

**A Brief Introduction of
Advisory Committee on Water Information (ACWI)**
(<http://acwi.gov/>)

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Overview of ACWI

The Advisory Committee on Water Information (ACWI) (<http://acwi.gov/>) advises the Federal Government with purpose to improve water information for decision making about natural resources management and environmental protection. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum No. 92-01 designates the Department of the Interior, through the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), as the lead agency. Other Federal organizations that fund, collect, or use water resources information work together with the USGS to implement program recommendations.

The purpose of the Committee is to represent the interests of water-information users and professionals in advising the Federal Government on Federal water-information programs and the 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.

ACWI currently has 27 member agencies / organizations (voting members) – see enclosure of this memo. Federal ACWI members include DOI, EPA, USDA, DOC/NOAA, US Army Corps of Engineers and Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). Among ACWI non-federal members who are professional associations, there are many of AWRA's "sister organizations" such as WEF, ASCE, AWWA, NGWA, ESA and NALMS.

Please refer to ACWI fact sheet for more details (http://acwi.gov/acwi_factsheet_2010.pdf).

ACWI Subcommittees

Name of ACWI Subgroups / Subcommittees	Purpose	Chair/Co-Chairs and Affiliations
(1) National Water Quality Monitoring Council (NWQMC)	To provide national coordination to implement the Strategy to Improve Water-Quality Monitoring in the United States. Develop water-quality information standards through the Methods and Data Comparability Board.	USGS (Pixie Hamilton) and EPA (Susan Holdsworth)
(2) National Water Quality Assessment (NAWQA) (National Liaison Committee)	To create an ongoing national liaison process for external organizations to work interactively with NAWQA in joint problem solving on water quality issues. Participants will share insights on the best approaches for understanding water systems and identifying gaps in information important to decision makers.	USGS (Donna Myers)
(3) Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data (SSWD)	To develop water-resources components of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure. Jointly sponsored with the Federal Geographic Data Committee.	USGS (Robert Pierce) and EPA (Tod Dabolt)
(4) Subcommittee on Hydrology (SOH)	To improve the availability and reliability of surface-water quantity information needed for hazard mitigation, water supply and demand management, and environmental protection.	USDA (Mary Greene and Claudia Hoefft)
(5) Subcommittee on Sedimentation (SOS)	To promote and support the development and standardization of equipment, methodologies, calibration, and performance criteria fluvial-sediment data and related technical information.	USGS (John Gray) and USDA (Matt Romkens)
(6) Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable (SWRR)	To serve as a forum to share information and perspectives that will promote better decision making in the U.S. regarding the sustainable development of our nation's water resources.	USDA (Rick Swanson), State of MN (John Wells), Academic (Robert Wilkinson), Facilitator (David Berry)
(7) Subcommittee on Ground Water	To develop and encourage implementation of a nationwide, long term ground water quantity and quality monitoring framework that would provide information necessary for the planning, management, and development of ground-water supplies to meet current and future water needs, and ecosystem requirements	ASCE (Robert Schreiber) and USGS (William Cunningham)

List of ACWI Member Agencies / Organizations
(<http://acwi.gov/agency.html>)

Federal Agencies (a total of 6)

U.S. Department of the Interior
- U.S. Geological Survey
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- National Park Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Office of Environmental Information
- Office of Water
U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Forest Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- National Weather Service
- National Ocean Service
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Tennessee Valley Authority

Regional, State, and Local (a total of 9)

Association of American State Geologists
Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies
Association of State Drinking Water Administrators
Association of State Floodplain Managers
Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators
Interstate Council on Water Policy
National Association of Clean Water Agencies
National Association of County Planners
Western States Water Council

Industry (a total of 2)

Electric Power Research Institute
National Council of the Paper Industry for Air and Stream Improvement, Inc.

Academia (1)

Universities Council on Water Resources

Professional Associations (a total of 9)

American Society of Civil Engineers
American Water Resources Association
American Water Works Association
Ecological Society of America

Ground Water Protection Council
League of Women Voters of the United States
National Ground Water Association
North American Lake Management Society
Water Environment Federation