

Florida Water Resources Monitoring Council

Planning Meeting: August 23



FWRMC Mission

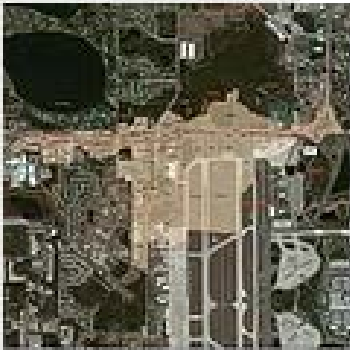
The mission of the Florida Water Resources Monitoring Council:

To protect, preserve, manage and restore Florida's water resources by coordinating water resource monitoring among all levels of government, improving data quality and effectiveness, and sharing information widely.

The Balmoral Group – what we do



Economics



Stormwater
Management



Transportation



The Balmoral Group – what we do

- Coastal resiliency research and analysis (in AU, FL)
- Water quality project cost-sharing evaluations
- Priority pollutant infrastructure cost benefit analysis
- Water supply cost benefit analysis
- Street sweeping optimization for improved water quality
- Agricultural water supply planning and projections
- National Estuary Program research (TBEP and IRL)
- Ecosystem service assessment for coastal resiliency in Gulf of Mexico (NASA)
- Gulf Consortium management (23 FL Gulf Coast counties)



The Balmoral Group

Our role with the FWRMC

- Guidance and planning
- Meeting coordination and facilitation
- Documenting Council and workgroup efforts

... let us know what we can do better



Phone Interviews

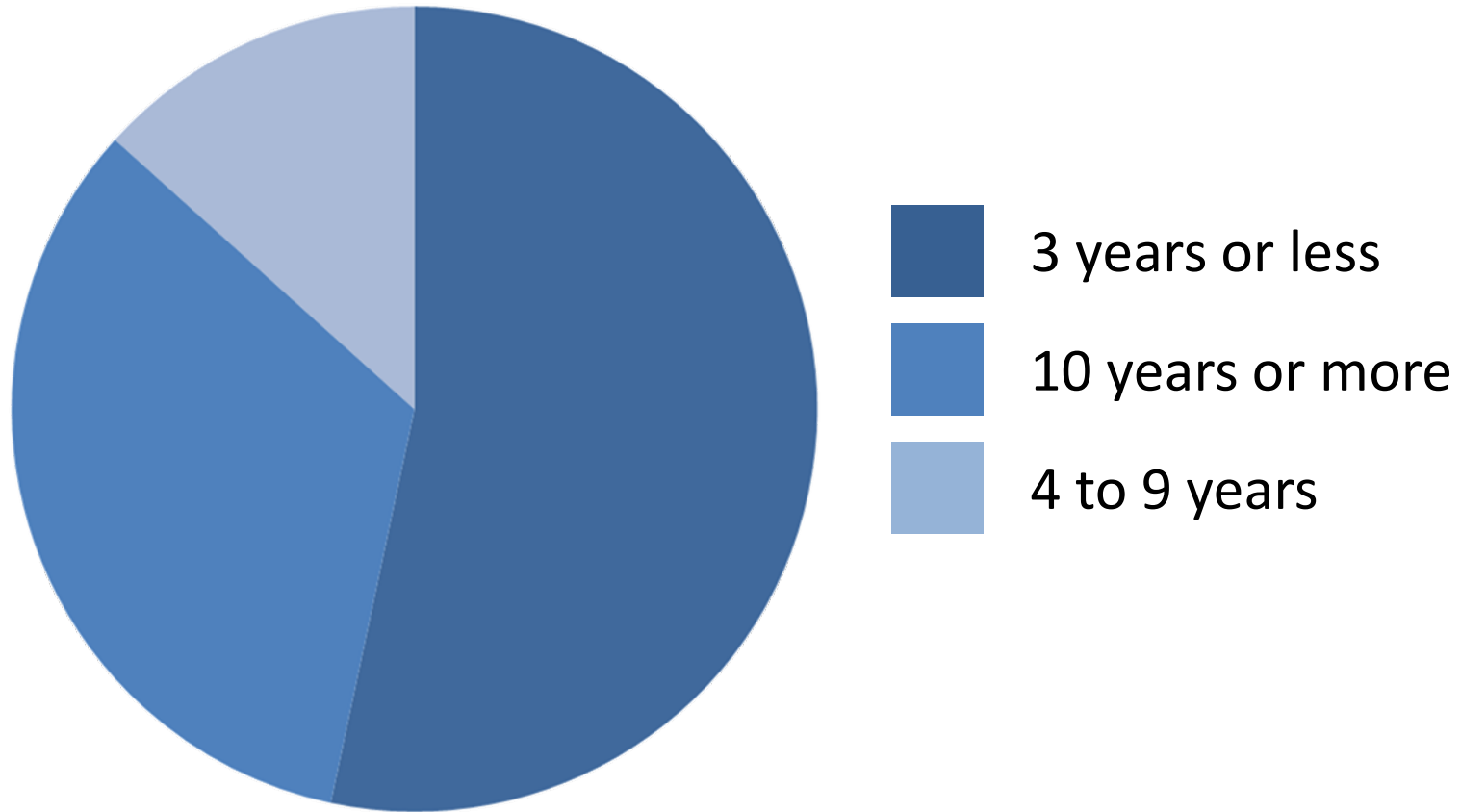
The following 8 questions were asked of all Council members that could be reached by phone (18 respondents). All core members provided input. The 3 questions bolded below are the “key” questions summarized in the following pages. Responses to those will be used to facilitate workshop discussions and exercises.

- Tell me about your history/participation with the Council? When did you get involved?
- Do you feel your contributions to the Council are appreciated and effectively used (that is to say, is it worth your time)?
- Are you part of a Workgroup? If yes, which one?
- Is there anyone else at your agency (or another agency) who you think would be interested in participating with the Council?
- **What do you think is the most important role of the Council? Most important output/activity? Specific success stories?**
- **In the next year or two, what specific activities should the Council focus on?**
- **What would you say are some of the challenges or weaknesses of the Council?**
- Are there things you would like to see changed about how Council meetings or Workgroup meetings are developed or facilitated?



Phone Interviews

Time with Council...

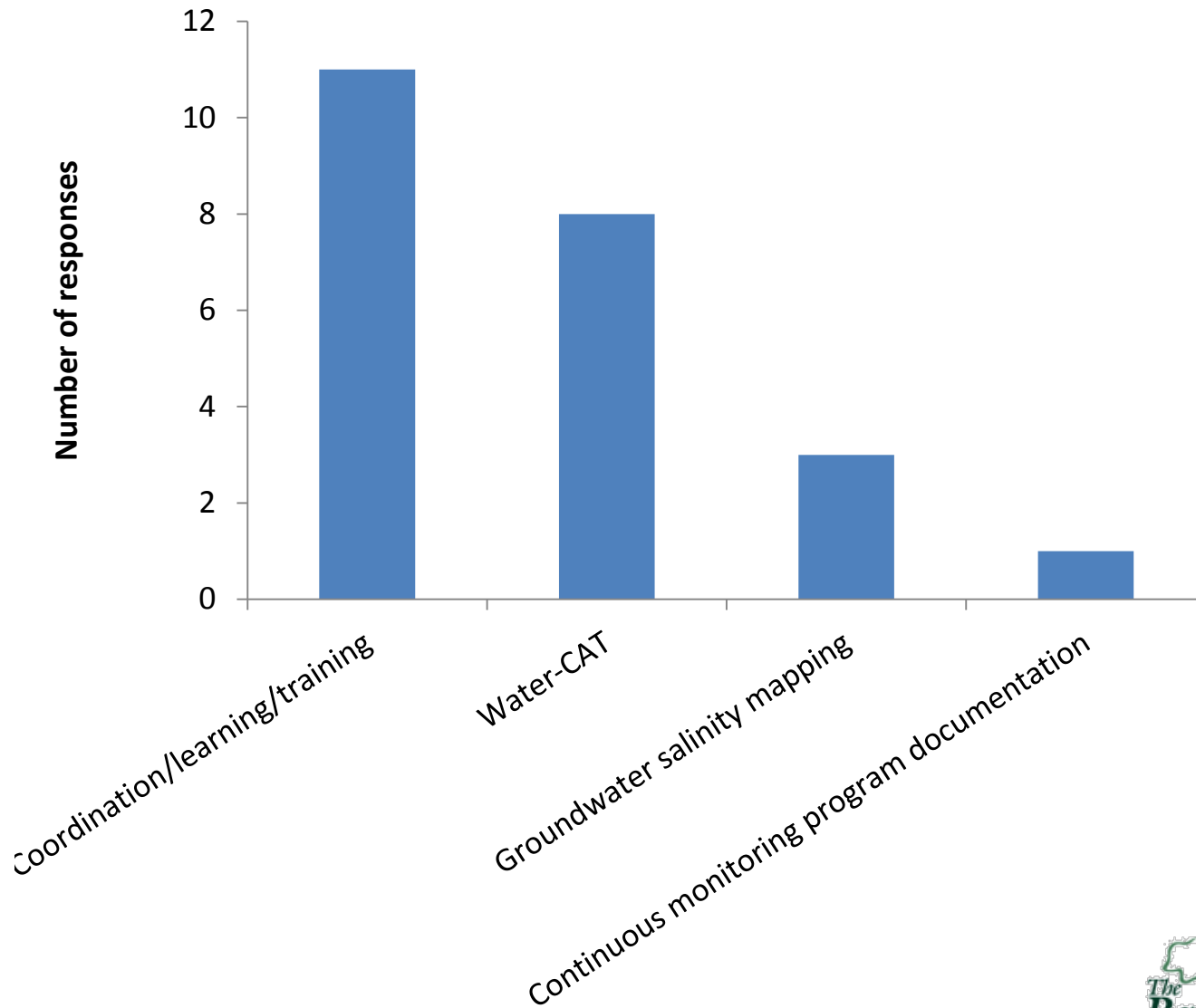


Challenges and weaknesses of Council

This table lists the responses and groups each into one of three challenge groups types. There were few duplicate responses among participants.

What would you say are some of the challenges or weaknesses of the Council?	Challenge Group
limited funding	Time and Money
time to contribute and attend meetings; supervisor support	Time and Money
doesn't connect flows/hydrology with water quality	Activities: what gets done
not enough communication between meetings	Activities: what gets done
not enough outreach; limited visibility of the Council	Activities: what gets done
work efforts need to benefit other agencies as much as DEP	Activities: what gets done
lacking passion	Goals and Intangibles
need to solidify goals of the Council	Goals and Intangibles
needs more direction	Goals and Intangibles
need to improve trust/comaraderie among different agencies	Goals and Intangibles

Most important role/output of Council



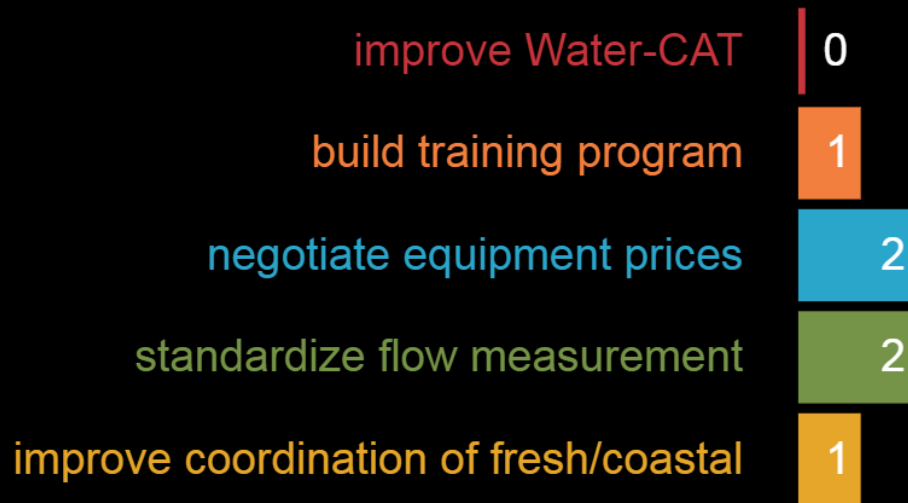
Council focus in next year or two

This table lists the responses and groups each into one of three activity types. There were few duplicate responses among participants.

In the next year or two, what specific activities should the Council focus on?	Activity Type
lead training for monitoring (data quality objectives, SOPs, analysis)	Training and Coordination
coordinate best practices for handling, presenting large datasets (continuous monitoring)	Training and Coordination
standardizing flow measurements; better understanding of flows and water quality relationship	Training and Coordination
improve the understanding of the methods and tools for salt/freshwater transition monitoring	Training and Coordination
improve coordination of freshwater and coastal monitoring for TMDL and NNC issues	Training and Coordination
formalize ways to build efficiencies into water quality monitoring	Training and Coordination
coordinating equipment calibration	Training and Coordination
improve Water-CAT	Products
build a stronger presence on the web	Products
improve salinity monitoring products	Products
materials on HAB's and elevated water temperatures	Products
document data lost due to funding cuts	Products
identify projects to pursue additional funding	Products
identify duplication of efforts and gaps in monitoring activities	Products
negotiating equipment prices	Council function, roles
improve connection to workgroups	Council function, roles
rebuild, redefine our mission	Council function, roles
more regular meetings	Council function, roles
Coordinate WIN training and rollout	Training and Coordination

Voting Results – Council Activities

What activities should the Council focus on for 2018?



6 votes - 2 participants

FWRMC Action Plan - 2008

- **Action Issue I:** Improve knowledge of monitoring activities
- **Action Issue II:** Increase consistency of monitoring strategies and data comparability
- **Action Issue III:** Improve coordination among monitoring entities

FWRMC Action Plan - 2008

- **Action Item I-1: Create and populate a comprehensive digital catalog of existing and legacy water-resources monitoring activities.**

36-Month Outcome

A water resources monitoring catalog will have been established and a coordinated effort will be underway to populate it with monitoring information.

FWRMC Action Plan - 2008

- **Action Item I-2: Make the catalog accessible.**

36-Month Outcome

A generally-accessible Website that provides access to the water monitoring activities catalog.

FWRMC Action Plan - 2008

- **Action Item I-3: Continually maintain the catalog (data and design).**

36-Month Outcome

A fully-funded process to maintain and support the website and online catalog that includes a quality assurance (QA) plan will be in place.

FWRMC Action Plan - 2008

- **Action Item II-1: Create and activate coordination-oversight organization.**

36-Month Outcome

An organization charged with coordination and oversight of Action Plan implementation is active. This organization is composed of appropriate stakeholders.

FWRMC Action Plan - 2008

- **Action Item II-2: Implement communication among entities monitoring water resources in and adjacent to Florida.**

36-Month Outcome

An established communication process with participation from government, academia, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and private entities.

FWRMC Action Plan - 2008

- **Action Item II-3: Establish or enhance state, regional and study/event-specific coordination among monitoring groups.**

36-Month Outcome

Report based on the water resources monitoring catalog identifying duplications and gaps in monitoring activities. Regularly scheduled workshops or conferences that share best practices and improve coordination, including coordination between fresh and saltwater monitoring programs.

FWRMC Action Plan - 2008

- **Action Item II-4: Identify or develop methods to improve integration of freshwater and coastal resource monitoring.**

36-Month Outcome

A review of chemical, physical, and biological indicators or parameters characterizing the status and trends of estuarine resources to support the integration of freshwater and coastal monitoring activities.

FWRMC Action Plan - 2008

- **Action Item II-5: Create and sustain collaborations and partnerships among monitoring entities.**

36-Month Outcome

An increased level of collaboration among monitoring entities.

FWRMC Action Plan - 2008

- **Action Item III-1: Agree on a core set of monitoring variables to support assessment of status and trends of Florida's water resources.**

36-Month Outcome

a) The establishment of a core set of agreed-upon monitoring variables. b) Adoption of Integrated Data Management water resource monitoring metadata standards. c) A report on Status and Trends.

FWRMC Action Plan - 2008

- **Action Item III-2: Support development and implementation of new, emerging, and enhanced technologies, indicators, and methods to improve monitoring.**

36-Month Outcome

Statewide monitoring entities will have initiated a coordinated effort to incorporate new technologies, indicators, and methods to improve water resource monitoring.

FWRMC Action Plan - 2008

- **Action Item III-3: Seek out, validate, standardize, and promote research methods for adoption in the monitoring arena.**

36-Month Outcome

a) A quarterly working group or Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) that researches and evaluates technologies, indicators, and methods appropriate for adoption by monitoring entities. b) Funds have been identified to validate promising research methods.

FWRMC Action Plan - 2008

- **Action Item III-4: Recommend that monitoring programs develop or adopt data-quality objectives to address their management needs.**

36-Month Outcome

a) Documentation describing potential data quality objectives has been completed and workshops held to provide guidance in developing definitive data quality objectives. b) Increased number of programs in state have data quality objectives.

FWRMC Action Plan - 2008

- **Action Item III-5: Encourage organizations to adopt standardized and complementary monitoring designs.**

36-Month Outcome

a) Florida agencies have adopted standardized and complementary monitoring designs; b) Funding to support workshops and to foster standardized and complementary monitoring design among smaller monitoring entities has been identified.

FWRMC Action Plan - 2008

Sticky-dot polling

- Did it (yellow)
 - Did it AND still need to work on it (orange)
 - Still need to work on it (green)
 - Forget it (red)
 - Don't know (blue)
-
- Webinar participant: mark-up your Action Plan document and email to ddourte@balmoralgroup.us



36-Month Outcome Ranking

Monitoring-Coordination Action Plan - 2008

Florida Water Resources Monitoring Council

36-Month Outcomes for each Action Item

Action Item I-1

- A water resources monitoring catalog will have been established and a coordinated effort will be underway to populate it with monitoring information.



Action Item I-2

- A generally-accessible website that provides access to the water monitoring activities catalog.



Action Item I-3

- A fully-funded process to maintain and support the website and online catalog that includes a quality assurance (QA) plan will be in place.



Action Item II-1

- An organization charged with coordination and oversight of Action Plan implementation is active. This organization is composed of appropriate stakeholders.



Action Item II-2

- An established communication process with participation from government, academia, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and private entities.



Action Item II-3

- Report based on the water resources monitoring catalog identifying duplications and gaps in monitoring activities. Regularly scheduled workshops or conferences that share best practices and improve coordination, including coordination between fresh and saltwater monitoring programs.



Action Item II-4

- A review of chemical, physical, and biological indicators or parameters characterizing the status and trends of estuarine resources to support the integration of freshwater and coastal monitoring activities.



Action Item II-5

- An increased level of collaboration among monitoring entities.



Action Item III-1

- a) The establishment of a core set of agreed-upon monitoring variables. b) Adoption of Integrated Data Management water resource monitoring metadata standards. c) A report on Status and Trends.



Action Item III-2

- Statewide monitoring entities will have initiated a coordinated effort to incorporate new technologies, indicators, and methods to improve water resource monitoring.



Action Item III-3

- a) A quarterly working group or Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) that researches and evaluates technologies, indicators, and methods appropriate for adoption by monitoring entities. b) Funds have been identified to validate promising research methods.



Action Item III-4

- a) Documentation describing potential data quality objectives has been completed and workshops held to provide guidance in developing definitive data quality objectives. b) Increased number of programs in state have data quality objectives.



Action Item III-5

- a) Florida agencies have adopted standardized and complementary monitoring designs; b) Funding to support workshops and to foster standardized and complementary monitoring design among smaller monitoring entities has been identified.



The Council moving forward...

- **Passion and mission**
- **How can work of the Council more closely align with work at the agencies?**
- **Outreach – stories of coordination success**

2018 Council Workplan

- **2008 Action Plan as template**

2018 Council Workplan

- **What's most important to work on?**

DirectPoll: choose 5

- **Admin**

<https://directpoll.com/c?XDVhEt7lUDjlW8qvnUHdAcnNfE0Fi3XD>

- **Vote** <http://etc.ch/sgAE>

2018 Council Workplan

- From among the top responses, how well do they fit:

Council mission, agency work, achievability

- Choose 3 for each question... mostly yes or sort of no to each of the above 3
 - Admin
<https://directpoll.com/c?XDVhEtqtlI1ZPlaSqudCWIXxOaT1RdBmM>
 - Vote <http://etc.ch/GEfs>

2018 Council Workplan

- **Workgroup to lead workplan development**

Upcoming Council meetings

- **Purpose, frequency**
- **Location**

Action Items