



# EPA Releases First Ever National Wetland Condition Assessment

The Watershed Academy



Thursday, June 16, 2016

Two hour audio Web broadcast

Eastern: 1:00p.m.–3:00p.m.

Central: 12:00p.m.–2:00p.m.

Mountain: 11:00a.m.–1:00p.m.

Pacific: 10:00a.m.–12:00p.m.

## A Watershed Academy Webcast

Join us for a Webcast on EPA's recently released [National Wetland Condition Assessment \(NWCA\)](#) 2011 report. This report shows that nearly half of the Nation's wetlands are in good health, while 20 percent are in fair health and the remaining 32 percent in poor health. The National Wetland Condition Assessment is part of a series of National Aquatic Resource Surveys (NARS) designed to advance the science of monitoring and answer critical questions about the conditions of waters in the United States.

"America's wetlands are vital for reducing water pollution, reducing flooding, providing habitat for fish and wildlife, offering recreational opportunities, and contributing goods to economy," said Joel Beauvais, deputy assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Water. "We know that protecting our wetlands is a critical component of adapting to climate change impacts like flooding and managing pollution and nutrients damaging our country's water quality,"

EPA conducted the National Wetland Condition Assessment in partnership with state environmental agencies and other federal agencies, including the Natural Resource Conservation Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The assessment supplements the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Status & Trends program, which has been documenting changes to the extent of wetland area in the U.S. for more than 30 years. EPA's collaboration with states and other federal agencies on the National Wetland Condition Assessment catalyzed and dramatically accelerated state efforts to monitor and assess wetlands.

This Webcast will provide a brief overview of the National Aquatic Resource Surveys (NARS) that provide information on lakes, rivers and streams, coastal waters and wetlands, and will also highlight the key findings from the NWCA report. The NWCA report is available at: <https://www.epa.gov/national-aquatic-resource-surveys/nwca>.

Webcast participants are eligible to receive a certificate for their attendance. The Webcast presentations are posted in advance at <http://www.epa.gov/watershedacademy/watershed-academy-webcast-seminars> and participants are encouraged to download them prior to the Webcast.

### Expert Speakers:



**Sarah Lehmann**, *Team Leader for National Aquatic Resource Surveys, Monitoring Branch, U.S. EPA's Office of Water*

Sarah Lehmann serves as Team Leader for the National Aquatic Resource Surveys in U.S. EPA's Monitoring Branch. In this role, she provides leadership for each of the national surveys including lakes, rivers and streams, coastal waters, and wetlands. Prior to this, Sarah worked in EPA's Region 5 office in Chicago as the Regional Monitoring Coordinator. She worked with states and tribes in the development and implementation of monitoring and assessment strategies and served as the regional contact for the national surveys.



**Gregg Serenbetz**, *Environmental Protection Specialist, Wetlands Division, U.S. EPA's Office of Water*

Gregg Serenbetz is an Environmental Protection Specialist with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Wetlands Division in Washington DC. His focus is on the development and implementation of wetland monitoring and assessment programs at national, state, and tribal levels. He is also the project lead for the National Wetland Condition Assessment.

### Registration:

You must register in advance to attend this Webcast. Register at the Watershed Academy Webcast Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/watershedacademy/watershed-academy-webcast-seminars>.

### The Watershed Academy:

The Watershed Academy is a focal point in EPA's Office of Water for providing training and information on implementing watershed approaches. The Academy self-paced training modules and webcast seminars provide current information from national experts across a broad range of watershed topics. For more information, please visit [www.epa.gov/watershedacademy](http://www.epa.gov/watershedacademy).

**Questions?** Please contact Beth Orr at [beth.orr@tetrattech.com](mailto:beth.orr@tetrattech.com).

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