



Association of Idaho Cities
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Federal Water Quality Coalition: Overview & AIC Member Benefits

The Federal Water Quality Coalition (“FWQC”) is a group of industrial companies, municipalities, agricultural entities and trade associations. The Coalition’s members are directly affected by, or have members that are directly affected by, regulatory requirements imposed under the Clean Water Act (CWA). The Coalition participates in federal and regional water quality rulemakings, initiatives and guidance development through negotiation and written comments. Through these activities, the FWQC deals regularly with staff and officials at EPA Headquarters, EPA Regions, and State water quality agencies. The Coalition’s goal is to ensure that water quality programs are focused, flexible, and founded on sound science and common sense. FWQC organizes teams of members to address specific interest areas. Individuals from member organizations may join as many teams as they would like. Teams and activities are currently addressing or have addressed the following “crossover” issues (i.e., significant issues that impact both municipal and industrial interests):

- Ammonia Criteria
- Anti-degradation Review
- Bioaccumulation Factors (BAFs)
- Climate Change & Water Quality
- Contaminated Sediments
- Construction & Development Controls
- Listing of Impaired Waters
- Mercury Criteria & Implementation
- Mixing Zone Restrictions
- NPDES/IPDES Permitting Issues
- NPDES/IPDES Permit Fees
- Nutrient Criteria & Control Requirements
- PCB Criteria, Control Requirements, & Test Methods
- Selenium Criteria & Implementation
- Stormwater Permits
- Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)
- Use Attainability Analyses (UAAs)
- Water Quality Standards
- Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET)

These activities are managed by the Coalition’s Coordinator, Fred Andes of the law firm of Barnes & Thornburg. Fred Andes has a deep understanding of the CWA, having served on the TMDL Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) Committee, worked on the Great Lakes Initiative, and been directly involved in many other national CWA policy development efforts. Within Idaho, Fred and his colleagues have assisted Idaho cities in the review of Idaho’s mixing zone rules and policies, wastewater permit effluent limits and TMDL compliance, and have intervened on legal cases on behalf of States’ authorities to establish human health water quality standards based on local fish consumption data.

AIC proposes the following cost share framework:

City Population	Annual Cost Share Amount
> 25,000	\$500
Between 10,000 & 25,000	\$150
Between 5,000 & 10,000	\$75
Less than 5,000	\$30

Engagement with Idaho AIC FWQC cost share participants will include periodic emails and conference calls on Idaho-specific issues. Additionally, interested cost share participants will have access to the FWQC Issue Matrix; can provide input into draft FWQC comment letters and policy positions; will have access to all materials on the FWQC web site, www.fwqc.org, and may participate on special interest teams, including attending (in person or by phone) meetings with EPA staff.