



**Water Information and Data Subcommittee (WIDS)
August 2017 “Kickoff” Webinar**

Meeting Minutes
Date/Time: August 24, 2017,
1:00 PT/2:00 MT/3:00 CT

Call-in number: 1-800-920-7487
Conference code: 253 359 68#

Webinar: <https://join.me/wswc-mtgs>

Attendees: Sara Larsen, Tony Willardson (WSWC), Lane Letourneau, Ginger Pugh (Kansas), Lisa Williams (Arizona), Todd Adams, Candice Hasenyager (Utah), Ken Stahr (Oregon), Sam Hermitte (Texas)

Meeting Minutes: Sara welcomed everyone to the call. Tony and Sara talked about the need to resume WIDS, its purpose, and what is on the horizon for this technical subcommittee of the WSWC. She talked about the WIDS reconvening and hoping it would be of great benefit to the members. Tony talked about the WIDS subgroup forming in the 1980's. The group has come a long way. WSWC has also held WIMS workshops to share information in the past. Sara talked WaDE, open data, about recent work with the Aspen Institute. Sam talked about Texas developing a data management group and data hub.

Sara will provide an overview of the WaDE program and status, go over recent developments, funding opportunities/challenges, and request feedback and priorities for next steps. Challenges to WaDE include interoperability and updating the current version (v0.2) to the next version that will include support for national efforts like the Open Water Data Initiative (OWDI). This would involve a larger update. The group will help decide about future approaches for implementing v0.3. Sara went over the funding status for WaDE and the ways they are trying to keep the program running and working with other agencies on the technical development.

Sara asked for specific guidance on whether to open the WaDE portal up to other entities. The consensus from the group was not to do that now. She asked for guidance on how widely to publicize the WaDE portal. Tony indicated that they might not wish to do that until it's more fully fledged. Ken said that self-promotion would be to ensure success also, in the long run. Tony discussed releasing WaDE at a WGA meeting and talking more about wider release early next year. Sara asked about use of the cloud and a joint investigation with NASA to find out how states are using cloud computing. She asked for guidance on how to get to more of a westwide picture of water use and availability. Ken said that there is some interest, and trying to get started. Todd asked what kind of metric was under discussion.

Sara talked more about NASA and the up-coming WIMS symposium. NASA is willing to host in Pasadena, CA at their JPL facility in January. Tony talked about past WIMS meetings and what was covered and what kind of topics might be handled at the one in January (water rights, adjudications, remote-sensing).

A funding opportunity was presented by NASA that had co-benefits to WaDE work. Sara went over a draft survey that assesses cloud computing use by states, that will be delivered to WSWC members in the fall. She explained the different sections and asked for feedback. Sam said that there are a number of people in the agency that may be using the cloud, and it would be interesting to get them all together to fill out the survey and have that discussion. Ken said that Oregon would take this approach also.

The group went over potential agenda items for a WIMS Symposium. Ken requested that Sara get in touch with Justin Huntington to talk about a NASA remote-sensing project that he was beginning this year. There weren't any other suggestions from the group, but Tony and Sara encouraged everyone to think about what they'd like to learn about at the WIMS and send those topics in.

Wrap Up: Todd requested that there be a "Save the Date" for future WIDS calls. Sara said she would do that for a meeting after they had some cloud survey results and maybe prior to the WIMS in January. She thanked the group for attending and encouraged everyone to send in their feedback on WaDE, the survey, and WIMS topics, as needed.

Action Items:

	Description	Assignee
1	Distribute the WaDE site, the Aspen Institute report - Update the WIDS webpage, - Compile survey in PDF - Send survey and meeting recap to WIDS	Sara (WSWC)
2	Send information on Justin Huntington's ET estimation workshop in September	Ken (Oregon)
3	Send back feedback on WaDE directions, draft survey, and WIMS topics	All