

## 2020 Current Fiscal Year Report: Advisory Committee on Water Information

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### 1. Department or Agency

Department of the Interior

### 2. Fiscal Year

2020

### 3. Committee or Subcommittee

Advisory Committee on Water Information

### 3b. GSA Committee No.

42

### 4. Is this New Fiscal Year?

No

### 5. Current Charter

07/02/2018

### 6. Expected Renewal Date

07/02/2020

### 7. Expected Term Date

### 8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

Yes

### 8b. Specific Termination Authority

### 8c. Actual Term Date

07/02/2020

### 9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Terminate

### 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

### 10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

### 11. Establishment Authority

Agency Authority

### 12. Specific Establishment Authority

43 USC 31 et seq.

### 13. Effective Date

03/03/1879

### 14. Committee Type

Continuing

### 14c. Presidential?

No

### 15. Description of Committee

Advisory Board

Scientific Technical Program

### 16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this Fiscal Year

No Reports for this Fiscal Year

### 17a. Open Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

0 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 0

Current Next  
FY FY

<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.00	0.00

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

The purpose of the ACWI is to represent the interests of water-information users and professionals in advising the Federal Government on Federal water-information programs and their effectiveness in meeting the Nation's water-information needs. Member organizations will help to foster communications between the Federal and non-Federal sectors on sharing water information. The ACWI and its active subgroups hold open meetings to obtain information about water information programs, activities, and plans. Most subgroup work is accomplished in work groups and through the use of teleconferencing and web-conferencing. The subgroups produce recommendations, white papers, databases,

guidelines, reports, and other products, which are submitted to ACWI for review and approval before publication. ACWI and its subgroups also host national conferences on water resources and information, to facilitate knowledge transfer and information exchange across the entire community of water science practitioners.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

Full ACWI members are appointed by the Office of the Secretary of the Interior to serve 4-year terms. The members are major national organizations that represent a wide range of water resources interests and functions. Representation on the ACWI includes all levels of Federal, State, and local government, public interest groups, academia, private industry, non-profit groups, and professional organizations. Member organizations designate their representatives and alternates, and these individuals are vetted through the Department of the Interior's White House Liaison Office. Membership is limited to a maximum of 35 organizations. ACWI continues a policy of identifying non-Federal member organizations to serve as sponsors, local hosts, and/or co-chairs for ACWI-sanctioned Task Forces and Conferences, including the biennial National Monitoring Conferences and the Joint Federal Interagency Conference on Sedimentation and Hydrologic Modeling. Representatives of many ACWI member organizations, both government and non-government, participate actively on ACWI's subcommittees. Federal agency staff provide scientific and technical advice on program development, and U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provide significant staff support for ACWI activities.

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

Meetings are held annually, although no meeting was held in 2020 because of lapsed membership. In addition to providing a forum for annual reports from ACWI subgroups, the ACWI annual meeting includes presentations and discussions that address key national concerns and programs related to improved coordination of water resources efforts.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

The advice and consultation of ACWI is essential because of the extensive interactions among Federal, tribal, regional, State, and non-governmental sectors for funding, collecting, and using water information for decision-making. These complex partnerships for acquiring and sharing water information reduce the overall Federal costs for operating resource management and environmental protection programs. Many non-Federal entities routinely provide water information used by numerous Federal agencies. In addition, other levels of government and the private sector use Federal water information for making critical decisions, from State and local flood-forecasting to save lives and property, to managing downstream habitat. Some aspects of public access to water information have become both more critical and more sensitive due to increased concerns about water security. Both government and non-government groups, including non-profit volunteer monitoring organizations and local watershed groups, conduct extensive activities for assessing and monitoring water quality across the United States. Data and information from these multi-scale

monitoring programs provide significant input to federally regulated programs for protecting the environment, as well as for safe recreational use of rivers and streams by individual citizens. Frequent and reliable communication and consultation is needed to achieve reasonable geographic coverage, to improve access to information, to improve data comparability, and to enhance quality control and quality assurance of data collected from these multiple sources.

**20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

Not applicable - ACWI annual meetings are announced in the Federal Register, are open to the public, and include processes that provide opportunity for public comment. All related subgroup meetings are widely advertised through the ACWI membership and the ACWI public web site, and are open to the public. For current information on all ACWI and subgroup meetings, as well as a large suite of subgroup products and databases, visit the ACWI web site at <http://acwi.gov/>.

**21. Remarks**

The ACWI did not meet in FY 2020. The ACWI terminated on July 2, 2020 when its charter expired without renewal.

**Designated Federal Officer**

Kristen McSwain ACWI Coordinator, Water Mission Area

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Cline, Donald	01/01/2017	07/02/2020	Associate Director For Water Resources	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member

Petty, Tim	01/12/2018	07/02/2020	Assistant Secretary-Water and Science	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Behl, Betsy [National Water Quality Assessment Program, National Liaison Committee]	07/02/2017	07/02/2020	Director, Health and Ecological Criteria Division, EPA	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Berg, Neil [National Water Quality Assessment Program, National Liaison Committee]	07/02/2017	07/02/2020	Associate Director, Science at University of California Los Angeles	Representative Member
Biernat, Scott [National Water Quality Assessment Program, National Liaison Committee]	07/02/2011	07/02/2020	Director of Regulatory Affairs and Scientific Program Development	Representative Member
Bothfeld, Frances [National Water Quality Assessment Program, National Liaison Committee]	07/02/2017	07/02/2020	Environmental Analyst	Representative Member
Brody, Carly [National Water Quality Assessment Program, National Liaison Committee]	07/02/2017	07/02/2020	Senior Program Analyst	Representative Member
Brown, Seth [National Water Quality Assessment Program, National Liaison Committee]	07/02/2017	07/02/2020	Manger, Public Policy	Representative Member
Burden, Susan [National Water Quality Assessment Program, National Liaison Committee]	07/02/2017	07/02/2020	Acting Program Support Staff Chief, EPA	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Carpenter, Adam [National Water Quality Assessment Program, National Liaison Committee]	07/02/2017	07/02/2020	Regulatory Analyst	Representative Member
Fillingham, Joseph [National Water Quality Assessment Program, National Liaison Committee]	07/02/2017	07/02/2020	WellIntel Science Lead	Representative Member
Leahy, Patrick [National Water Quality Assessment Program, National Liaison Committee]	07/02/2017	07/02/2020	Executive Director	Representative Member
Rowe, Gary [National Water Quality Assessment Program, National Liaison Committee]	08/30/2017	07/02/2020	U.S. Geological Survey	Representative Member
Thomson, Allison [National Water Quality Assessment Program, National Liaison Committee]	08/01/2018	08/01/2020	Field to Market	Representative Member
Anderson, Karma [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	11/15/2017	07/02/2020	USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member

Asplund, Tim [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	10/01/2016	07/02/2020	Wisconsin State Government	Representative Member
Back, Jennifer [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	National Park Service	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Bales, Jerad [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	10/01/2018	07/02/2020	CUAHSI	Representative Member
Belluci, Christopher [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	10/01/2016	07/02/2020	Connecticut State Government	Representative Member
Borisenko, Aaron [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	04/15/2019	07/02/2020	Oregon DEQ	Representative Member
Caffrey, Jane [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	10/23/2017	07/02/2020	University of West Florida	Representative Member
Chestnut, Dave [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	10/23/2017	07/02/2020	South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control	Representative Member
DeLorenzo, Marie [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Dorsch, James [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	10/01/2018	07/02/2020	National Association of Clean Water Agencies	Representative Member
Greene, Chris [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	10/01/2018	07/02/2020	State of Minnesota	Representative Member
Heath, Jason [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	07/23/2018	07/02/2020	ORSANCO	Representative Member
Higgins, Mike [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	Fish and Wildlife Service	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Holdsworth, Susan [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	04/17/2018	07/02/2020	Environmental Protection Agency	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Kathman, Amy [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	10/01/2016	07/02/2020	Water Environment Federation	Representative Member

Magee, Madeline [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	08/28/2018	07/02/2020	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Representative Member
Martorano, Nicholas [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	08/02/2017	07/02/2020	California Waterboards	Representative Member
Metesh, John [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	10/01/2016	07/02/2020	Association of American State Geologists	Representative Member
Mettler, Martha [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	10/01/2016	07/02/2020	Association of Clean Water Administrators	Representative Member
Miller, Scott [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	10/01/2018	07/02/2020	Bureau of Land Management	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Pathak, Chandra [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	Corps of Engineers	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Porter, Monty [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	10/01/2016	07/02/2020	Oklahoma Water Resources Board	Representative Member
Rowe, Gary [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	05/16/2014	07/02/2020	US Geological Survey	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Schloss, Jeff [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	04/15/2018	07/02/2020	University of New Hampshire	Representative Member
Schuldt, Nancy [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	10/23/2017	07/02/2020	National Tribal Water Council	Representative Member
Sherwood, Edward [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	02/20/2018	07/02/2020	Tampa Bay Estuary Program	Representative Member
Skopec, Mary [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	10/01/2017	07/02/2020	Iowa Lakeside Laboratory: Regents Resource Center	Representative Member
Smith, Elizabeth [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	12/18/2017	07/02/2020	Kansas Department of Health and Environment	Representative Member
Vastine, Julie [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	06/01/2019	07/02/2020	ALLARM	Representative Member
Weathers, Kathleen [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	08/06/2018	07/02/2020	Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies	Representative Member



Willis, Larry [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	10/01/2018	07/02/2020	Virginia Department of Environmental Quality	Representative Member
ZumBerge, Jeremy [National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)]	12/18/2017	07/02/2020	Wyoming Department of Natural Resources	Representative Member
Cunningham, Bill [Subcommittee on Ground Water]	04/15/2018	07/02/2020	U.S. Geological Survey	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Evans, Peter [Subcommittee on Ground Water]	02/01/2018	07/02/2020	Interstate Council on Water Policy	Representative Member
Kernen, Brandon [Subcommittee on Ground Water]	01/01/2019	07/02/2020	Association of State Drinking Water Administrators	Representative Member
Langseth, David [Subcommittee on Ground Water]	01/01/2019	07/02/2020	National Groundwater Association	Representative Member
Miesbach, David [Subcommittee on Ground Water]	02/01/2018	07/02/2020	Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators	Representative Member
Musick, Mary [Subcommittee on Ground Water]	01/01/2019	07/02/2020	Ground Water Protection Council	Representative Member
Schreiber, Robert [Subcommittee on Ground Water]	04/15/2018	07/02/2020	CDM Smith, Inc.	Representative Member
Wunsch, David [Subcommittee on Ground Water]	04/15/2018	07/02/2020	Delaware Geological Survey	Representative Member
Becker, Martin [Subcommittee on Hydrology]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	BECKER	Representative Member
Pratt, Ben [Subcommittee on Hydrology]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	National Hydrologic Warning Council	Representative Member
Sreetharan, Mathini [Subcommittee on Hydrology]	07/02/2018	07/02/2020	Dewberry	Representative Member
Thomas, Wilbert [Subcommittee on Hydrology]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	Association of State Floodplain Managers	Representative Member
Woodward, Don [Subcommittee on Hydrology]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	Global Ecosystems Center	Representative Member

Bales, Jerad [Subcommittee on Sedimentation]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Sciences, Inc.	Representative Member
Bradley, Jeff [Subcommittee on Sedimentation]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	American Society of Civil Engineers	Representative Member
Cox, Amanda [Subcommittee on Sedimentation]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	Missouri Water Resources Research Center	Representative Member
Minear, Toby [Subcommittee on Sedimentation]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences	Representative Member
Nelson, Peter [Subcommittee on Sedimentation]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	Colorado Water Resources Research Institute	Representative Member
Teal, Marty [Subcommittee on Sedimentation]	07/02/2018	07/02/2020	U.S. Society on Dams	Representative Member
Carpenter, Adam [Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	American Water Works Association	Representative Member
Davis, Jeffrey [Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	National Ground Water Association	Representative Member
Djokic, Dean [Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data]	08/02/2018	07/02/2020	ESRI	Representative Member
Fox, Sandra [Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	American Water Resources Association	Representative Member
Kopp, Steve [Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	Esri	Representative Member
Larsen, Sara [Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	Western States Water Council	Representative Member
Mickle, Chris [Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	Private industry - Cardno Consultants	Representative Member
Porteous, Alex [Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	Booz, Allen, Hamilton	Representative Member
Samuels, Bill [Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data]	04/17/2019	07/02/2020	Private industry - Leidos	Representative Member
Berry, David [Subcommittee on Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable]	07/02/2018	07/02/2020	unknown	Representative Member
Bronson, Stan [Subcommittee on Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable]	07/02/2018	07/02/2020	Florida Earth Foundation	Representative Member
Grossman, Marianna [Subcommittee on Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable]	07/02/2018	07/02/2020	Minerva Ventures	Representative Member

Juricich, Richard [Subcommittee on Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable]	07/02/2018	07/02/2020	California Department of Water Resources	Representative Member
McCormick, Ron [Subcommittee on Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable]	07/02/2018	07/02/2020	Bureau of Land Management	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Parsons, Jill [Subcommittee on Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable]	07/02/2018	07/02/2020	Ecological Society of America	Representative Member
Wells, John [Subcommittee on Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable]	04/17/2015	07/02/2020	Minnesota Environmental Quality Board	Representative Member
Wilkinson, Robert [Subcommittee on Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable]	04/17/2015	07/02/2020	Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, University of California, Santa Barbara	Representative Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 82**

**Narrative Description**

The USGS manages the Advisory Committee on Water Information for the Department of the Interior, in alignment with department and bureau goals. This is accomplished through activities that contribute to DOI Strategic Plan Mission Area 1 (Conserving Our Land and Water) Goal 1 (Utilize science in land, water, species and habitat management supporting) Strategy 1 (Apply science to land, water, and species management) and Mission Area 5 (Protecting Our People and the Border) Goal 4 (Provide science to safeguard communities from natural hazards) Strategy 1 (Monitor and assess natural hazards risk and response planning). ACWI provides a neutral and objective forum where Interior and other water-related Federal agencies can work together to coordinate activities, share resources, and collaborate on the collection, storage, management, analysis, and dissemination of water information. This collaboration occurs among agencies with a diversity of missions and management responsibilities: regulation (Environmental Protection Agency), science (USGS), land and resource management (Interior's Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Department of Agriculture's U.S. Forest Service), oceans and coastal resources (NOAA's

National Ocean Service), flood forecasting (NOAA's National Weather Service) or other water-related activities. For example, the many State and non-government member associations within ACWI broadly disseminate water data, information, and guidelines produced by ACWI and its Federal member agencies, which directly assists volunteer monitoring groups, local and regional watershed groups, and State and regional monitoring councils to improve water quality and resource decision-making. Examples include the water-quality data portal (<https://www.waterqualitydata.us/>) that brings together USGS and EPA data so that users can make inquiries through a single interface, the National Groundwater Monitoring Network Portal (<https://cida.usgs.gov/ngwmn/>) that provides a compilation of selected groundwater monitoring wells from Federal, State, and local groundwater monitoring networks across the Nation, the on-line National Environmental Methods Index (NEMI – currently with more than 1,000 holdings and a new component that deals with methods for statistical assessment), the guidelines for Water Quality Data Elements, and training and knowledge transfer accomplished through the hosting of national conferences (such as the National Monitoring Conference last held in March 2019). An important component of ensuring the availability of long-term environmental information and analyses is the work done by the National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC), which has helped to improve intergovernmental communications through the formation of (and continuing interaction with) numerous State, Regional, and Tribal Monitoring Councils. During FY 2020, the NWQMC has continued regular dialogue and information exchange with these non-Federal monitoring councils.

**What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?**

Checked if  
Applies

- Improvements to health or safety
- Trust in government
- Major policy changes
- Advance in scientific research
- Effective grant making

- Improved service delivery
- Increased customer satisfaction
- Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements
- Other

**Outcome Comments**

ACWI has balanced membership among Federal, State, and local governments, along with non-profit professional and technical associations, as well as academia and the private sector. This structure promotes trust in government through the open meetings and consensus-building approach used by this committee, and as a result, serious consideration is given to ACWI comments, which are used to enhance draft reports and products. The ACWI continues to update their website making sure information is readily available for past meetings including presentations and meeting minutes.

**What are the cost savings associated with this committee?**

Checked if Applies

- None
- Unable to Determine
- Under \$100,000
- \$100,000 - \$500,000
- \$500,001 - \$1,000,000
- \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000
- \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000
- Over \$10,000,000
- Cost Savings Other

**Cost Savings Comments**

Because the Committee makes recommendations not just to Interior, but to multiple Federal water agencies, as well as to other levels of government, non-profit associations, and the private sector through its member organizations, it is not possible to estimate direct cost savings. Products developed directly by ACWI subcommittees include databases, web portals, standards, guidelines, and training that improve the usability of data and information collected and developed by Federal, State, and local governments and volunteer organizations in determining the quality and sustainability of their water resources. For example, data portals that utilize “web services” enable users to make queries regarding water data, without needing to know which agency’s database contains that data, thus saving users considerable time and effort. Portals sponsored by ACWI

include both the data portal established by USGS and EPA (<https://www.waterqualitydata.us/>) and the National Groundwater Monitoring Network data portal (<https://cida.usgs.gov/ngwmn/>) established by USGS in collaboration with a variety of Federal, State, and local partners. ACWI subcommittees also provide numerous free online tools that save time and money for water professionals by providing a single resource, rather than requiring users to search multiple places. For example the National Environmental Methods Index and the Water Quality Data Elements Users Guide (both ACWI products) give users a quick reference for choosing the most appropriate water-quality analysis methods and for developing appropriate meta-data that can help future users to better understand the context of that data. Another example of cost savings is Bulletin 17-C (“Guidelines for Determining Flood Flow Frequency”) a USGS report vetted through ACWI’s Subcommittee on Hydrology (SOH) that is used to help delineate flood-prone areas, for the purposes of the National Flood Insurance Program. During 2012, SOH began the process of updating this bulletin for the first time in 30 years; This report was published in March 2018 and will have significant impacts for communities across the Nation, as the methods defined in Bulletin 17-C inform literally millions of decisions about construction, land use, and emergency response.

**What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?**

95

#### **Number of Recommendations Comments**

There were no new recommendations in FY 2020.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?**

71%

#### **% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

ACWI makes recommendations not just to the Department of the Interior, but to all 5 of its other Federal agency members. In particular, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which jointly co-chair two major ACWI subgroups, generally support and try to implement the ACWI recommendations.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

22%

### **% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

There were no new recommendations in FY 2020. The ACWI makes recommendations to a diverse group of government and non-government entities who voluntarily implement those recommendations to varying degrees where prudent and/or feasible.

### **Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes  No  Not Applicable

### **Agency Feedback Comments**

As the manager of ACWI, USGS provides regular feedback to the representatives of ACWI member organizations, and through those organizations to their membership, throughout the year through a variety of communication mechanisms. Each ACWI subgroup provides a report of its activities, including products and recommendations, at an annual meeting of ACWI. ACWI then concurs with or provides further guidance on those activities and accomplishments. The results of the meetings are published as minutes and action items, which are distributed to all members via email and are placed on the public ACWI website (<https://acwi.gov>). As needed throughout the year and between meetings, USGS provides draft documents or other information to ACWI members for review and comment, requests approvals as necessary, and disseminates final results and products primarily through email and/or web-based conferencing. USGS also maintains an extensive ACWI website to promote ACWI activities and products; this website includes many links that give the public ready access to both general and technical information and data from multiple Federal, State, and non-government water resources organizations. For example, the National Water Quality Monitoring Council maintains a public website that links to all existing State and regional water quality monitoring councils, and to information about the volunteer monitoring community.

### **What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

- |                                   |                          |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Reorganized Priorities            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Reallocated resources             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Issued new regulation             | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Proposed legislation              | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Approved grants or other payments | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other                             | <input type="checkbox"/> |

### **Action Comments**

**Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

**Grant Review Comments**

N/A

**How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Access Comments**

As manager of ACWI, USGS maintains an extensive public website (<https://acwi.gov/>), which provides direct access to all ACWI committee and subcommittee meetings, minutes, action items, recommendations, products, and activities. Each of the ACWI subgroups has its own website, which in turn provide results from working groups, as well as access to major databases, publications, fact sheets, newsletters, webinars, on-line conference registration and subsequent results, and other activities and products developed by ACWI and its member agencies and organizations. All of these materials, once approved by ACWI, are published on the ACWI website, helping to maintain a completely open and public process. In addition, ACWI member organizations are encouraged to use their own communications mechanisms, such as email groups, newsletters, and frequent teleconferences, to disseminate and promote ACWI recommendations and results throughout their organizations. The membership of ACWI and its subgroups includes literally dozens of State, local, regional, professional, academic, and non-profit organizations and consortia, ensuring a wide distribution network. The member organizations also support a number of national conferences, such as the biennial National Monitoring Conferences, which assists in providing broader input to ACWI from the larger water resources community, as well as educating the participants about ACWI activities, products, and recommendations. Information about these conferences, including their results and recommendations, is also accessible through the ACWI website. Special projects of ACWI, such as the water-quality and groundwater data



portals, are promoted through exhibits, poster sessions, and handouts at major national conferences.