

**What are the
next steps?**

Session 10

What we identified as next steps

- 4 themes to the next steps to initiate and improve coordination:
 - Collaboration
 - Goals and mission (strategic planning)
 - Rethinking economic analysis
 - Legislation and funding

Collaboration

- Coordination among/within agencies:
 - Establish common vision/goal and set of points (including disagreements)
- Communication, education, and outreach:
 - Outreach to and involvement of decision makers
 - Early identification and involvement of stakeholders
- Coordinating mechanisms:
 - Designate coordinating mechanism and process
 - Build on existing working groups and coalitions
- Skill building – leadership, relationships
- Tools – training and facilities

Collaboration

- Lower end of basins are represented but upper end of basins (land users) need to be represented as well
- Watershed groups must be engaged in the process particularly in local areas
- Work on engaging new stakeholders in currently existing processes; find resources to do this
 - USACE is hosting a kick off meeting
 - Invitees will include different watershed stakeholders, USACE, and EPA
- Education and outreach - Change image of dredging (change wording?)
- Consider motivation of local watershed (agriculture) users and programs represented under Farm Bill (economic incentives)

Strategic Planning

- Define goals, mission, and process
- Build local capacity
- Incorporate Agency strategic plan into watershed plans to attain RESULTS
- Work with partners at multiple levels (many strategic goals overlap)
- Include a reasonable timeline in planning (begin pilot programs to collect data)

Rethinking economic analysis

- Rethink project benefits, justifications, and methodologies by policy makers and economists

Legislation and Funding

- Increase funding
- Pass national legislation for watershed approach
- Fund programmatically rather than project by project
- Leverage existing funding
 - Using and adding to USACE's flexibility to develop Federal-Federal partnership
- At state level, there are barriers to ben use
- Money at national level is targeted to larger projects
- Look at state legislation
- Develop funding structure/management district similar to solid waste for dredged material
- Create a sediment authority/law
- Create a sediment group within EPA (similar to water, air, pesticides, etc.)
- Work with Environmental Finance Advisory Board
- Begin discussion with USACE to work on a regional basis (USACE 07 budget was submitted by regions)
 - Review regional boundaries?

What is the big picture?

- Integrating:
 - Dredged material management
 - Sediment management
 - Watershed management

What can I do back at my desk?

- Initiate relationship building with watershed groups and sediment managers
- Look upstream and downstream
- Expand pool of partners
- Follow up with and contact people you met this week
- Get the word out about watershed sediment planning
- Work with other programs in your area (e.g., nonpoint source, 319, TMDL)
- Be in, not buy-in; include stakeholders in the design process

Who are additional partners?

- Who will you reach out to?
- Are there partners who should be here?
- Who are the non-traditional partners?

**What kind of follow up
would you like to see
at the national level?**

National Follow Up?

- Annual NDT and RDT meeting; invite broader crowd (RSM)
- RDT report progress quarterly to NDT
- NDT should provide assistance to RDTs by passing word down through agencies and within agencies
- Use existing ACWI sediment team to work with Federal agencies and other organizations
- States and local groups need funds to participate in watershed sediment efforts
- Focus solutions through one team effort
- Federal family needs to create a unified vision and each agency can use its authorities to act upon its part