

FISCAL YEAR 2022

ANNUAL REPORT

Association of Clean Water Administrators





Mount Jefferson Lake, Oregon



Myrtle Beach, South Carolina



Tanana Headwaters, Alaska



Juniata River, Pennsylvania



Cape Henlopen, Delaware



Saguaro Lake, Arizona

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LETTER FROM ACWA'S PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues:

After three years, we're finally going to make it to Memphis, Tennessee for ACWA's 61st Annual Meeting! Obviously, no one could have imagined how our lives and work were going to change as we left our last "in-person" Annual Meeting in Austin, energized as ever to tackle together the pressing issues for the upcoming year. But if there is one theme I've heard repeatedly over the past three years, it's that the strength of ACWA and its partnerships enabled us to pivot so quickly to continue to communicate and coordinate effectively with fulfilling our mission in what became our new virtual reality. Now as we look to re-emerge, I'm excited to get back to some of the in-person engagement that builds even stronger relationships I've seen among our members and partners during my tenure with ACWA.

Speaking of re-engagement, the first hybrid virtual/in-person event for ACWA this past spring was the Nutrients Permitting Workshop in Kansas City, which focused on charting the course for state nutrient policy recommendations. Led by some of our best nutrient champions, this successful workshop identified a series of topics/issues for priority focus, and as usual, member volunteers and staff stepped up to continue the work. But as some of you know, for the workshop itself, we had almost an equal number of participants join some of the discussion through the virtual access ACWA provided. So, as we move forward, we have recognized the value of that increased participation and hope to continue to offer virtual options where appropriate, to provide even greater access to ACWA events for members and their staff.

With respect to the big issues ACWA is so adeptly equipped to handle, as the Administration has settled into their top priorities, the topics of Environmental Justice (EJ), climate change and infrastructure have obviously dominated the discussion, as both overarching themes and their impact on specific Clean Water Act Programs. On numerous occasions throughout this past year, the value of ACWA's role has been apparent in our federal partners seeking out staff and members for briefings and feedback on implementation strategies. But all the while, ACWA has continued to provide timely information exchanges and coordinated action related to the growing reach of the PFAS issue across

water programs, continuing engagement on WOTUS and the Clean Water Section 401 Rule, drafting of the next 303(d) Vision Framework, and too many other topics to list here. ACWA being at the forefront of these important topics is a reflection of the dedication and exceptional service provided by the staff and the state/interstate volunteers leading and serving on all the committees and workgroups that tackle the issues and formulate solutions regarding implementation of Clean Water Programs.

ACWA's value is also expressed through its continued success with effective and innovative management of activities under its cooperative agreements with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), as well as the future opportunities to expand ACWA's role even further with a new funding opportunity with USEPA's Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds. I think everyone would agree that in addition to the member exchanges and workgroups, the other invaluable aspect of ACWA is the access provided to our colleagues at the USEPA.

For Environmental Justice, I am proud to highlight during this past year that ACWA has engaged meaningfully through the formation of an EJ workgroup that is focusing on the Administration's EJ priorities and identifying best practices for enhancing implementation strategies to protect and restore water quality in our most vulnerable and underserved communities. And with the increased focus on improving infrastructure and

the huge federal investment to be provided in the next 5 years, ACWA and its membership have proven repeatedly that the collaboration between states/interstates and USEPA only increases the value of project outcomes. The work with infrastructure funding has also expanded our relationship with other association partners like the Council of Infrastructure Financing Authorities (CIFA), which has shared valuable information and insight for the state revolving loan programs. There will be a lot of work to be done on metrics/measures so that we can ensure we achieve the most successful outcomes. The relationships ACWA has established with our federal partners and partner organizations places ACWA in a strong position as we navigate the future.

In my different roles with ACWA over the years (Interstate Representative, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President and President), what has drawn me into the organization further each year has been admiration for the dedication and experience of all of you and your predecessors, which has really continued to inspire and educate me.

For further inspiration, I would also direct you to the new ACWA Strategic Plan for the next five years, it captures the vision, mission and goals in a clear and concise manner and charts the path we all hope to follow. I would like to thank my fellow Executive Committee Members and the Board of Directors for dedicating their time and energy to advancing the vision/mission/goals outlined in both the old and new Strategic Plan.

And last but certainly not least, I would like to thank the staff for their dedication to advancing all the work detailed in this report – they may be small in number, but they have put forth a tremendous effort this past year with delivering high quality service to our members. With exceptional staff talent, and sound guidance and support from the ACWA membership, the organization is as strong as ever organizationally, financially and with our established relationships with USEPA and our association partners.

As we “re-emerge” from the past couple years, I would encourage those of you new to the organization to seek out those same types of relationships that have helped me grow so much both personally and professionally - involvement in ACWA tends to produce that result. If there’s one constant I’ve heard over the years from members, it’s that they have received more than what they feel they have given, and all the while working towards our ultimate goal of improving the water quality of our nation for its citizens. At the 50th Anniversary of the Clean Water Act, much work remains, but all of you and your predecessors should be proud of what has been accomplished. It’s certainly been a pleasure and honor to serve you all as ACWA President this past year.



Andrew J. Gavin
Deputy Executive Director
Susquehanna River Basin Commission
ACWA President

LETTER FROM ACWA'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND GENERAL COUNSEL

Dear Members:

This is a year for celebration. ACWA is celebrating another successful year of providing you with the highest quality programs and services; planning for the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and your success in working to achieve the goals of the Act; and celebrating our first face to face member meeting in two years!

First, we celebrate our members and our joint work on ACWA's priorities, programs, and services that impact key EPA and Congressional activities. We continued to deliver on our commitments under our Cooperative Agreements with EPA and ACWA's dynamic committees/workgroups enabled us to respond to EPA initiatives to ensure that the states'/interstates' priorities are considered. This year we also continued to host several highly successful workshops on NPDES Permit Writing, Nutrients Permitting, Pretreatment, Modeling, and Water Reuse. These workshops have been very successful opportunities for in-person training and discussion, and we are incredibly thankful to EPA, the Office of

Water, and the Office of Enforcement Compliance Assurance for their financial support. As I look to the coming year, I expect that our committees/workgroups will continue to serve as ACWA's technical experts helping to shape key CWA regulations and policies.

ACWA remains in a strong financial position and is well-situated to continue to influence and shape clean water policy nationally. ACWA members and staff, along with our leadership, are working to ensure the Association has the resources it needs to continue valuable services to our members and to ensure that our operating budget is fiscally sound and reasonable. I want to thank all of you for your continued financial and personal support of ACWA as an organization. We would not be able to accomplish all that we do without it.

Second, we began work on an initiative to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Clean Water Act (CWA). For a half-century, this landmark law has defined how you do your work to protect and restore the nation's waters. ACWA will use our Annual Member Meeting this year, to kick off a celebration of the Act

and showcase how the states/interstates have used the CWA to protect and restore their waters. Over the past 50 years, tremendous progress has been made. ACWA and you, our members, will also be at the forefront as we confront future water quality challenges.

Third, we are celebrating the fact that we will again meet face-to-face at our Annual Member Meeting. It has been two years since we have been able to meet, connect and discuss the key issues impacting your work. The relationships and connections that are made at our face-to-face events are critical to defining ACWA as an organization. I look forward to seeing you all as we gather again.

Sincerely,



Julia Anastasio
ACWA Executive Director and General Counsel



ABOUT ACWA

History, Vision, and Mission

ACWA is the independent, nonpartisan, national organization of state, interstate, and territorial (hereafter referred to as “state”) water program directors, responsible for the daily implementation of the Clean Water Act’s (CWA) water quality programs. Originally established in 1961, as the Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators (ASIWPCA), in 2011, ASIWPCA became ACWA—the Association of Clean Water Administrators. ACWA is the only nationally recognized organization whose entire agenda and mission are set by a Board of Directors and Leadership composed entirely of state/interstate water quality program administrators and managers.

ACWA strives to convey the shared perspective of state/interstate/territorial water quality agencies at the national level. We facilitate a dialogue between water quality agencies, as well as Congress and the Administration. We offer forums for the exchange of technical and innovative program information among water quality professionals, and we promote public education on water quality issues.

As the national voice of state and interstate water programs, ACWA strives to protect and restore watersheds. ACWA works to maintain a vibrant national organization that:

- Serves membership needs and achieves a high level of participation;
- Is the national voice for state and interstate clean water program concerns, interests, and priorities;
- Facilitates technical and policy innovation among national and state water programs (best practices);
- Fosters the collaboration needed for sound public policy; and
- Carries out activities in an efficient, ethical, and fiscally sound manner.

ACWA Vision: Achieve clean water everywhere for everyone through an engaged and trusted association where clean water administrators share, collaborate, educate, and advocate.

ACWA Mission: To serve as the national nonpartisan voice of state, interstate, and territorial administrators responsible for efficient and effective implementation of the Clean Water Act.

ACWA LEADERSHIP AND STAFF

ACWA LEADERSHIP

- President: Andrew Gavin (SRBC)
- Vice President: Mary Anne Nelson (ID)
- Treasurer: Amanda Vincent (LA)
- Past-President: Tom Stiles (KS)
- Secretary: Lee Currey (MD)

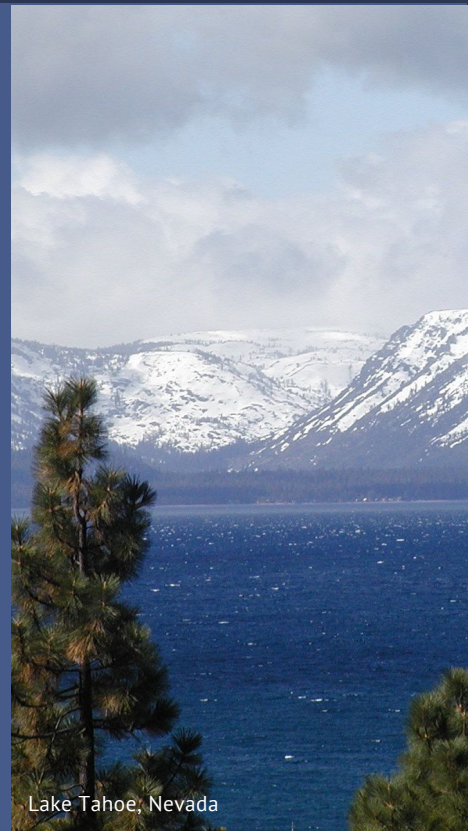
NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF

- Executive Director and General Counsel: Julia Anastasio
- Deputy Director: Sean Rolland
- Director of Operations: Annette Ivey
- Environmental Program Manager: Jasper Hobbs
- Environmental Analyst: Jake Adler
- Member Services Associate: Kara McCauley

BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

Region 1:	Tracy Wood (NH)
Region 2:	Jennifer Feltis (NJ)
Region 3:	Lee Currey (MD)
Region 4:	Jennifer Dodd (TN)
Region 5:	Adrian Stocks (WI)
Region 6:	Shelly Lemon (NM)
Region 7:	Chris Wieberg (MO)
Region 8:	Jennifer Zygmunt (WY) Erica Gaddis (UT)*
Region 9:	Karen Mogus (CA)
Region 10:	Randy Bates (AK) Justin Green (OR)*
Interstate:	Evelyn Powers (IEC)

*Served partial term



Lake Tahoe, Nevada

COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP AND STAFF LIAISONS

JULIA ANASTASIO

- Funding and Congressional Relations Committee: Richard Friesner (NEIWPCC)
- Legal Affairs Committee: Carin Spreitzer (NY) / Bob Brown (MA)
- WOTUS/Navigable Waters Protection Rule Workgroup: Jean Coleman (MN)
- EPA Planning, Program Guidance, and Metrics Committee: Martha Clark Mettler (IN)

JASPER HOBBS

- Nutrients Policy Committee: Adam Schnieders (IA) / Nicole Rowan (CO)
- Watersheds Committee: Traci Iott (CT)
- 319/Nonpoint Source Workgroup: Staff-led
- TMDL Modeling Workgroup: Craig Lott (VA) / Pam Behm (NC)

KARA MCCAULEY

- Environmental Justice Committee: Staff-led

SEAN ROLLAND

- Permitting, Compliance, & Enforcement Committee: Melanie Davenport (VA) / Jason Knutson (WI)
- Pretreatment Workgroup : Jen Robinson (UT) / Julie Faas (IA)
- Stormwater Workgroup: Rebecca Villalba (TX) / Paul Hlavinka (MD)
- Compliance Assurance and Data Systems Workgroup: Staff-led

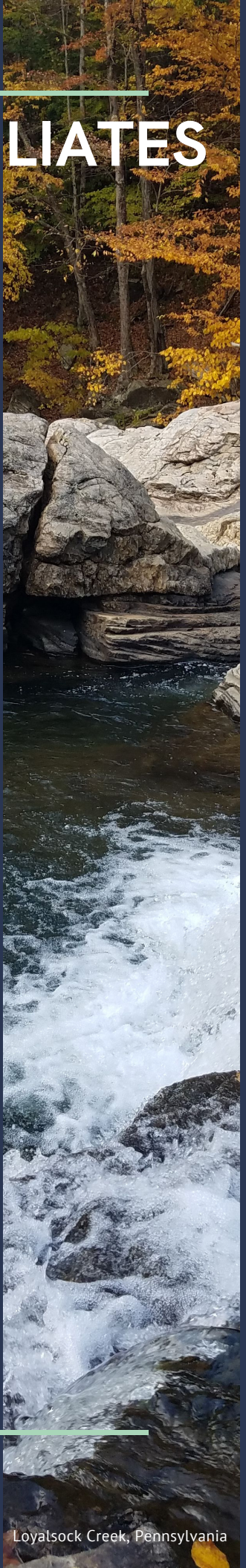
JAKE ADLER

- Monitoring, Standards, & Assessment Committee: Lindsay Patterson (WY) / Tish Robertson (VA)
- PFAS Subcommittee: Staff-led
- 304(a) Prioritization Workgroup: Staff-led
- Water Resources Management Committee: Matthew Rowe (MD)
- Technology, Innovation, & Sustainability Committee: Staff-led
- Continuous Monitoring Workgroup: Tish Robertson (VA)

ACWA MEMBERS AND AFFILIATES

2021-2022

- Alabama Department of Environmental Management
- Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
- Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
- Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
- California State Water Resources Control Board
- Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment
- Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
- Delaware Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control
- Delaware River Basin Commission
- DC District Department of Energy and Environment
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Georgia Department of Natural Resources
- Hawaii Department of Health
- Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
- Indiana Department of Environmental Management
- Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin
- Interstate Environmental Commission
- Iowa Department of Natural Resources
- Kansas Department of Health and Environment
- Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection
- Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
- Maine Department of Environmental Protection
- Maryland Department of the Environment
- Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
- Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
- Missouri Department of Natural Resources
- Montana Department of Environmental Quality
- Nebraska Department of Environment & Energy
- Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
- New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission
- New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
- New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
- New Mexico Environment Department
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
- North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality
- Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
- Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission
- Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality
- Oklahoma Water Resources Board
- Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
- Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
- South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control
- South Dakota Department of Environment & Natural Resources
- Susquehanna River Basin Commission
- Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Utah Department of Environmental Quality
- Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation
- Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
- Washington Department of Agriculture
- Washington Department of Ecology
- West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality



2021 AWARDS

EMERGING LEADER

ERICA GADDIS



The Emerging Leader Award recognizes full-time employees of states/interstates/affiliates who have demonstrated notable leadership or contributions to the work of an ACWA committee, task force, and/or workgroup, and show potential for future leadership.

Erica Brown Gaddis became the Director of the Utah Division of Water Quality in July 2017 after serving as Assistant Director for 2 years. Prior to joining UDEQ, Erica worked as a consultant with expertise in water resources and water quality. Erica holds a B.S. in Biology and Environmental Science from Willamette University in Oregon; a MS from Central European University in Budapest, Hungary, and a Ph.D. in Natural Resources from the University of Vermont, Gund Institute for Ecological Economics. Erica was born and raised in Utah and enjoys living and working in Salt Lake City with her husband and three sons.

EMERGING LEADER

TISH ROBERTSON



Tish Robertson is the monitoring and assessment scientist for the Water Quality Standards Program at the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. She has been with DEQ since 2007, first serving as the Chesapeake Bay Program Analyst and Water Quality Assessment Coordinator before moving into her current position. Prior to her employment with DEQ, she managed a fish monitoring program in the Florida Everglades supported by the Southeast Environmental Research Center-Florida International University. She holds a Bachelor's in applied biology from the Georgia Institute of Technology and a Ph.D in biology from Rutgers University-Newark. When she is not working, you can find her hiking along the beautiful James River or cruising around Richmond on her electric trike in search of donuts.



STAFF ACHIEVEMENT

ANNETTE IVEY

Created by the Association's Board of Directors in 2011 to recognize staff members who have demonstrated outstanding service to the membership and the organization over a sustained, multi-year period.

Annette joined ACWA in 2004 and returned in late 2006. In April 2007, she was announced as the Fiscal and HR manager for ASIWPCA. In 2010, she was named the Director of Operations. Annette holds a BS in Business administration and has more than 20 years of nonprofit experience. In addition to her work at ACWA, Annette volunteers with Serve DC, the Prison and Street Ministry, and teaches adult basic education. She is an accomplished jazz flutist and performs with several groups in the Washington DC area.

EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE

CONNIE BROWER



The Exceptional Service Award is presented to Association members who have demonstrated a strong commitment to ACWA before their retirement.

Connie Brower is a proud, native North Carolinian. She graduated from NC State University with a degree in Chemistry. She started out her career working in soil science. Recognizing that she really likes people, she decided to be a laboratory certification auditor! Then, she saw it – an opportunity to use chemistry, strong people skills, and a love of the environment all in one: Water Quality Standards Coordinator for her beloved North Carolina. Working with environmental groups, wastewater operators, NPDES permit writers, government officials and industry leaders is the highlight of each day. Connie has been involved with numerous special committees and working groups within ACWA for a number of years. She sees her engagement with ACWA as a perfect way to work more closely with water quality issues that affect municipalities, citizens, and stakeholders – with the ultimate goal of a balanced and coordinated approach to water quality management.

EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE

KENT WOODMANSEY



Kent Woodmansey served as Director of the Division of Agriculture and Environmental Services in the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR). Kent has worked for the State of South Dakota for 33 years, primarily focusing on water quality issues. Kent is a South Dakota licensed professional engineer. He holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering from the Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology and a master's degree in Industrial Management from South Dakota State University. In 2010, Kent was the South Dakota Engineering Society's Engineer of the Year. In addition, Kent has received five Environmental Achievement Awards from the United States Environmental Protection Agency, recognizing his work with concentrated animal feeding operations. Kent was a dedicated member of the Association of Clean Water Administrators and its predecessor association from 1999 to 2020. During that time, he represented Region 8 states on the board for 4½ terms, was Treasurer for two years, Secretary for a year, and chaired the Permit and Compliance Taskforce and Rural Workgroup.



ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP

DAN PALMER

The Environmental Partnership Award is presented to those who have, throughout their careers, demonstrated a true and consistent willingness to work cooperatively with the states/interstates and with the various interested organizations to affect environmental improvement.

Dan serves as Deputy Director of the Planning, Measures and Oversight Division in U.S. EPA-OECA's Office of Compliance. He is also the lead chairperson for OECA's National Compliance Initiative focused on reducing the rate of NPDES significant noncompliance. He has worked for EPA's enforcement program for more than 30 years, as an enforcement attorney and as a manager in a number of different positions. He holds a JD with a focus on environmental law from American University and a BA from the University of Minnesota. Dan is looking forward to a wilderness canoeing adventure this summer with his two boys in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area on the Minnesota-Canada border.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATESMAN

MELANIE DAVENPORT



The Environmental Statesman Award is the Association's highest honor, presented to Association members and individuals who have demonstrated outstanding service to ACWA over a multi-year period.

Melanie began her career at the State Water Control Board in 1986. She has held numerous positions at DEQ including Director of Enforcement, Assistant Air Division Director and as a special assistant to the Secretary of Natural Resources. She became Director of the Water Division in May of 2011. As the Director of Water Permitting, Melanie is responsible for stormwater, VPDES permitting, biosolids, animal operations, wetlands, nutrient trading, and compliance.

Melanie also worked for the Virginia legislature, serving three years as the Virginia Director of the Chesapeake Bay Commission. Prior to returning to DEQ, she spent 10 years practicing environmental law at a large law firm. Melanie received her BA from Boston University in marine biology and her law degree from William and Mary.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATESMAN

TRACI IOTT



Traci is a supervisor for the Water Quality Group within the Water Planning and Management Division of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and has worked at CTDEEP for more than 30 years. She works with a group of scientists who are responsible for the Connecticut Water Quality Standards and the development of other risk-based environmental criteria for use in permitting and remediation programs. Additionally, she is responsible for developing plans to implement the criteria and standards through either the 303d TMDL program, ecological risk assessments for remediation programs and assistance to other implementation programs. Traci is the co-chair of the ACWA Watersheds Committee and the Region 1 State Representative to the Water Quality Standards Managers Association. Traci received a B.S in Biology from Fairfield University in 1984 and a M.S in Zoology from the Ohio State University in 1987. Her graduate work focused on environmental toxicology and included a research study to link cancer in a fish population with contaminated sediments in their environment.



PRESIDENT'S SERVICE

JEFF BERCKES

The President's Service Award is given annually to the member selected for their exceptional service to the Association over the last fiscal year.

Jeff served as the TMDL Program Lead for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and the Co-Chair of ACWA's Watersheds Committee. He holds an MS in Environmental Science from Oregon State University and an MBA from the University of Iowa. Jeff also serves on the Alumni Board of Kinship Conservation Fellows, a foundation focused on improving the environment through market-based tools and environmental economics principles. Jeff led the development of Iowa's TMDL Vision and the state's Nonpoint Source Management Plan. He looks forward to traveling again and attempting to run a half marathon in every state.



COMMITTEE AND WORKGROUP ACTIVITIES

In the last year, ACWA's committees and workgroups have been very active. Here is a sampling of some of the topics and activities covered.

The Legal Affairs Committee continued to host quarterly calls on pertinent clean water related cases and issues. This year the LAC held calls on issues such as residual designation authority (RDA), blending and the Iowa League of Cities case, CAFO issues, and a mercury water quality standards case.

The Monitoring, Standards, and Assessment Committee focused on implementation of 304(a) criteria – including complex metals, secondary contact recreation, and numeric nutrient criteria for lakes – as well as continued collaboration on multiple fronts with EPA's Office of Science and Technology. The MSA Committee also focused on addressing CEC and PFAS under CWA (for example, under 304(a) criteria and forthcoming Effluent Limitations Guidelines) and other statutes. The Continuous Monitoring Workgroup continues to advance the use of continuous data in state and federal programs.

The Nutrients Policy Committee held a virtual workshop on WQS Trading and other Flexibilities, featuring case studies from many states/interstates and EPA. The committee also held a hybrid in-person/virtual workshop in Kansas City, MO in April. This workshop brought together state members and EPA to discuss ideas and needs to work towards state nutrients policy recommendations.

The Watersheds Committee completed a document of state recommendations for updating the 303d Vision, focusing on the 6 Vision goals, and identifying areas for improvement. This committee also held monthly webinars focusing on discussion on matters relating to the 303(d) program, stakeholder engagement, environmental justice, and climate change. ACWA also provided substantial support to ELI's National 303(d)/TMDL Training Workshop.

The WOTUS/NWPR Workgroup focused this year on the Administration's plans to revoke the 2020 WOTUS rule and revise the rule with a new definition of WOTUS. The workgroup helped ACWA develop several comment letters on the agency's plans.

The 319/Nonpoint Source Workgroup held informational webinars throughout the year, providing a forum for learning and information sharing between the states/interstates and EPA.

The Modeling Workgroup held a virtual Modeling workshop in October 2021, with breakout tracks focusing on open-source coding and data visualization. This event had over 150 attendees from ACWA members and EPA staff. Members of this workgroup also participate on a planning team that is currently working on an in-person workshop, taking place in Chicago, IL, in September 2022.

The Funding Congressional Relations Committee provided comments and letters on multiple pieces of legislation including the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, EPA appropriations with a focus on funding needs for state programs.

The Water Resources Management Committee focused on climate adaptation, water reuse, and resilience. The Committee has led ACWA's efforts to collaborate on EPA's climate actions and climate/resilience strategic plans and focused on assisting states/interstates and EPA programs that seek to do more climate adaptation and water resources management. The Committee also supported several state-priority actions under the National Water Reuse Action Plan, including the REUSExplorer Tool, and is planning to co-host a 3rd Water Reuse State Regulator Summit (March 2023).

The Permitting & Compliance Committee utilizes several workgroups to manage several NPDES program areas. The Permitting & Compliance Committee program areas include Maui implementation, permitting oversight, permit backlog and administratively continued permits, peak flow management rule, CSO workgroup products and tools, water reuse, Integrated Planning, market-based approaches, cybersecurity, and the 2023 National NPDES Program Managers' Meeting scheduled for February 2023 in Washington, DC.

The Compliance Assurance and Data Systems Workgroup focuses on ICIS Modernization, the NPDES eReporting Rule, the SNC National Compliance Initiative, the SmartTools Inspection Application, ECHO tool development, evidence-based compliance assurance, the National Targeting Center, and the new National Noncompliance Report.

The Rural Workgroup was sunset in August 2021. The group will reconvene if there are relevant issues to discuss going forward.

The Pretreatment Workgroup participates on monthly State/EPA calls with topics including: the Combined Wastestream Formula, small POTW compliance, pH challenges, pharmaceuticals and the marijuana industry, and industrial program audits. The 2023 National Pretreatment Coordinators Meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 2023, in Boise, Idaho.

The Stormwater Workgroup held several conference calls/webinars that focused on updates to EPA's Multi-Sector General Permit, EPA's 2022 Construction General Permit, the new Trash Stormwater Permit Compendium, and offsite stormwater management. In October 2021 ACWA Stormwater Workgroup Chair, Rebecca Villalba (TX), participated in the "Catalyzing Stormwater Capture and Use: Focusing Opportunities and Overcoming Barriers." The 2022 National Stormwater Roundtable is scheduled for October 19-21, 2022, in Boston Massachusetts.

The EPA Planning, Program Guidance, and Metrics Committee was established to focus on the development of EPA's Strategic Plan, National Program Managers Guidance and Metrics that impact state water quality programs. The Committee serves as a forum for state to state and state to EPA discussion and information sharing on the latest developments in EPA's strategic planning development, national program managers guidance and metrics for measuring results.

The Environmental Justice Committee was established this year and is currently looking for co-chairs. ACWA hosted an informational call with the EPA Office of Environmental Justice and ACWA members.



MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

Beyond our two annual membership meetings, ACWA held several technical meetings, subsidized by three cooperative agreements from EPA, that provided additional learning and training opportunities for state program staff.

2021 Water Quality Modeling Workshop

The 2021 Virtual Water Quality Modeling Workshop was held September 20-22. ACWA worked with a planning team of state and EPA staff to plan two concurrent tracks - one focusing on Data Visualization and Open Source Coding for Modeling Purposes. This workshop was held through zoom and had roughly 200 attendees split between the two tracks. Presentations ranged from a training workshop led by Tetra Tech, with help from State staff, while the Data Visualization track featured case studies and tools used by ACWA members around the country.

2021 Nutrients Permitting Workshop

ACWA held a virtual 3-day Nutrients Permitting Workshop from October 26-28. This workshop had 194 attendees across the 3 days, made up of state and federal staff. This workshop, the 6th in a series of 8 under this grant, focused on case studies of Nutrients Permitting for Restoration. To make up the 3 days, one focused on lake restoration, one focused on river restoration, and one focused on coastal restoration. Presentations covered a wide variety of topics and provided examples of how states use permitting to restore impaired waters. Presentations ranged from case studies on completed projects to those in the early phases of their work.

2022 Nutrients Permitting Workshop

ACWA held a hybrid 3-day Nutrients Permitting Workshop, April 12-14, 2022 in Kansas City, MO. This workshop had roughly 50 participants attend in person and about 60 virtual attendees across the 3 days. This was a discussion-heavy workshop, with state and federal staff discussing many important aspects of nutrients policy, with the intention of this being the kick-off of a process that will culminate with State nutrients policy recommendations

LETTERS AND TESTIMONY

ACWA represents the interests of state and interstate members to government agencies and elected officials by writing letters explaining issues and advocating for better, smarter policies, and by testifying before Congress as requested. ACWA also often signs on to letters developed in tandem with partner organizations such as ECOS, ASDWA, CIFA, NAWM, and GWPC.



Virgin River, Utah

Over the last fiscal year, ACWA has written or joined letters on the following issues: infrastructure funding, flexibility, and administration, appropriations, Draft EPA FY 2023-2024 National Program Guidance, §401 certification, consequences of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (HR 3684), BIL implementation, WOTUS pre and post proposal, OW and OECA National Program Guidance, the TSCA Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements rule, Preliminary Effluent Guidelines Plan 15, Technical Support Materials for 304(a) Recommended Criteria, 304(a) Aquatic Life Criteria for PFOA and PFOS, and CWA Priorities for the new Biden Administration.

ACWA also submitted testimony to the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate Appropriations Committees on EPA's budget request, with particular focus regarding Clean Water Act program funding and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding.

PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS



ACWA continues to maintain and further build collaborative relationships with leadership at EPA on key agency priorities such as the SNC National Compliance Initiative, Environmental Justice, Climate Change, BIL Funding, the Water Reuse Action Plan, TMDL Visioning, and Integrated Reports. ACWA also continued to lead the Nutrients Working Group and participate in the Source Water Collaborative and Decentralized Systems MOU.

Our EPA Office of Water partners worked closely with ACWA volunteers and staff in planning our conferences, meetings, and workshops. ACWA also continued to work with longstanding partners like ECOS and ASDWA on PFAS and funding.

FY 2023-2027 STRATEGIC PLAN

For the new FY2023 - FY 2027 Strategic Plan, the AWCA Board of Directors supported building on the successes of the last two plans and maintaining similar goals and objectives, while integrating new priorities as appropriate. The new streamlined draft strategic plan was reviewed by the membership in April/May 2022 and approved by the Board of Directors in June 2022. Identification of activities and action items under the plan objectives will be approved by the ACWA Board of Directors and reported on annually.

Association of Clean Water Administrators Strategic Plan FY2023-FY2027

Vision: Achieve clean water everywhere for everyone through an engaged and trusted association where clean water administrators share, collaborate, educate, and advocate

Mission: To serve as the national nonpartisan voice of state, interstate, and territorial administrators responsible for efficient and effective implementation of the Clean Water Act

Goals

1

Voice of State, Interstate, and Territorial Clean Water Administrators

Evaluate Existing Services & Operations
Regularly evaluate services and organizational operations in the regulatory, policy, legislative, legal and technical areas to ensure alignment with membership priorities.

Identify Ways to Improve Communication
Regularly evaluate options to improve communication, participation, and information sharing among members.

Ensure Positions Represent Membership
Ensure ACWA's positions and communications to congress, EPA, and others represent membership perspectives.

Strengthen Relationships
Establish, expand, and enhance strategic collaborative relationships with appropriate federal agencies, nonfederal groups, and tribes.

2

Expand Membership Engagement and Enhance Leadership Development

Foster Understanding of Membership Value
Identify ways to enhance each member's understanding of member benefits, responsibilities, and participation value and opportunities

Foster Membership Engagement
Identify ways to increase member staff engagement and service in leadership positions.

Invite Territorial Participation
Develop a plan for encouraging US Territory participation with ACWA.

3

Promote a Culture of Organizational Excellence

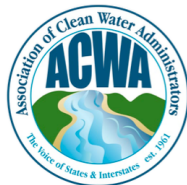
Recruit, Develop, & Retain Professional Staff
Create a culture of equity and inclusion to build and support a diverse staff to assure delivery of high-quality professional services.

Ensure Efficient & Effective Use of Organizational Resources
Make informed decisions on use of funds, staffing, services, technology, and other assets.

Ensure Financial Integrity & Sustainability
Make prudent investment decisions with board oversight and approval and utilize Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) in financial operations.

Grant Strategy & Management
Pursue, secure, and leverage grant opportunities that support and advance the mission and organizational priorities.

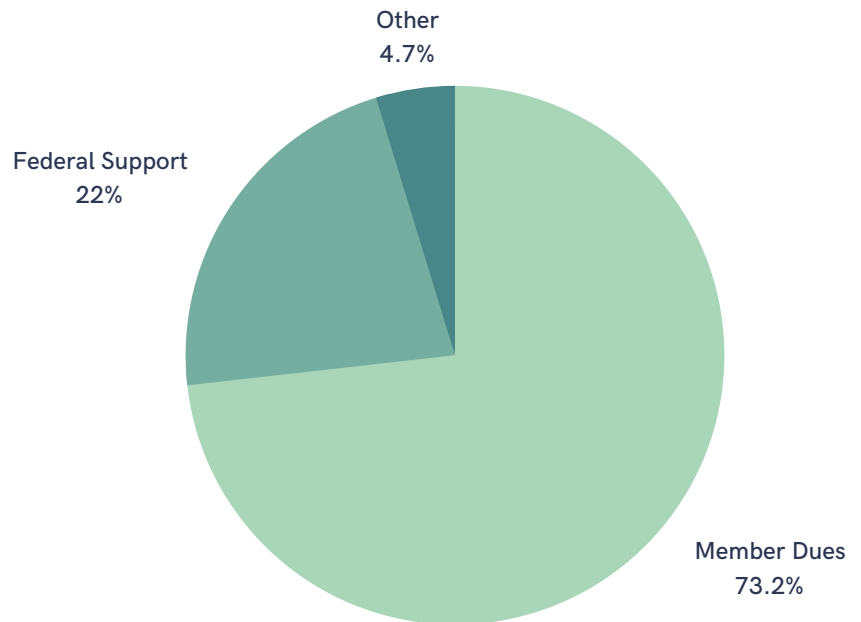
Objectives



FY2021 FISCAL SNAPSHOT

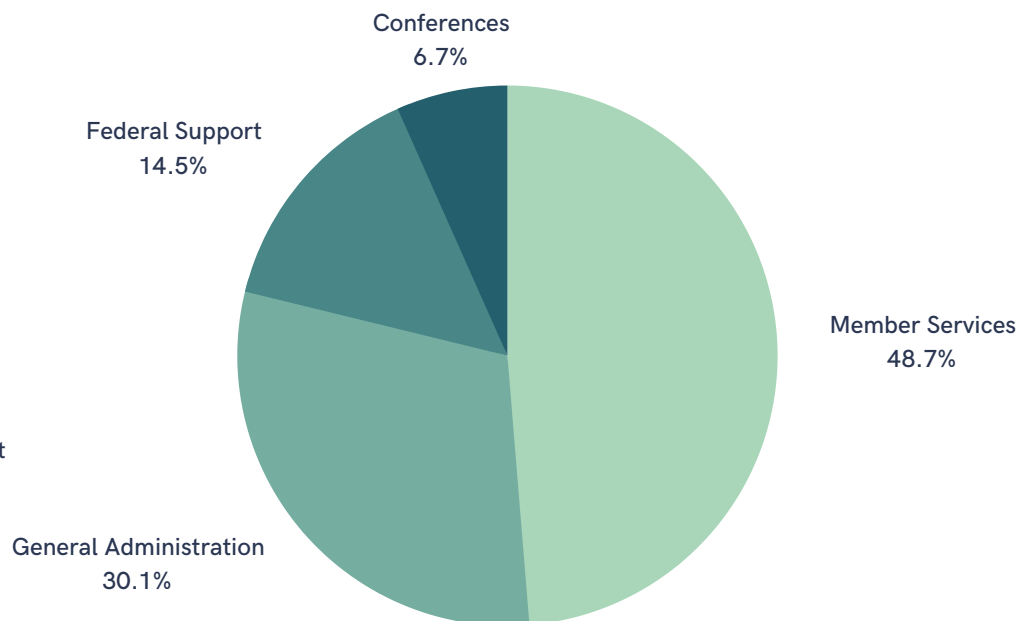
FY2021 REVENUE

This revenue graph represents the Association's audited revenue for FY2021 totaling \$1,179,231. This section presents a snapshot of ACWA's revenue streams for FY2021. A significant percentage of ACWA's fiscal revenue is Member Dues and Cooperative Agreement support from EPA.



FY2021 EXPENSES

This expense graph represents the Association's audited expenses for FY2021 totaling \$949,347. The graph also shows ACWA's continued commitment to serving the membership needs, facilitating important meetings and workshops, and providing capacity building opportunities for our members.





Whitefish Lake, Minnesota



Black Hills Stream, South Dakota



Rattlesnake Creek, Kansas



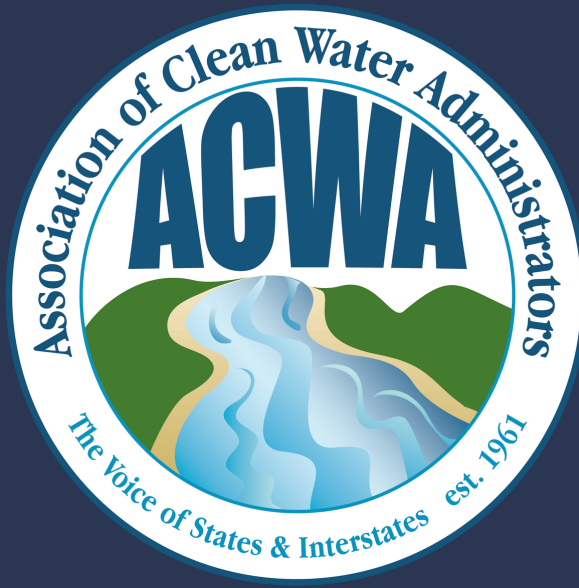
Green River, Utah



Barnegat Bay, New Jersey



Lake Fausse Pointe State Park, Louisiana



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