



# FINAL NJ Water Monitoring Council

## Measuring What Counts for Clean & Plentiful Water

### MEETING AGENDA

January 19, 2017, 9:00am – 4:30 pm

Location: NJDEP HQ, Public Hearing Room

- **Council Business** - *Leslie McGeorge, DEP/DWM&S and Bob Reiser, USGS NJWSC (9:00-9:25)*
  - Introductions & Approval of September 21, 2016 minutes (*handout*)
    - Next Council Meeting: May 24 (Location – USGS) Topic Recommendations: Fish Tissue, others?
  - Announcements:
    - Drought Update – Jeff Hoffman
    - National Ambient Groundwater Monitoring Network Grant Application – Jeff Hoffman
    - Raritan Basin River Friendly Program: Gov’s Env. Excellence Award Recipient – Heather Desko
    - Montclair University HAB STAR Grant Proposal- Leslie
    - Report Release: DEP/USGS Trends Study of NJ Rivers (1971-2011) – Leslie & Bob R
    - New USGS Reports – Pam Reilly
- **Welcome** – Dan Kennedy, Assistant Commissioner, NJDEP/Water Resource Management (9:25-9:35)
- **National Water Quality Monitoring Council** – *Leslie McGeorge (9:35-9:45)*
  - Water Quality Portal Training – February 8 (March 13 – snow date), DEP
- **CyanoHABs Update** – *Leslie & Vic Poretti (9:45-9:50)*
- **Delaware River Watershed Initiative Update (9:50-10:35)**
  - A. **Overview of Phase II & Multiple Indicators to Assess Baseline Conditions** – *Carol Collier (intro) & Stefanie Kroll, ANSDU*
  - B. **Supporting GIS Tools**, *Scott Haag, ANSDU*

Break (10:35-10:45)

#### Session: Biological Monitoring

- EPA Biological Monitoring:
  - a. **Biological Monitoring in EPA’s NARS, including NLA** – *Richard Mitchell, EPA HQ (via Webex) (10:45-11:00)*
  - b. **eDNA: Research Tool with Practical Applications for Monitoring** – *Erik Pilgrim, EPA ORD (via Webex) (11:00-11:20)*
- **Freshwater Macroinvertebrate Monitoring: Routine & Special Projects** – *Dean Bryson, DEP/DWMS (11:20-11:40)*
- **Fish & Headwaters Indices of Biotic Integrity & Development of New Indices for High-gradient Streams** – *John Vile and Brian Henning, DEP/DWMS (11:40-12:20)*

Lunch (12:20-1:20)

#### Session: Biological Monitoring

- **DRBC Biological Monitoring Program Update** – *Bob Limbeck, DRBC (1:20-1:40)*
- **NAWQA\* Regional Stream Quality Assessments of Ecological Condition & Multiple Stressors** – *Karen Murray, USGS (1:40-2:00)*
- **Pinelands Commission Biological Research & Monitoring** – *Marilyn Sobel, Pinelands Commission (2:00-2:20)*
- **Watershed Association Biological Monitoring Activities: SBMWA, GSWA, RHA** – *Erin Stretz, Sandra LaVigne, Angela Gorczyca (2:20-2:50)*

Break (2:50-3:00)

- **Update on Ocean Benthic Index & Oxygen Conditions** – *Bob Schuster, DEP/DWMS (3:00-3:20)*
- **Community Monitoring in Barnegat Bay & Indicator Development** – *Gary Taghon, Rutgers University (3:20-3:40)*
- **Diatoms as Ecological Indicators in Coastal Marshes** – *Mihaela Enache, DEP/DSREH (3:40-4:00)*
- **Use of Biological Data for Water Quality Assessment** – *Kevin Berry, DEP/DWMS (4:00-4:30)*

\* NAWQA – National Water Quality Assessment