

North Dakota's Water Quality Monitoring Strategy for Surface Waters

- ▣ Required by EPA to qualify for Section 106 grants
- ▣ 10 year plan
- ▣ Ongoing review and updates
- ▣ Based on 10 key elements
 - Monitoring program strategy
 - Monitoring objectives
 - Monitoring design
 - Core and supplemental indicators
 - Quality assurance
 - Data management
 - Data analysis/assessment
 - Reporting
 - Programmatic evaluation
 - General support and infrastructure planning

Programs, Projects and Studies

- ▣ Ambient Water Quality Monitoring Network for Rivers and Streams
- ▣ Biological Monitoring and Assessment Program for Rivers and Streams
- ▣ Ecoregion Reference Station Network
- ▣ Lake Water Quality Assessment Program
- ▣ Missouri River Mainstem Monitoring Program
- ▣ Fish Tissue Contaminant Surveillance Program
- ▣ Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Program
- ▣ Impaired Waterbody Monitoring/TMDL Development Program
- ▣ Nonpoint Source Pollution Management Program Monitoring
- ▣ Other Monitoring and Assessment Related Activities
 - Support Projects and Special Studies
 - Complaint Investigations
 - Fish Kill Investigations

Strategy Highlights

- ▣ Recently approved by EPA Region 8
- ▣ Each key element addressed by program/project
- ▣ Describes current monitoring program status and set forth goals for the future
- ▣ Identifies current and future staffing and funding needs
- ▣ Establishes a state Monitoring Council

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Monitoring Council's Role in State Strategy Implementation

- ▣ Represented by agencies and organizations with an interest in water quality monitoring and assessment
- ▣ Provide the Health Department with review and comment on the state monitoring strategy
- ▣ Make recommendations to improve and enhance state monitoring and assessment programs

Monitoring Council's Role in State Strategy Implementation

- ▣ Provide a forum and an opportunity for agencies and organizations to:
 - Share monitoring ideas, data, and results
 - Discuss monitoring program successes and failures
 - Develop or expand partnerships among council member agencies and organizations