

The following is a compilation of the comments generated during the small group discussion held during the afternoon. A synopsis of these is at the end and developed by the meeting facilitator.

#1 In regard to water quality monitoring, what is one technical issue you would like to see addressed?

- Data Management
 - Compatibility
 - Availability
 - Usability
 - QA/QC checks
 - Feedback
- Access to other data
 - Location
 - Coordination
- Scheduling
- Who is doing what?
 - Where are agencies working?
 - What is being collected?
- Identify gaps in monitoring coverage
- Protocols – comparing data
- Consistent analytes
- Detection limits – pesticides
- Emerging issues: nano particles, terbium, new agencies
- Lag in research application
- Equipment and processes
- Easy access to good quality maps (LIDAR, etc.)
- Identify data quality objectives **before** you monitor
- Meta data report for data (who, what, when, where)
- Formal monitoring training program
- Define time series vs project/time limited data
- Standards/Protocol
- Training for samplers
- Outreach awareness

#2 What would you like to see a Water Monitoring Council do for you?

- Identify funding sources
- Materials to raise awareness
- Easy availability and access of data
- Needs analysis – where are gaps
- Training, QA/QC, equipment, certification, coordination
- Data clearinghouse
- Peer group to discuss issues
- Data submittal template with common terms & units
- Contacts
- Information
- Coordination
- Conference on Water Quality
- Climate related issues
- Linkage with national groups
- Training
 - Standards
 - “Update”
- Updates on projects
- Website
- Identify data sources
- Identify contacts
- Provide sampling direction
- Collaboration
- Standards for volunteer monitoring
- Priorities
- Advisory capacity
 - Technical issues

#3 Is North Dakota ready for a Water Monitoring Council?

- Yes
 - Predictions of/for climate change
 - Ag issues are more prevalent
 - Research groups
 - Alert list
 - Information overload
- Not Sure (no details provided)
- Not sure
 - Depends on details and role, good idea
- Yes
 - If there is a clear mission with reasonable objectives and adequate time and money
- Not sure
 - Clear leadership is needed
 - What is the best way?

#4 What are your perceived roadblocks to the establishment of a State Water Monitoring Council?

- (3) Money
- (3) Time
- (3) Personnel
- (2) Sharing of information issues
- (2) Leadership
- Space
- (3) Agency support/Politics
- Geography
- Privacy Issues
- Sustainability of the council
- Mandates
- Fears of the misuse of data
- Data formatting

(#) – number of times comment appeared

#5 Who is missing from today's discussion group?

- Tribal agencies
- Industry
- Municipalities
- Rural water suppliers
- Corps of Engineers (St. Paul District)
- Universities
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Legislators (Natural Resource Committee)
- Oil Companies
- USGS – Northern Prairie Research Center
- Mining
- Water Resource Boards
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- US Fish & Wildlife Service
- Database Managers

Synopsis

- #1 In regard to water quality monitoring, what is one technical issue you would like to see addressed?
- Data management concerns
 - Training
 - Standards/Protocols for individual missions
- #2 What would you like to see a Water Monitoring Council do for you?
- Contacts
 - Training
 - Collaboration
- #3 Is North Dakota ready for a Water Monitoring Council?
- Consensus was yes, with cautious optimism
 - Questions
 - Funding
 - True Purpose
 - Leadership
 - Participation
- #4 What are your perceived roadblocks to the establishment of a State Water Monitoring Council?
- Funding
 - Time
 - Personnel
 - Interagency politics
- #5 Who is missing from today's discussion group?
- There are several others to bring to the table.