



# Florida Water Resources Monitoring Council – October 2020 Meeting Summary

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**When:** Wednesday – October 21, 2020  
10:30AM-12:00PM

**Where:** **GoToMeeting**  
**Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**  
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/924446405>  
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**Access Code:** 924-446-405

## Meeting Objectives

- Review water council work plan efforts in 2020
- Gather input for 2021 Annual Work Plan

## Participants

See table of participants (21 people):

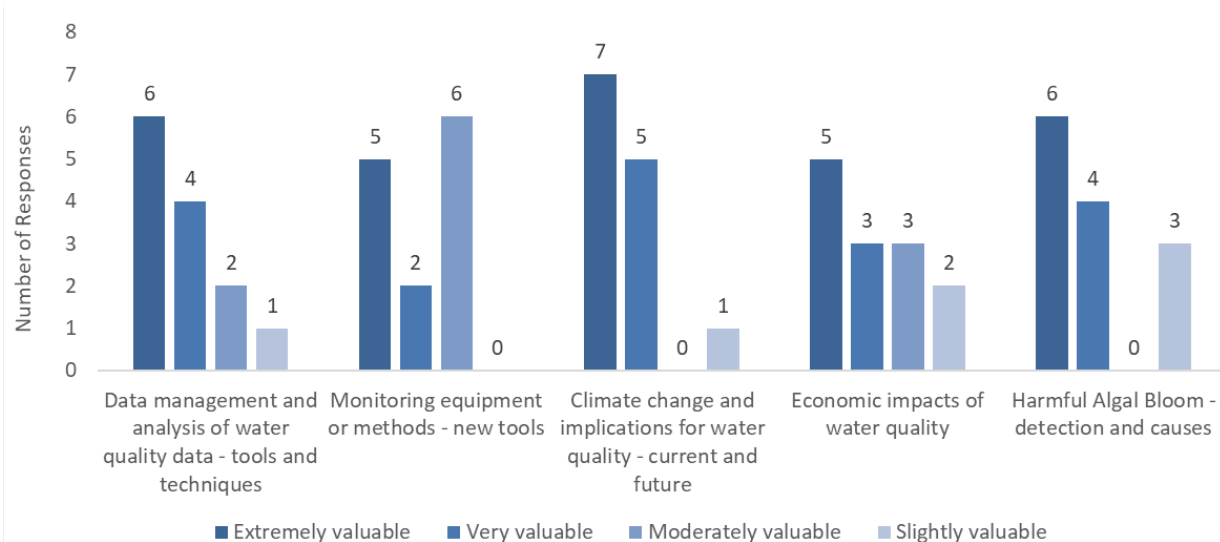
| Agency                        | People                                                       |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| FDEP                          | Jay Silvanima, Rick Copeland, Nia Wellendorf, Carolyn Voyles |
| DOH                           | David Polk                                                   |
| FDACS                         |                                                              |
| FGS                           |                                                              |
| Florida Fish & Wildlife CC    |                                                              |
| NFWFMD                        | Tony Countryman                                              |
| SFWMD                         | Julie LaRock                                                 |
| SJRWMD                        | Chris Mundy, Margaret Guyette                                |
| SRWMD                         | Darlene Velez, Tara Rodgers                                  |
| SWFWMD                        | Catherine Wolden, Sandie Will, Granville Kinsman             |
| FL COOS Consortium            |                                                              |
| FL Lakes Management Society   | Sean McGlynn                                                 |
| Volunteer Monitoring Programs |                                                              |
| Alachua County                | Greg Owen                                                    |
| Escambia County               |                                                              |
| Manatee County                | Jeff Nelson                                                  |



|                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Miami-Dade County</b>  |                            |
| <b>Palm Beach County</b>  |                            |
| <b>Pinellas County</b>    | Natasha Dickrell           |
| <b>Volusia County</b>     | Kelli Young                |
| <b>NOAA</b>               |                            |
| <b>US EPA</b>             |                            |
| <b>USGS</b>               |                            |
| <b>The Balmoral Group</b> | Dan Dourte, Valerie Seidel |

## Agenda and Summary

- **Review of 2020 Work Plan – evaluating efforts**
  - Dan Dourte updated the group on 2020 trainings/webinars. Continuous monitoring and project monitoring trainings did not happen; we needed someone to take the lead, and attempts to find speakers were not successful. There were some COVID-related delays on the planned webinar on KISTERS data portal; this may still happen in 2020 (TBD). USGS tools (Sep 2020) webinar was very successful in terms of attendance.
  - Denise Miller updated the group on Water-CAT maintenance:
    - Maintenance and enhancements contract now handled annually
    - Mostly adding keywords, identifying projects + stations that need to be linked
    - If contacted by USF please make requested updates to metadata
    - USF added dual source URL's for STORET or WIN
    - Increased field lengths in project ID
    - Modified online admin form to specify a station, tooltips, update statistics
    - Suggested catalog workgroup meeting possibly early 2021
- **Input on 2021 Work Plan** (Dan Dourte; discussion) – The group discussed what topics would be most helpful in terms of more coordination and/or trainings/webinars. The polling results from prior to the meeting were reviewed:



**Continuous monitoring:** Several members expressed interest in continuous monitoring. Nia Wellendorf mentioned the history of the Continuous Monitoring Work Group and suggested now might be a good time for the Work Group to begin again. There have been a lot of changes and more consensus developing in terms of QA/QC and observational equipment. Margaret Guyette said that the Work Group would have much more value now in terms of sharing lessons learned. Denise Miller discussed the WIN continuous monitoring progress underway. Action steps: 1) make an announcement to Water Council members (and others at partner agencies) that anyone interested in participating in the Continuous Monitoring Workgroup should volunteer, 2) convene the workgroup for an open discussion on QA/QC, data management, equipment, etc., 3) share lessons learned with wider group (best practices document, webinar, other resources to come?). Catherine Wolden suggested she has someone who could take the lead on this.

**Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs):** Natasha Dickrell expressed interest in improving the agency coordination around HABs. Nia Wellendorf described the FWC/DOH/DEP coordination and the inter-agency algal task force. There was some concern to be sure we're not duplicating coordination where it's not needed. Kelli Young mentioned the Indian River Lagoon weekly HAB calls. There seems to be a lot of coordination happening around HABs, but this is not always well-known by those outside that coordination. Action step: possibly two Water Council meeting discussion items: 1) Review/summary of resources about HAB coordination, data sources, etc. 2) Possibly posting list of web resources re: existing efforts.



**Climate change and water quality connection:** Julie LaRock discussed SFWMD's Resiliency Officer and the overlap between climate and resiliency and water quality. She mentioned the difficulty in attributing water quality changes to climate changes (because of other factors like land use change or other changes). Nia Wellendorf suggested someone from DEPs Resiliency Office should be involved in the discussions on climate change. Jeff Nelson recommended that it would be helpful to have a list of water quality parameters most influenced by climate change. Nutrients often are discussed, but what about pH, salinity, DO, other parameters? Sandie Will asked if sea level rise and saltwater intrusion are also parts of this topic. The group thought these were also important parts of climate change and water quality. Action step: Jay Silvanima suggested a good starting point would be a training to cover the fundamentals on climate data: data sources, trends, how to find out what's changing; understand the climate piece, then build to the water quality interactions. Dan Dourte suggested that The Balmoral Group could present on data portals from NASA and others as options for standardizing climate data access.

**Other topics:** seemed to be limited interest in other topics beyond the 3 discussed in detail (see previous 3 sections).

**Next Steps:** Dan Dourte will compile the input from this meeting into a draft work plan. The draft plan will be circulated among the Water Council members for input in November. Expected December 2020 to finalize 2021 Work Plan.