



**USDA-CSREES National Water Conference
NEMO Volunteer Monitoring Joint National Facilitation Workshop
February 6, 2006 * San Antonio, TX**

Background:

The National Facilitation component of the CSREES Water Quality Program seeks to provide a common base of knowledge in support of individuals and communities grappling to formulate public policy and management strategies that will allow growth and increased profitability while protecting water resources.

National Facilitation Projects develop and initiate nationally coordinated programs that will contribute to an increase in public understanding and involvement in community decision-making and that facilitate the development of public policy on water resources issues (e.g., decisions about land use, land management practices, waste water management alternatives for areas without sewers, storm water controls, and the protection and restoration of riparian zones). The result will be more citizen involvement, wider dispersal of information, and more rational analysis of environmental decisions in the community and the nation.

The focus of this workshop is the incorporation of volunteer data into geospatial technologies and web and print formats that facilitate public decision making, such as those common to NEMO programs. We will present examples of how volunteer monitoring data has been integral in NEMO efforts, and how NEMO tools have improved understanding and use of volunteer monitoring data. By opening this dialogue we anticipate that the both programs will be strengthened.

10:30 (promptly)	<i>Brief Introductions</i> - presenters and participants
10:40	<i>NEMO Network overview</i> - Dave Dickson
10:50	<i>CSREES Volunteer Monitoring Facilitation project overview</i> - Elizabeth Herron
11:00	<i>What Volunteer Monitoring has to Offer Municipal Officials...a Case from Alabama.</i> - Bill Deutsch (Alabama Watershed Watch)
11:15	<i>Ankle Deep and Knee High: How AWW helped 'jump start' Alabama NEMO</i> - Eve Brantley
11:30	<i>NROC - Using Volunteer Monitoring Data to Help Communities Better Manage NPS</i> - Jeff Schloss (University of New Hampshire)
11:45	Begin discussion of steps needed to better integrate volunteer monitoring and NEMO efforts – Kris Stepenuck
Noon	Move discussion to lunch on our own.