



**Water Information and Data Subcommittee (WIDS)
February 2018 Webinar**

Meeting Minutes

**Date/Time: February 28, 2018,
12pm PT/1pm MT/2pm CT/3pm ET**

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

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

Attendees: Sara Larsen, Ginger Pugh (Kansas), Lisa Williams (Arizona), Candice Hasenyager (Utah), Sam Hermitte (Texas), Steve Wolff (Wyoming), Mat Weaver (Idaho), Linda Davis (Idaho), Allison Danner (USBR)

Meeting Minutes: Sara welcomed the attendees. The group reviewed the action items and minutes from the last call. There were no proposed changes from the group.

Recap of the Cloud Survey Results: Sara showed a portion of a presentation that she gave at the WIMS meeting on the cloud survey results. She talked about the WIMS being co-sponsored by NASA, and interactions between state agency staff and federal agency members. The WIMS had good reviews from NASA. The survey covered centralized IT services offered in the states. All results will be shared in a summary report. Less than ½ the states are using the cloud. Use of the cloud provides both benefits (e.g., cost, scalability, etc.), but also challenges (e.g., performance, transfer of information). The consensus from states was that use of the cloud is new enough that it is not yet fully understood. Most thought that their cloud use would increase in the future. Steve asked about costs with different vendors. Sara said they had a little bit of information, but not a big matrix of spending. Not sure if the states would be interested in providing or not. Sara showed the outline for the report. The report is an example of how the Council can function on behalf of its members – connecting with federal agencies and answering questions that are of importance to WSWC members.

WIMS Meeting Recap: WIMS was a really good meeting. Sara showed a summary document of the meeting activities and reviews. Candice asked about access to meeting materials and frequency of the meetings. Sara will post the WIMS summary and the compiled reviews and ask for top three topics for the next WIMS. The frequency of the WIMS is a function of whether there are more agencies that want to assist, such as USGS. Sara said her preference was annually or a little bit more. Sam said that annual would be ideal and having the meeting too frequently would be harder to prioritize. Sara said that if we narrowed the topics a little bit, that she would expect the meeting to be smaller. Steve asked about USGS hosting. Sara said that she was waiting to get WIDS feedback. Sam said that they'd be a good partner, Steve would like the meeting to cover remote sensing. USGS is running the satellites, states are doing a lot of the work. Mat indicated that anything more than annually would not be ideal.

WaDE Status Update: Alaska and North Dakota are being incorporated into the WaDE portal. Sara will get in touch with Sam to chat with Texas Water Development Board about possibility of getting into WaDE. Sara talked about the diversity of data in WaDE. There is a need to have states add more datasets into WaDE, and more spatial scales that are cross-state. Goal for the coming year: have everyone sharing water rights/water use and have it indexed to HUC. Add "Search for Data by Location" on a spatially consistent scale. Demonstrating data transfer and use of the API is a top priority. Finalize the WaDE schema (version 1.0). Have some new funds to resolve some of the architecture issues. Sara showed examples of WaDE apps built using

R/Shiny that serve as data inspectors. Added support for different spatial scales, from smaller units to larger resolutions. Working on developing for specific customers such as USGS. WaDE schema adjustments include changes in approach to water rights and diversions. Adding lats/longs, the ability to tie data to the NHD, this information would show up in the federal effort of the National Linked Data Index (NLDI). If states tie their data to the NHD, then their data will show up in the NLDI. Adding data quality fields and coverage within the HUC or county. If agency is generating confidence or error, that can now be added. Some terms are changing to be closer to international adopted standards. Will have some funding to assist with changes required by a new schema. GitHub community can be used to see the new schema.

Proposed Changes in Architecture: Sara showed the partners how the WaDE infrastructure works, and what its limits are in terms of performance monitoring and usage. Very difficult to update the databases, across the system. The main complaint with WaDE is that the development is too slow. One of the reasons is that updates are hard to implement across the board. Would like to implement a quick-deployment program for WaDE nodes and find a place to have a federated set of nodes with dedicated resources. Each state would still control their node, but also allow WSWC to control for minor updates. Example of AZ hosting WaDE on GoDaddy, where both AZ and WSWC could work on implementation. Downside is that to keep the application inexpensive, we'd have to use PostgreSQL. Considered to be enterprise level DBMS, but different from MSSQL. If deployments are based on INSERT statements, would have to adjust your approach to updating the state's data. Many of the WIDS members are MSSQL states. Sara will go back and price out a MSSQL installation.

Funding Outlook: Have EN Grant through Sept. 2018. NASA funds to help with cloud report. The Aspen Institute connected WSWC with the Water Funders Initiative for funding from July through July of 2019. Also submitted a new EN Grant for sensor-based data. Will know about that in July also. If everything goes well with the WFI, they may continue to support in 2020.

Wrap Up: Have been meeting every six months or so. August and Sept. for next meeting. Should have better idea about WIMS, cloud report, knee-deep in WaDE schema changes. Sara will reach out with the new schema, will let the WIDS group know if there are any changes from what was discussed in the meeting.

Action Items:

	Description	Assignee
1	Review cloud vendor costs with the states, and add to cloud report	Sara
2	Send out outline for the cloud report, WIDS gives any feedback	Sara, WIDS
3	Sara will contact Sam about TWDB visit	Sara, Sam
4	Provide suggestions for additions/deletions in the new schema	All WIDS members