

B-WET

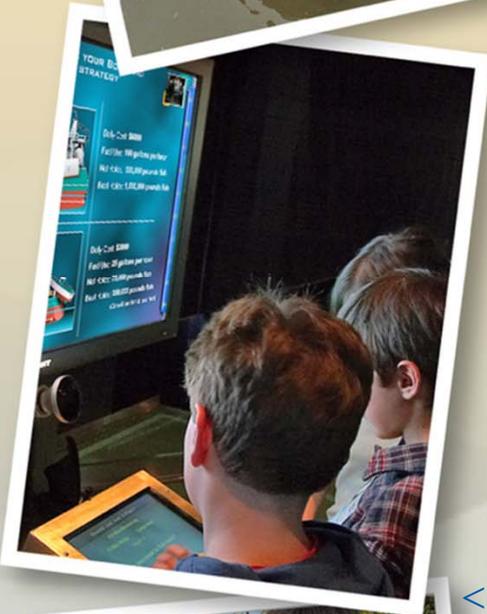
BAY WATERSHED EDUCATION
& TRAINING PROGRAM



B-WET National Evaluation Updates and Opportunities

Bronwen Rice

B-WET National Coordinator



CONFERENCE NUMBER(S): [888-469-0866](tel:8884690866)

PARTICIPANT CODE: 8757472

< *B-WET New England*

November 5, 2013



B-WET National Evaluation Briefing



- Objectives:
 - Understand components and status of national B-WET evaluation
 - Understand how current BWET recipients can participate in the evaluation pilot
- Outline
 - About B-WET Program and Evaluation History
 - National Evaluation System Overview
 - Implementation and Pilot Process

(How you can help!)

NOAA B-WET

Mission:

“to promote environmental literacy in society: citizens exhibit behaviors that protect and restore watersheds and related ocean, coastal and Great Lakes ecosystems.”

- Seven regional programs
- Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (MWEE) model



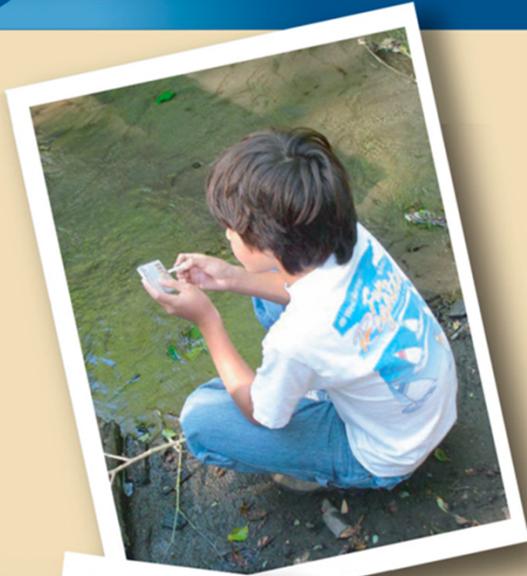
B-WET Regional Programs

MWEEs



- B-WET supports MWEEs for **~75,000** students with 2013 grant funding:
 - Preparation, action & reflection
 - Aligned with standards
 - Employing NOAA sciences
 - Hands on & question/issue/project-oriented
- B-WET supports MWEE professional development for **~2,000** teachers with 2013 grant funding:
 - Aim for minimum 3-day professional development including outdoors
 - Adequate reflection/follow up/support
 - Incentives (stipends, continuing credits)

B-WET Evaluation History



- Building on previous project and region-level evaluation work in California and Chesapeake
 - In 2004 B-WET California enlisted the support of an evaluation consultant to assist grantees in creating project-specific evaluations.
 - B-WET Chesapeake completed a one-time, external evaluation of their grant-funded program in 2007
 - In 2010 began work on the National Evaluation System
- Contributes to broader NOAA-wide evaluation portfolio

B-WET sought to answer questions about our grant-funded MWEE experiences

Implementation



B-WET support for grantees
Grantee & teacher MWEEs

Outcomes

Teachers

Students



“Watershed literacy”
MWEE pedagogy
confidence/intentions



“Watershed literacy”
Science inquiry skills
Behavioral intentions

The evaluation system plan was the result of a complex process:

Learned About Program & Needs Through Documents, Interviews

**Decided on Goals:
Improvement & Accountability**

**Prioritized Evaluation Questions:
Logic Model
Literature Review**

**Determined Design:
Questionnaires**

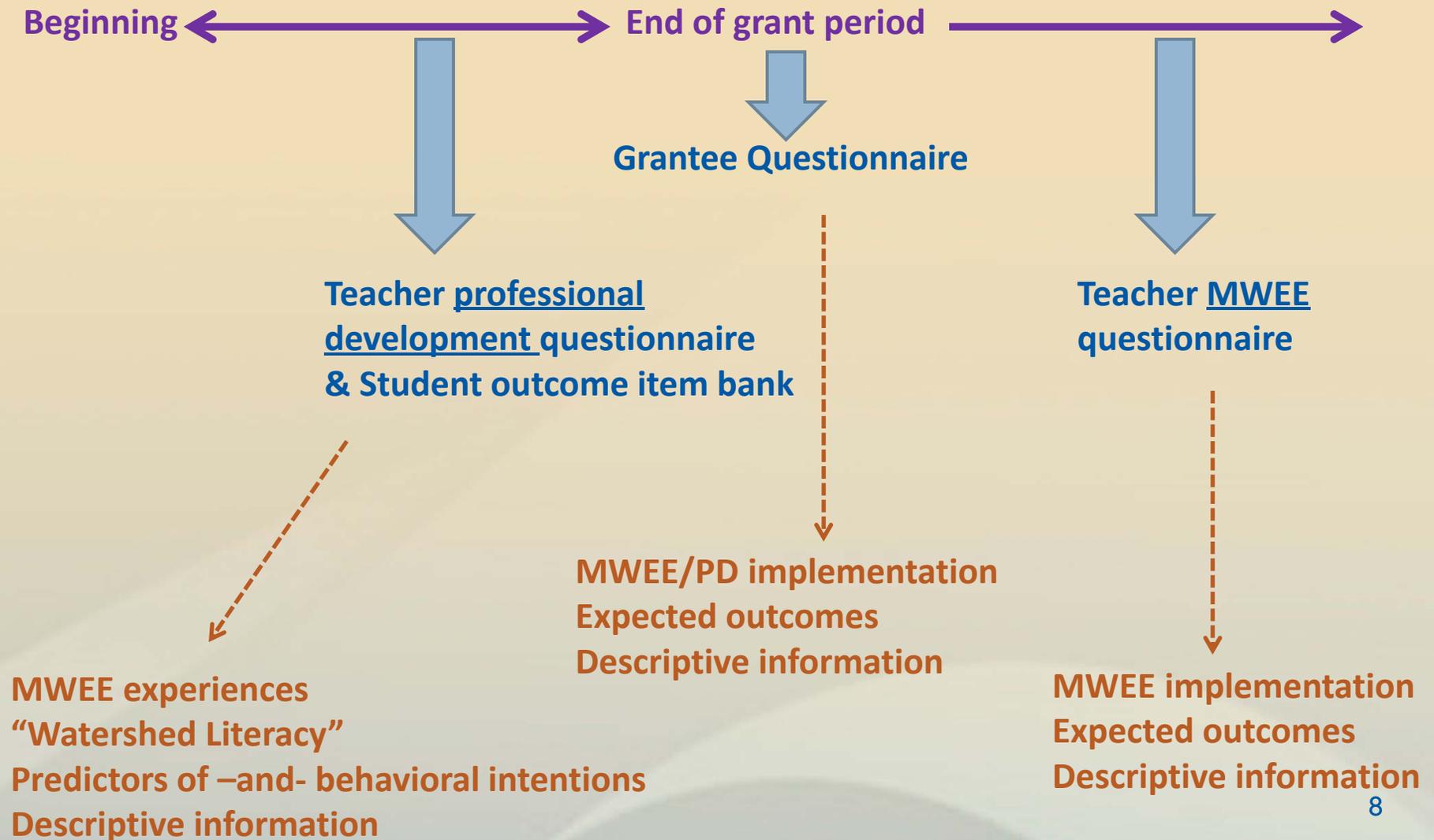
- Grantees - post**
- Teachers - post PD & MWEEs**
- Students - pre & post**

**Developed and Tested Instruments:
Literature Review,
Metrics Matrix**

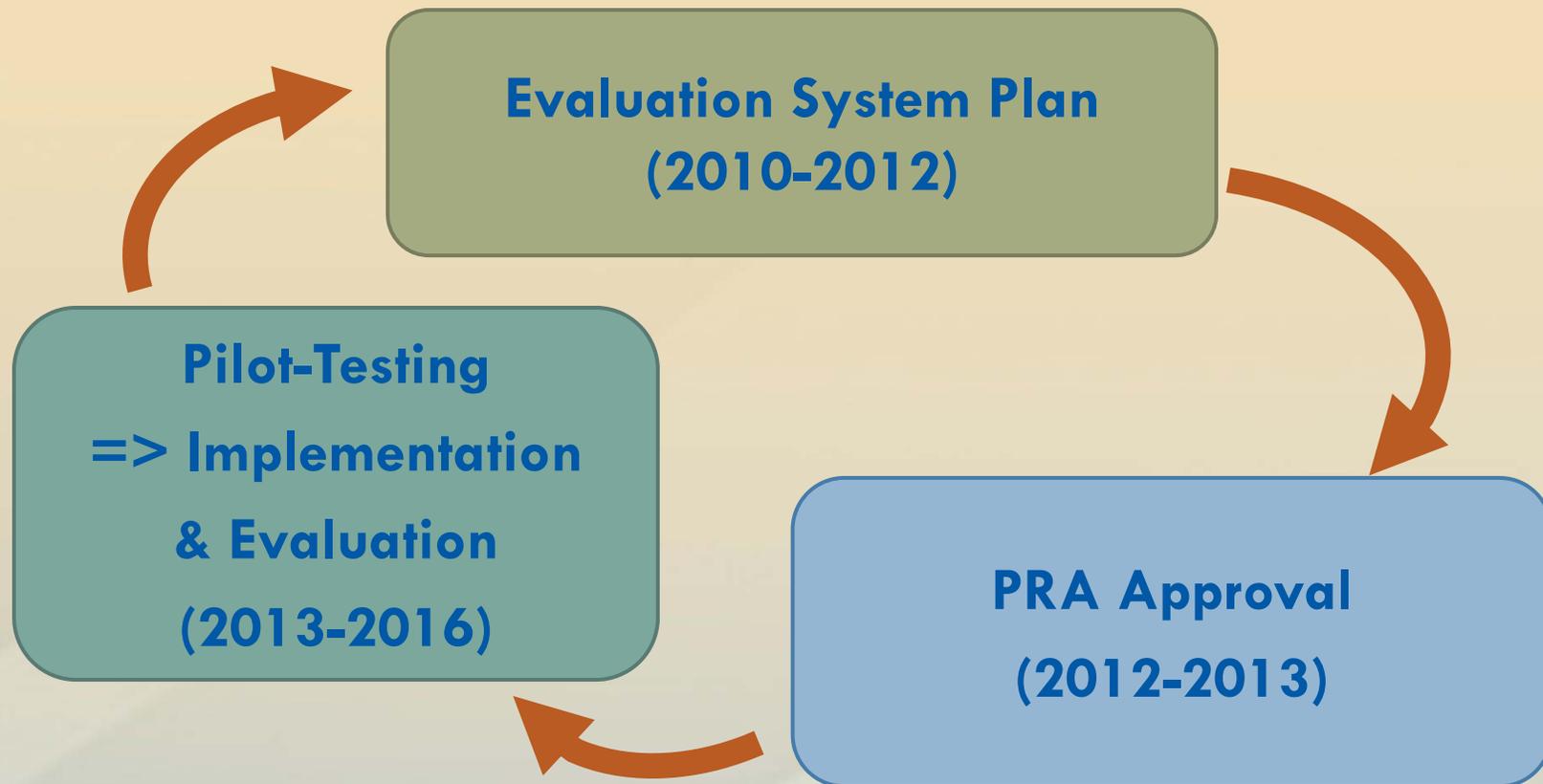
**PRA
Clearance**

**Created & Tested
On-Line Database**

Multiple questionnaires and a student outcome item bank were developed



We have developed an evaluation plan,
obtained PRA approval, and initiated pilot-testing



Pilot Testing: How to help!

- What we will ask **you** (the grantee) to do:
 - **If you have a Teacher PD or Exemplary grant, we will ask you to respond to an online survey to provide contact info for the teachers who participate in your professional development (PD).** If you will have multiple cohorts of teachers, you may complete this survey as many times as needed over the course of your grant. You will be asked for your contact information and a list of teachers' email addresses. No other teacher contact information is requested.
 - **All grantees (regardless of project type) will be asked to complete an online survey at the end of your grant period (or once per year if your grant is multiple years)**

Pilot Testing: How to help!

- What we'll ask your teacher participants to do:
 - The teachers will be asked to **complete an online survey following their PD, and another at the end of the following school year.** The data they provide will be anonymous, and NOAA will not use their email addresses for any other purpose.

Preview of Online Survey

qualtrics.com®



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Q1. Please enter your NOAA B-WET award number. Your award number should include 1) the NOAA region, such as NA12NMF4638049. The award number should include the NOAA region, not your organization, and 2) allow us to link information provided by your project's teachers.

Q2. In case teachers have questions about the B-WET information for NOAA B-WET, will be included in the email.

First Name

Last Name

Organization Name

Your Email Address

Your Phone Number

Q3. In what region are you located? (choose one)

- California
- Chesapeake
- Great Lakes
- Gulf of Mexico

Q4.

Please provide the dates when your professional development interactions with this group of teachers will begin and end. The end date is for all of the professional development training and support that you will provide to this cohort of teachers, so depending on your type of program, it could be 7 days after the start date or 7 months.

Use the format MM/DD/YYYY, such as for June 9, 2013, enter 06/09/2013.

Start Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

End Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

Q5.

Please provide the email addresses of the teachers who participated in your professional development. These email addresses will be used for distributing a NOAA B-WET questionnaire link. The teachers' data will be anonymous.

Please list up to 30 teachers' names and email addresses. If more than 30 participated in your professional development, please complete this survey again to add the additional teachers.

PLEASE CLICK ON THE SUBMIT BUTTON AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE WHEN YOU ARE FINISHED ENTERING EMAIL ADDRESSES. THANK YOU!

Q6. Teacher Contact Information

Email Address

Q7. Teacher Contact Information

Email Address

What will we do with the data?



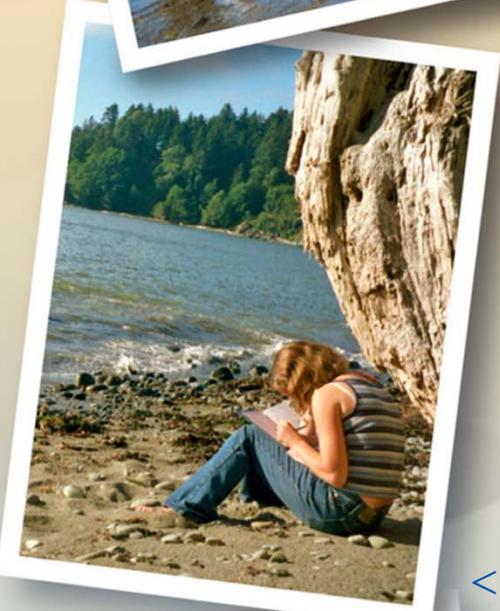
- Ensure anonymity – **intention is not to evaluate an individual teacher or grantee**
- B-WET and NOAA will review data in aggregate at the regional and national levels
- Grantees may view their data in aggregate through password protected private reports
- Hope to be able to provide the aggregate data set to researchers to inform the field (TBD)

Pilot Testing: How to help!



- Please participate in this first round of data collection!
 - Help us troubleshoot and improve the system
 - **Encourage your teachers to respond!**
 - Response rate is a major challenge
 - Wherever possible please try to incorporate participation in the is project into your existing requirements for PD program completion
- This project is not intended to replace your existing project level evaluation

Benefits of B-WET National Evaluation



Current:

- Clarifying national program and evaluation goals
- Learning about evaluation/research methods
- Resources for evaluation (literature review, questionnaires and student item bank)

Future:

- Results to inform changes to MWEEs/B-WET program implementation
- Evidence of impact
- Data for you and researchers

Acknowledgements:



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THANK YOU!

Bronwen Rice
B-WET National Coordinator
Bronwen.Rice@noaa.gov

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