

7-20-2004

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This is the abstract of a presentation given on Wednesday, 21 July 2004, in session 21 of the UCOWR conference.

Recommended Citation

Bourget, "Water Resources Gateway: An Internet-based Approach for Promoting Water Management and Planning Dialogues" (2004). 2004. Paper 58.

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Water Resources Gateway: An Internet-based Approach for Promoting Water Management and Planning Dialogues

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Abstract

The Corps of Engineers has been in the process of developing an Internet-based approach for promoting stakeholder dialogues related to current and emerging water resources issues. As the Nation faces a broad range of challenges related to water quality and quantity the Water Resources Gateway (www.waterresourcesgateway.com) provides a means for the various water interests to openly explore future management options. Opportunities for multi-interest interaction are largely available only through discrete events, such as the recent National Water Policy Dialogue. In spite of its obvious limitations, the Internet provides an alternate mechanism for disparate interests to communicate on matters such as water governance and participatory planning in an on-going manner. Devised by the Institute for Water Resources, this new site serves as both an information portal and as a means for stakeholders to exchange views on matters related to U.S. water resources. An overview of the site is presented in the hopes of soliciting feedback on the site itself and generating interest in improving the overall dialogue process.

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