



## THE WEEKLY WRAP

### This Week at ACWA...

January 12 – 16, 2015

**ACWA Mid-Year Meeting 2015: Lodging Deadline –2/13!** Our Mid-Year Meeting is set for March 9-10 at the Washington Marriott in DC. Register online [here!](#) Lodging should be booked separately with the Marriott [here](#) —the deadline for the room block rate is 2/13! An updated preliminary agenda is available [here](#) and posted on our [meeting page](#). Recipients of the Wrap should have an existing login—if you have forgotten your password, please attempt to retrieve it [here](#). For registration questions, please contact [Annette Ivey](#).

**EPA Releases “Water of the U.S”  
Connectivity of Streams and Wetlands to  
Downstream Waters Report!**

**EPA Water Division Directors (WDD)  
Meeting** On 1/14 ACWA President Fulton (AZ) and Exec. Director Anastasio participated in a day long meeting with key EPA OW leadership during its National WDD meeting where HQ and Regional staff gathered to discuss key program activities. ACWA, ECOS, ASDWA and GWPC participated in discussions on a variety of topics including harmful algal blooms and nutrients, human health criteria, WIFIA implementation, the MS4 permit program in the absence of a national stormwater rule, and drought, reuse and resilience.

**§316(b) Overview** On 1/15 EPA hosted a call to provide an overview of the §316(b) rule and NPDES program requirements for cooling water intakes. The call was aimed at providing general information on: the rule, an implementation schedule, impingement compliance alternatives, entrainment controls, threatened/ endangered species considerations, and other specific program requirements. The rule currently covers ~1,065 existing facilities – 521 are factories; 544 are power plants. EPA plans to schedule future calls to discuss states’ implementation challenges & technical questions. For more info, please contact [Sean Rolland](#).

**NWQTA Monthly Call** On 1/13, the National Water Quality Trading Alliance ([NWQTA](#)) convened their monthly conference call to discuss progress to date and future directions for the NWQTA. Noted progress included the NWQTA’s [comments](#) on the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement, [testimony](#) before the House T & I WRE Subcommittee, meeting with EPA officials to discuss WQ trading issues and advancement, and several informational events. Potential future directions for the Alliance included, identifying opportunities to have greater impact at the state level with a goal of limiting transaction costs, a compilation of the literature on performance of BMPs in order to reduce uncertainty as well as identify knowledge gaps, and to assist with the ongoing [nutrient sensor challenge](#) and the [Partnership for Technology Innovation](#). For more info, or to provide suggestions on how the NWQTA could be helpful to states interested in WQ trading, please contact [Melissa McCoy](#).

**Legal Affairs Committee (LAC) Call** A 1/15 LAC call centered on municipal topics. Call participants heard from Fred Andes (Barnes & Thornburg) on the recent consent decree in Lima, OH that incorporated EPA integrated planning framework. Bob Cox (Bowditch & Dewey) discussed *in re: Charles River Pollution Control District*, a challenge to an EAB decision holding that EPA could require separate permits for satellite sewer systems which convey waste to an already permitted POTW. Lastly, NYSDEC’s Scott Crisafulli & Mary VonWergers discussed the active litigation over NY’s Long-term Control Plan for combined sewer overflows.

**eReporting Rule Draft Comments** ACWA shared a draft comment letter on the NPDES eReporting Rule Supplemental Notice in a

1/15 email to the Permitting & Compliance Committee and related Workgroups. Input is requested by 1/22 and a call to discuss the draft is scheduled for the same date (see “Coming Up”). For more info, please contact [Sean Rolland](#).

#### **Standards & Criteria Corner:**

**1) Water Quality Standards (WQS) Forum** On 1/13, the state/EPA WQS Forum made progress on developing templates for narrative WQS for wetlands. States using these templates will be able to customize them to meet their needs. ASWMM and state wetland staff are also participating in this project. Call participants discussed different ways of categorizing uses for wetlands according to hydrologic, biological, physical or chemical functions & values. Also discussed were template formats that will give states choices on how they categorize uses, what functions/values they want protected, and what conditions/assessment endpoints they wish to measure. Providing the option to protect all wetlands or subtypes of wetlands was also identified as an important component of a template. The Forum expects to have draft templates prepared by March. Contact [Melissa McCoy](#) for more info.

**2) WQSMA** During a 1/15 call of the EPA/state Water Quality Standards Mangers Association, EPA shared the latest status on the development of the bacteriophage criteria and algal toxin criteria. EPA expects to complete a literature review next month on the former. EPA is currently in the midst of addressing peer review comments on algal toxin criteria and expects to issue drinking water health advisories for microcystin in May ‘15. EPA also shared details on the topics slated for the March face-to-face WQSMA meeting, which include refining secondary contact rec. criteria and sharing best practices for non-304(a) criteria pollutants.

### Coming Up . . . .

**1/21, 2-3 pm ET, ACWA-ECOS-EPA call #2 re: Supplemental Notice for e-Reporting Rule.** See calendar invite from [Sean Rolland](#).

**1/21, 2:30-4 pm ET, Monitoring, Standards & Assessment Committee Monthly Call** See

1/16 email or contact [Susan Kirsch](#) for dial-in.

**1/22, 2 – 3:30pm ET, State call re: ACWA’s draft eReporting rule comments** See 1/15 email from [Sean Rolland](#).