Getting Started

Setting up your water quality monitoring plan

Why a plan matters...

- Keeps you on task to accomplish your goals
- Efficient use of resources
- Strategic work within the watershed
- Submit a MWS Monitoring Plan Worksheet



The Why?

- Why are you monitoring?
- What do you want to accomplish?
 - Goals
 - Objectives
 - Expected outcomes



The What?

- What are you monitoring for (parameters)?
- How do you plan to quantify the results?
- Will you participate in Snapshot events?



The Where?

- Where will you monitor?
 - Self-selected OR
 - Assigned
- Do you have access?
- Is the location safe?
- How many sites will you monitor?



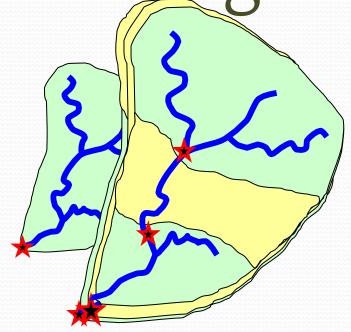
Site Selection

- Bridge monitoring—sampling device
- Adhere to Code of Ethics
- Represent stream
- Avoid manmade structures
- SAFETY



Monitoring Methodologies

- Paired watersheds
- Nested watershed
- Before and After
- Upstream / Downstream





The When?

- When will you monitor?
- When are you available to monitor?
- When are scheduled events occurring?



The When?

- Frequency
 - Habitat—annually, unless significant changes
 - Biologic—bi-annually, low flow
 - Chemical/Physical—monthly
 - Snapshots—Spring, early Fall
- Consistency



The Who?

- Who will monitor with you?
- How many people do you want on your team?
- SAFETY!



Credibility

- Be careful when trying to "interpret" data
- Long time to build, easy to tear down
- Adhere to Code of Ethics
- Contact IDAH₂O with any questions, comments or concerns!



QA/QC

- We want this data to mean something!
- We want this data to be used!
- Keep other Stewards in check!



Questions?

