

Brainstorming Session

1. How can we keep up to date on processes and technologies that are working for us in Canada – website, regular meetings, workshops, etc?
2. How can we come to a consensus about standard protocols for QA/QC etc. for the national network? (or at least get started!)
3. Are there any other uses for the data that is being collected under RTWQM programs – how to expand the network and it's applications (i.e. WQI, regression analysis, etc.)?

For bonus points, name the BC buoy!!

How can we keep up to date on processes and technologies that are working for us in Canada – website, regular meetings, workshops, etc?

- Every 2-3 years for a national meeting to discuss RTWQ
- Portal (register) for discussion/postings on RTWQ monitoring
- Funded by industry and moderated by EC
- Could have contact information for RTWQ experts
- Newsletter for RTWQ perhaps contributed by CWRA

How can we come to a consensus about standard protocols for QA/QC etc. for the national network? (or at least get started!)

- Issues: turbidity and chlorophyll – different technologies
- Discussion forums
- Agreement on protocols recommended
- Programs may have different goals
- Coordinate groups with the same goals
- Reputable references
- Teamwork and partnerships!!!
- RTWQ Workshop a good starting point for networking
- Metadata a major component for monitoring and QA/QC as we move forward
- Jurisdiction should publish protocols
- Establish standards (similar to USGS)
- All sensors could be compared (with the exception of turbidity) if there was a standard for sensors (similar to temperature)
- Possible national audit system to address differences in QA/QC

Are there any other uses for the data that is being collected under RTWQM programs – how to expand the network and it's applications (i.e. WQI, regression analysis, etc.)?

- Look at what we have now first (how is it useful and what do we want?)
- Research related monitoring
- Regulatory (industry) monitoring
- Impact assessment
 - Impacts over time
 - Reference data
- Early warning
 - Peaks (increases)
- Point source and non-point sources
- Estimate other variables
 - Suspended sediment (pesticides) (bacteria)
- Outreach and communication to public
- Public presentation of data
- Characterize a site that could be a long-term station
- Validation of indices / evaluation

- SAM committee
 - Organize conferences
 - Connect east and west
 - Quarterly meetings and annual conference