North Dakota's Water Quality Monitoring Strategy for Surface Waters

- Required by EPA to qualify for Section 106 grants
- 10 year plan
- Ongoing review and updates
- Based on 10 key elements
  - Monitoring program strategy
  - Monitoring objectives
  - Monitoring design
  - Core and supplemental indicators
  - Quality assurance
  - Data management
  - Data analysis/assessment
  - Reporting
  - Programmatic evaluation
  - General support and infrastructure planning

Programs, Projects and Studies

- Ambient Water Quality Monitoring Network for Rivers and Streams
- Biological Monitoring and Assessment Program for Rivers and Streams
- Ecoregion Reference Station Network
- Lake Water Quality Assessment Program
- Missouri River Mainstem Monitoring Program
- Fish Tissue Contaminant Surveillance Program
- Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Program
- Impaired Waterbody Monitoring/TMDL Development Program
- Nonpoint Source Pollution Management Program Monitoring
- Other Monitoring and Assessment Related Activities
  - Support Projects and Special Studies
  - Complaint Investigations
  - Fish Kill Investigations

Strategy Highlights

- Recently approved by EPA Region 8
- Each key element addressed by program/project
- Describes current monitoring program status and set forth goals for the future
- Identifies current and future staffing and funding needs
- Establishes a state Monitoring Council

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Monitoring Council's Role in State Strategy Implementation

- Represented by agencies and organizations with an interest in water quality monitoring and assessment
- Provide the Health Department with review and comment on the state monitoring strategy
- Make recommendations to improve and enhance state monitoring and assessment programs

Monitoring Council's Role in State Strategy Implementation

- Provide a forum and an opportunity for agencies and organizations to:
  - Share monitoring ideas, data, and results
  - Discuss monitoring program successes and failures
  - Develop or expand partnerships among council member agencies and organizations