plan, per the surveyed priorities of states and interstates. Each action’s cross-organizational “team” – and where ACWA is specifically slated to engage on reuse – is posted in the [National Water Reuse Action Plan Online Platform](#). Interagency workgroups are anticipated to begin implementation of the actions later this Spring.

See reverse for the water reuse actions ACWA is involved in.

### Contact

For more information on the Water Resources Management Committee, contact ACWA’s Jake Adler at [jadler@acwa-us.org](mailto:jadler@acwa-us.org).



*ACWA's Roles in the National Water Reuse Action Plan*

Strategic Theme	Action Title	#	ACWA Role
Integrated Watershed Action	Prepare Case Studies of Successful Water Reuse Applications Within an Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Framework	2.1.2	Partner
Integrated Watershed Action	Leverage EPA's Water Partnership Programs to Consider Water Reuse in the Context of Integrated Water Resources Management at the Watershed Scale	2.1.4	Partner
Policy Coordination	Compile Existing State Policies and Approaches to Water Reuse	2.2.1	Co-Lead
Policy Coordination	Enhance State Collaboration on Water Reuse	2.2.2	Co-Lead
Policy Coordination	Enhance Wastewater Source Control through Local Pretreatment Programs to Support Water Reuse Opportunities for Municipal Wastewater	2.2.4	Partner
Policy Coordination	Compile and Develop Protection Strategies for Different Sources of Waters for Potential Reuse	2.2.5	Collaborator
Policy Coordination	Develop Informational Materials to Address How CWA NPDES Permits Can Facilitate Water Reuse/Capture	2.2.6	Co-Lead
Policy Coordination	Align Policies and Communication Tools to Promote Best Management of Unused and Expired Pharmaceuticals to Support Water Reuse and Recycling	2.2.9	Partner
Policy Coordination	Enhance Combined Sewer Overflow/Sanitary Sewer Overflow Abatement Strategies	2.2.13	Collaborator
Science and Specifications	Compile Existing Fit-for-Purpose Specifications	2.3.1	Partner
Science and Specifications	Develop Frameworks for Public and Environmental Health Risk-Based Targets	2.3.2	Collaborator
Science and Specifications	Convene Experts to Address Opportunities and Challenges Related to Urban Stormwater Capture and Use	2.3.3	Partner
Technology Development and Validation	Integrate, Coordinate, and Enhance Technology Demonstration and Validation Programs to Provide Reliable Performance Information to Support Water Reuse	2.4.1	Collaborator
Water Information Availability	Identify Monitoring Best Practices for Various Sources of Water and Reuse Applications	2.5.2	Collaborator
Finance Support	Clarify and Communicate the Eligibility of Water Reuse Under the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Programs	2.6.2A	Partner
Integrated Research	Develop and Maintain a Comprehensive, Accessible, and Searchable Inventory of Water Reuse Research	2.7.1	Collaborator
Outreach and Communications	Compile and Develop Water Reuse Program Outreach and Communication Materials	2.8.1	Collaborator
Workforce Development	Support State(s) Development of a Pilot Operator Certification Program for Water Reuse Applications	2.9.1	Collaborator
Workforce Development	Support Water Reuse Training Networks	2.9.3	Collaborator
Metrics for Success	Compile National Estimates of Available Water and Water Needs	2.10.1	Collaborator
Metrics for Success	Establish Goals for Extent and Types of Water Reuse in the United States	2.10.2	Collaborator



## ACWA 2020 Annual Mid-Year Meeting Nutrients Policy Committee Fact Sheet

### Background Information

#### Chairs:

*Nicole Rowan*, Clean Water Program Manager, Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment  
*Adam Schnieders*, Water Quality Resource Coordinator, Iowa Department of Natural Resources

#### ACWA Representative:

*Mark Patrick McGuire*

The Nutrients Policy Committee has approximately 160 members. Much of the Committee's work is done through the Nutrients Working Group (NWG), a group of over 20 individuals from ACWA, ASDWA, NASDA, EPA Office of Water, and EPA Regions that meets quarterly.

### Activities

While the Nutrient Policy Committee focuses specifically on nutrients-related issues, ACWA's work on nutrients pollution is broad. Multiple committees and workgroups, including the Permitting & Compliance Committee, Watersheds Committee, and Monitoring, Standards, & Assessment Committee, work on nutrients-related issues. These include cyanotoxin criteria and advisory level development, lake numeric nutrients criteria development, variances, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting, Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), source water protection, nutrient reduction progress tracking, and water quality trading.

#### **Nutrients Working Group**

The Nutrients Working Group has met three times since the 2019 ACWA Annual Meeting: September 11, 2019, December 19, 2019, and March 12, 2020. The group continues to discuss hot-button nutrients issues and receive updates on projects such as [NSmart](#), the [National Study of Nutrient Removal and Secondary Technologies](#), Lake Numeric Nutrient Criteria developments, and Natural Resources Conservation Science (NRCS) nutrients efforts.

#### **Webinars**

The Nutrients Policy Committee (NPC) has begun to seek out topics and host webinars for the ACWA membership. On February 25, 2020, the NPC hosted a webinar entitled *USGS Study on Nitrate loading to the Gulf of Mexico* where USGS's Ted Stets and Lori Sprague presented and answered questions on a [new USGS study](#) on nitrate loading to the Gulf of Mexico. Their work reports that larger, more widespread decreases in nitrate loading to the Gulf are needed to achieve the target levels of a 25% reduction by 2025. The USGS study quantified trends in nitrate loading from 2002 to 2012 at more than 100 river monitoring sites throughout the Mississippi River basin.

On March 23, 2020, the NPC will host American Farmland Trust's (AFT) Michelle Perez. The webinar will focus on [AFT's work on soil health](#).

#### **NSmart**

The EPA Office of Water (OW) has agreed to fund an unsolicited grant proposal to officially launch NSmart, a proposed recognition program to encourage and recognize the adoption of enhanced nutrient management practices for water resource recovery facilities (WRRFs). OW has agreed to provide initial funding of \$25,000 and the grantee has

identified resources as well. EPA representatives are currently working to pull this together and identify NSmart Steering Committee members' organizations that would like to be a financial partner moving forward.

#### **National Study of Nutrient Removal and Secondary Technologies**

ACWA worked with the EPA to promote the [National Study of Nutrient Removal and Secondary Technologies Questionnaire](#). In the fall of 2019, ACWA completed and sent a letter template to states to assist in informing publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) of the questionnaire.

The response rate for the survey was less than anticipated, however, the EPA remains committed to the effort. ACWA has been in discussions with the EPA and will continue to assist as needed.

#### **Nutrients Reduction Progress Tracker**

In March 2018, the NWG finalized a report on the data received from the *Nutrients Reduction Progress Tracker Version 1.0 – 2017*. The report can be found [here](#).

In 2019, the NWG released [Version 2.0](#) of the Tracker to states. Version 2.0 follows Version 1.0 to help establish state nutrient reduction trends while also requesting more detail from states regarding nutrient reduction efforts. [The Tracker is still open for state responses](#). ACWA anticipates receiving the EPA's responses in late March.

#### **Nutrients Permitting Workshops**

The [fourth Nutrients Permitting Workshop](#) was held November 5-7, 2019, at the AlexRenew facility in Alexandria, Virginia and focused on identifying challenges and building solutions regarding water quality standards and permitting for nutrients. Over 85 attendees from 26 different states, as well as representatives from EPA Headquarters and regional offices, participated.

The [fifth Nutrients Permitting Workshop](#) will be held June 2-4, 2020, in Madison, Wisconsin. The workshop will focus on nutrients permitting flexibilities such as water quality trading and other market-based methods, integrated planning, and more.

#### **Numeric Nutrient Criteria for Lakes**

In a collaboration with the Monitoring, Standards, and Assessment Committee, ACWA and the EPA formed a focus group to work together on the coming 304(a) numeric nutrient criteria for lakes. The focus group is meeting regularly on calls to discuss the coming criteria and implementation concerns.

#### **Contact**

For more information on the Nutrients Policy Committee, contact Mark Patrick McGuire at [mpmcguire@acwa-us.org](mailto:mpmcguire@acwa-us.org) or 202-756-0604.s



## ACWA 2020 Annual Mid-Year Meeting Permitting & Compliance Committee Fact Sheet

### Background Information

#### Chairs:

*Emilee Adamson*, VPDES Team Lead, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
*Thomas Stiles*, Assistant Director, Bureau of Water, Kansas Department of Health & Environment

#### ACWA Representative:

*Sean Rolland*

The Permitting & Compliance Committee has approximately 320 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program managers, permit writers, inspectors, and enforcement program staff. The Committee focuses on all NPDES programs and associated compliance and enforcement issues. Given the scope and breadth of program areas covered, this committee has created several program-specific workgroups to assist with the workload. Issues not addressed by one of the workgroups remains the purview of the full committee e.g., NPDES eReporting Rule implementation, the SNC NCI initiative, ICIS-NPDES system updates, CSO Policy development, PQR/SRF oversight, etc.

### Activities

#### **Program Oversight**

As part of ACWA's Annual Meeting, ACWA held a session to discuss current approaches for oversight including real-time permit review, the Permit Quality Review (PQR), the State Review Framework (SRF), and the Annual Commitments process associated with grant funding. Thirteen states have now piloted a Real Time Review permit escalation project to ensure timely review by the EPA. ACWA will continue to monitor and participate in this effort as deemed appropriate by EPA.

#### **2019 National Permit Writers Workshop**

ACWA hosted the 2019 National NPDES Permit Writers Workshop in Washington, DC on September 17-19, 2019. Topics included promotion and identification of resources for the permit writer clearinghouse, updated federal application forms, further discussions regarding integrated planning, different approaches to permit streamlining, and identifying new program performance measures. A full day track was dedicated to 316(b) Cooling Water Intake Structure Rule issues. Copies of the presentations from this meeting can be found [here](#).

#### **CSO Policy Development**

ACWA has been helping with a small state/EPA workgroup that discusses the Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO) program challenges. Since the beginning of this fiscal year, the workgroup has met by phone six times. On October 17-18, 2019, the state/EPA CSO workgroup met in Washington, DC for a face-to-face meeting identifying strategic actions to support states and CSO communities who have completed or are nearing completion of the construction phase of their long-term control plans in meeting water quality standards. Updates of this workgroup will be presented at the ACWA 2020 Mid-Year Meeting.

#### **NPDES eReporting and ICIS Updates**

Per requests made by ACWA and individual states, the EPA is proposing to extend the Phase 2 implementation of the NPDES eReporting Rule from December 2020 to December 2023. The proposed rule would also give states flexibility

to request additional time to implement Phase 2 if needed. Furthermore, this notice proposes changes to the NPDES eReporting Rule that would clarify existing requirements and eliminate duplicative or outdated reporting requirements. The EPA claims these changes will help ensure a smoother transition from paper to electronic reporting. The Federal Register notice can be found [here](#). The 60-day comment period is scheduled to end on April 28, 2020. ACWA will likely be providing comments on this proposal, so please send your initial thoughts to [Sean Rolland](#).

Over the last four months, ACWA has also been requesting greater transparency from the EPA on ICIS-NPDES updates and enhancements. Several Direct User states have been identifying challenges with the system including system slowdowns, manual resolution of violations, ineffective training webinars, lack of true customer support, lack of transparency, and more. Likewise, several batch states have expressed concerns regarding dated XML schemas and lack of transparency as to priorities and timing. The EPA has agreed to reevaluate its processes and procedures and will be working closely with states, ACWA, and the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) as they consider next steps. ACWA will likely be forming a workgroup soon. If interested in participating, please contact [Sean Rolland](#).

#### **Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) Significant Noncompliance (SNC) Rate Reduction Initiative**

In the EPA's Fiscal Year 2018-2022 Strategic Plan, a new priority was identified to refocus efforts toward areas with significant noncompliance issues. The EPA selected the Clean Water Act's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System as the first program for initiating the effort to increase compliance rates, aiming to reduce the rate of SNC in the NPDES program by 50% (to a rate of 12%) by the end of FY 2022. The EPA has set up 4 state/EPA workgroups that are looking at different issues: 1) Data Quality and DMR Non-receipt; 2) Effluent Violation Deterrence; 3) Federal Facilities; and 4) Communications and Outreach. Over the last year ACWA staff and states have participated in approximately 48 calls across all of these workgroups.

In January 2020, ACWA staff and more than 100 state and federal program staff and managers attended the SNC NCI Symposium II meeting in Dallas, Texas. The goal of this meeting was to share information and best practices related to improving the rate of SNC across authorized states and EPA direct implementation areas. A particular focus was had on the challenges associated with reducing SNC at small publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) and other small systems, approaches for improving data quality and addressing completeness issues, and the roles of compliance assistance and enforcement in this initiative. Presentation topics included: 1) Evidence-Based Best Practices for Improving Compliance; 2) Expanding Use of Notifications for Deterring and Preventing Effluent SNC; 3) Importance of Enforcement Actions to Achieve the NCI Goals; 4) Recent EPA SNC NCI Guidance; 5) Improving Compliance at Small POTWs; 6) Importance of Addressing Data Completeness and Data Quality Issues to Achieve the NCI goals; 7) SNC Electronic Tool Intensives; 8) Reducing the Rate of True DMR Non-Submittal and Faulty DMR Submission; and 9) Role of EPA and State inspections/inspectors in SNC NCI. Copies of the presentations can be found [here](#).

#### **SMART Tools**

Through ACWA and ECOS, states are working with the EPA to develop a suite of superior digital tools (software and hardware) to change the way environmental inspection programs are operated and managed. The goal of this effort is to improve the quality and consistency of inspections and reports by assisting with inspection planning, assignment, tracking and management; field data collection improving quality, consistency and efficiency; robust and secure evidence management and retention; seamless data flow with EPA programmatic databases; and support for timely completion and release of inspection reports. Several states have volunteered to assist with this effort for the NPDES program.

#### **Contact**

For more information on the Permitting & Compliance Committee, contact Sean Rolland at [srolland@acwa-us.org](mailto:srolland@acwa-us.org).



## ACWA 2020 Annual Mid-Year Meeting Cooling Water Steam Electric Workgroup Fact Sheet

### Background Information

#### Chairs:

*Jason Knutson*, Environmental Engineer Supervisor, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
*Michael Moe*, Engineering Manager III, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality

#### ACWA Representative:

*Sean Rolland*

The Cooling Water Steam Electric Workgroup has approximately 105 members and has served as a forum for state-to-state and state-EPA discussion of the §316(b) cooling water intake and steam electric effluent limit guidelines. This workgroup will become inactive June 30, 2020.

### Activities

#### **Calls and Webinars**

On July 25, 2019, the ACWA Cooling Water Steam Electric Workgroup participated in a call with the EPA. The first topic of the call focused on the upcoming 2019 National NPDES Permit Writers Workshop agenda for Track 1. On the call we also discussed water modeling, the recent EPRI Manatee Thermal Workshop, and annual reports, which are due June 30, 2019.

On September 26, 2019, the ACWA Cooling Water Steam Electric Workgroup participated in another call with the EPA. Topics for the call included follow-up actions items from the 2019 National Permit Writers Workshop, future call topics and speakers, and Sean Ramach transitioning to his new role at the EPA (Appendix CWIS).

The 2019 National NPDES Permit Writers Workshop had a full day's track on §316(b) Cooling Water Intake Structure implementation topics.

On October 24, 2019, the ACWA Cooling Water Steam Electric Workgroup participated in a call with the EPA and Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI). The main discussion on this call focused on EPRI's priority-setting process and opportunities for state input. EPRI also provided an overview of current research projects that were coming to completion and likely would be available as call topics in 2020. Research topics are grouped into the following categories: fish protection at water intakes, ecological impacts of thermal discharges, environmental aspects of waterpower, emerging generation technologies, and new monitoring approaches (Appendix CWIS).

The November and December calls were combined and held on December 12, 2019. The main topic for this call related to updates to the Steam Electric Rule including bottom ash (BA) transport water, flue gas desulfurization (FGD) wastewater, and voluntary incentive programs (Appendix CWIS).

### Contact

For more information on the Cooling Water Steam Electric Workgroup, contact Sean Rolland at [srolland@acwa-us.org](mailto:srolland@acwa-us.org).



## ACWA 2020 Mid-Year Meeting Pretreatment Workgroup Fact Sheet

### Background Information

#### Co-Chairs:

*Jen Robinson*, Environmental Scientist III, Div. of Water Quality, Utah Dept. of Environmental Quality  
*Vivien Zhong*, Pretreatment Coordinator, North Carolina Dept. of Environmental Quality

#### ACWA Representative:

*Mark Patrick McGuire*

The ACWA Pretreatment Workgroup is made up of ACWA members and their staff involved in pretreatment issues. The workgroup holds calls ad hoc and works with the EPA to share information using the monthly EPA state pretreatment coordinator calls and listserv communications.

### Activities

#### **National Pretreatment Meeting**

Most of the Pretreatment Workgroup's work since the ACWA Annual Meeting has been related to the 2020 National Pretreatment Meeting. The meeting will be held May 11-13, 2020 in Nashville, Tennessee. Monday, May 11 will be a series of training sessions from 1-5 pm; Tuesday, May 12 will be an all-day states and EPA-only meeting; and Wednesday, May 13 will be an all-day meeting partnered with NACWA at the Nashville Marriott at Vanderbilt University.

Planning for the meeting is ongoing between EPA, states, and NACWA. For more information, [go here](#).

### Contact

For more information on the Pretreatment Workgroup, contact Mark Patrick McGuire at [mpmcguire@acwa-us.org](mailto:mpmcguire@acwa-us.org).



## ACWA 2020 Annual Mid-Year Meeting Rural Workgroup Fact Sheet

### Background Information

#### Chairs:

*Kent Woodmansey*, Engineering Manager, Feedlot Permit Program, South Dakota Department of Environment & Natural Resources

*Gary Kelman*, AFO Division, Maryland Department of the Environment

#### ACWA Representative:

*Sean Rolland*

The Rural Workgroup has approximately 152 CAFO/AFO program managers, permit writers, and inspectors. The Workgroup focuses areas includes animal agriculture management, pesticide permitting, and logging/forest roads. Gary Kelman retired from state service as of December of 2019.

### Activities

#### Calls and Webinars

In August 2019, ACWA staff reached out to the full workgroup several times to identify speakers for potential topics identified by the workgroup as of interest.

On October 30, 2019, the ACWA Rural Workgroup hosted a call to discuss how states are implementing general permits, managing workload associated with reviewing Nutrient Management Plans (NMPs), and any recent innovations that might have shown up in state permits.

#### 2020 National CAFO Roundtable

In October 2019, ACWA worked with North Dakota staff to start planning the 2020 National CAFO Roundtable which will be held September 22-24, 2020 in Bismarck, North Dakota. In January 2020, several workgroup members volunteered to participate on an Agenda Planning Committee. Calls for this group will start in late March 2020.

ACWA is working with members of the Animal Agriculture Discussion Group to determine if there may be an opportunity for them to participate on future calls and at the upcoming meeting.

### Contact

For more information on the Rural Workgroup, contact Sean Rolland at [srolland@acwa-us.org](mailto:srolland@acwa-us.org).



## ACWA 2020 Annual Mid-Year Meeting Stormwater Workgroup

### Background Information

#### Chairs:

*Alicia Good*, Assistant Director, Office of Water Resources, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

*Rebecca Villalba*, Stormwater & Pretreatment Team Leader, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

*Paul Hlavinka*, Chief of the Industrial Stormwater Permits Division, Maryland Department of Environment

#### ACWA Representative:

*Sean Rolland*

The Stormwater Workgroup has approximately 191 stormwater program managers, permit writers, and inspectors. The focus area for this group includes construction and post-construction stormwater programs, industrial stormwater, National Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) program updates, combined sewer overflows (CSO) and sanitary sewer overflows (SSO), green infrastructure, blending, integrated planning, and other issues impacting municipal utilities. Alicia Good retired from state service as of December 2019.

### Activities

#### **Calls and Webinars**

On October 9, 2019, the ACWA Stormwater Workgroup hosted a call to discuss the Water Environment Federation's first-ever MS4 Needs Assessment Survey. The primary objectives of this survey were to identify the information and technical resource needs of MS4 permittees and to better understand MS4 stormwater program challenges. Adriana Caldarelli, Director of the Stormwater Institute, discussed the history of the survey, the results, and future efforts.

ACWA also continued to participate in and promote EPA related calls and webcasts:

7/24/2019	Stormwater Financing Solutions for Nutrient Reductions
9/10/2019	Stormwater Best Management Practices Performance Evaluation
10/3/2019	Modernizing Compliance: Best Practices/Technologies for Performance-Based Stormwater Management

#### **2020 National Stormwater Roundtable**

In February 2020, ACWA staff facilitated the *2020 National Stormwater Roundtable* held in San Antonio, Texas. 88 people participated in this meeting representing 33 states, 7 EPA regions, and EPA Headquarters. 57 participants were remote. Topics for this meeting included: An Overview of the Texas Program; the San Antonio Stormwater Program; Stormwater Testing and Evaluation for Products and Practices; Training, Outreach, and Tools for the Public and Private Sector; Long Term Stormwater Planning; Construction Permits for Small Sites; Implementation of the Small MS4 Remand Rule; TMDLs and General Permits; WOTUS Impacts; Tier 2 Waters Analysis for Construction; Pollutant Specific Challenges associated with Chloride, Human Bacteria, Nutrients, and Trash; Updates to the Industrial Stormwater Program; Stormwater Permits for Solar Farms; Monitoring and/or Modelling Requirements in Stormwater Programs; and Municipal Coalition Building in Massachusetts.

## **MSGP**

On March 2, 2020, the EPA's proposed updates to the Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) were published in the Federal Register. The comment period is 60 days and closes on May 1, 2020. Comments can be submitted via [Docket Number EPA-HQ-OW-2019-0372](#). If you think there would be value in having ACWA submit comments to EPA on this proposed permit, please contact [Sean Rolland](#).

The proposed permit would replace the EPA's existing MSGP set to expire on June 4, 2020. The EPA is proposing to issue this permit for five years and seeks comment on the proposed permit and on the accompanying fact sheet, which contains supporting documentation. The EPA encourages the public to read the fact sheet to better understand the proposed permit, which can be found [here](#).

A summary of the proposed changes include permit streamlining, updates to eligibility criteria, requirements for public signage, Major Storm control measures, new monitoring requirements, updates to the Additional Implementation Measures triggers, and sector specific pollution prevention requirements for fact sheets.

## **Contact**

For more information on the Stormwater Workgroup, contact ACWA's Sean Rolland at [srolland@acwa-us.org](mailto:srolland@acwa-us.org).



## ACWA 2020 Annual Mid-Year Meeting Watersheds Committee Fact Sheet

### Background Information

#### Chairs:

*Traci Iott*, Supervising Environmental Analyst, Water Planning and Management Division, Connecticut  
Department of Energy and Environment  
*Jeff Berckes*, TMDL Program Coordinator, Iowa Department of Natural Resources

#### ACWA Representative:

*Jasper Hobbs*

The ACWA Watersheds Committee roster contains roughly 290 state staff, and the group discusses issues related to Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), watershed management, and 303(d) program implementation. In addition to that roster, the committee also now contains a Modeling Workgroup which is a separate roster of over 65 people. The greater Watersheds Committee meets monthly via webinar or conference call, and the modeling workgroup meets on an as-needed basis.

### Activities

#### Calls

Since the last ACWA meeting, the committee has held calls focusing on the different goals of the 303(d) VISION. Each month, the committee has been looking back at what has worked, and what needs improvement as the states work with EPA to prepare for the next iteration of the VISION. The committee relies heavily on input from the roster to shape discussion, which is why topics range from technical to managerial and from national to very localized.

#### How's My Waterway

The Watersheds Committee has also served as a conduit for the EPA to hold regular calls with state staff over a 3-month period in 2018 to discuss the "How's My Waterway" web application. The EPA is in the final editing stages of the app, which is intended to be a significant public outreach tool. For the past few months, the EPA's team has, through ACWA, met with states to discuss their "showstopper" items and to make and explain their latest edits.

#### Modeling Workgroup

Since the last ACWA meeting, staff has worked with EPA on their modeling workshop held in October 2019. Following this meeting, ACWA has been working with a planning team of state and federal staff on the next ACWA Modeling Workshop, which will be held in October 2020 in Chicago, Illinois. The purpose of this workshop will be to gather modelers and program managers together to discuss the ways states could build capacity regarding modeling for surface water quality. This workshop will include a half-day Modeling 101 session for newer staff, as well as breakout tracks for managers and hands-on trainings for modelers.

ACWA staff has also been working to put together a few informational webinars with speakers from the states and EPA on topics identified by the workgroup co-chairs.

### Contact

For more information on the Watersheds Committee, contact ACWA's Jasper Hobbs at [jhobbs@acwa-us.org](mailto:jhobbs@acwa-us.org).



## ACWA 2020 Annual Mid-Year Meeting 319/Nonpoint Source Workgroup Fact Sheet

### Background Information

Chair:

*Vacant*

ACWA Representative:

*Jasper Hobbs*

The 319/Nonpoint Source workgroup, technically a subgroup within the Watersheds Committee, essentially operates as an individual committee although calls and webinars are often jointly-shared with the Watersheds committee due to topical overlap. The workgroup discusses a variety of 319 implementation program topics, often with EPA, and usually has 1-2 calls per quarter.

### Activities

#### **Calls**

Since the last ACWA meeting, the committee worked with EPA to provide an update on the progress of the National Water Quality Initiative. The workgroup is looking forward to having this update in the near future.

#### **319 Reauthorization**

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee held a hearing on January 8th entitled *The Nonpoint Source Management Program Under the Clean Water Act: Perspectives from States*. This hearing featured testimony from Jennifer Zygmunt, Nonpoint Source Program Coordinator, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, and Ben Grumbles, Secretary of the Environment, Maryland Department of the Environment.

In response to the hearing, ACWA members provided input on the program as it stands now, and ways in which it could be improved. These recommendations include greater funding flexibility, reductions in the match requirements, and incentivizing partnerships between organizations. ACWA's written testimony may be found [here](#).

### Contact

For more information on the 319/Nonpoint Source workgroup, contact ACWA's Jasper Hobbs at [jhobbs@acwa-us.org](mailto:jhobbs@acwa-us.org).

# Save the Date!

## **2020 National Pretreatment Meeting**

**May 11-13, 2020  
Holiday Inn Nashville-Vanderbilt  
Nashville, TN**

## **2020 Nutrients Permitting Workshop**

**June 2-4, 2020  
Madison, WI**

## **Annual Meeting 2020**

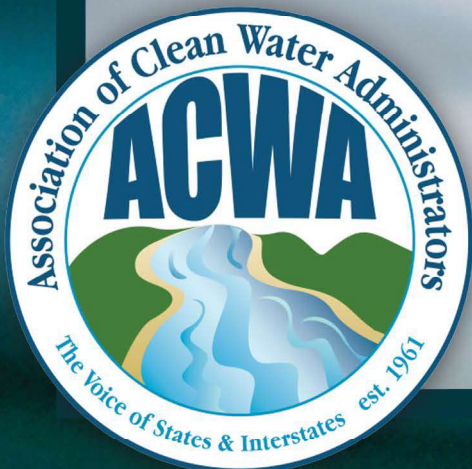
**August 4-6, 2020  
The Guest House at Graceland  
Memphis, TN**

## **2020 National CAFO Roundtable**

**September 22-24, 2020  
Mandan, ND**

## **TMDL Modeling Workshop**

**October 20-23, 2020  
USEPA Region 5 Ralph  
Metcalf Federal Building  
Chicago, IL**



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