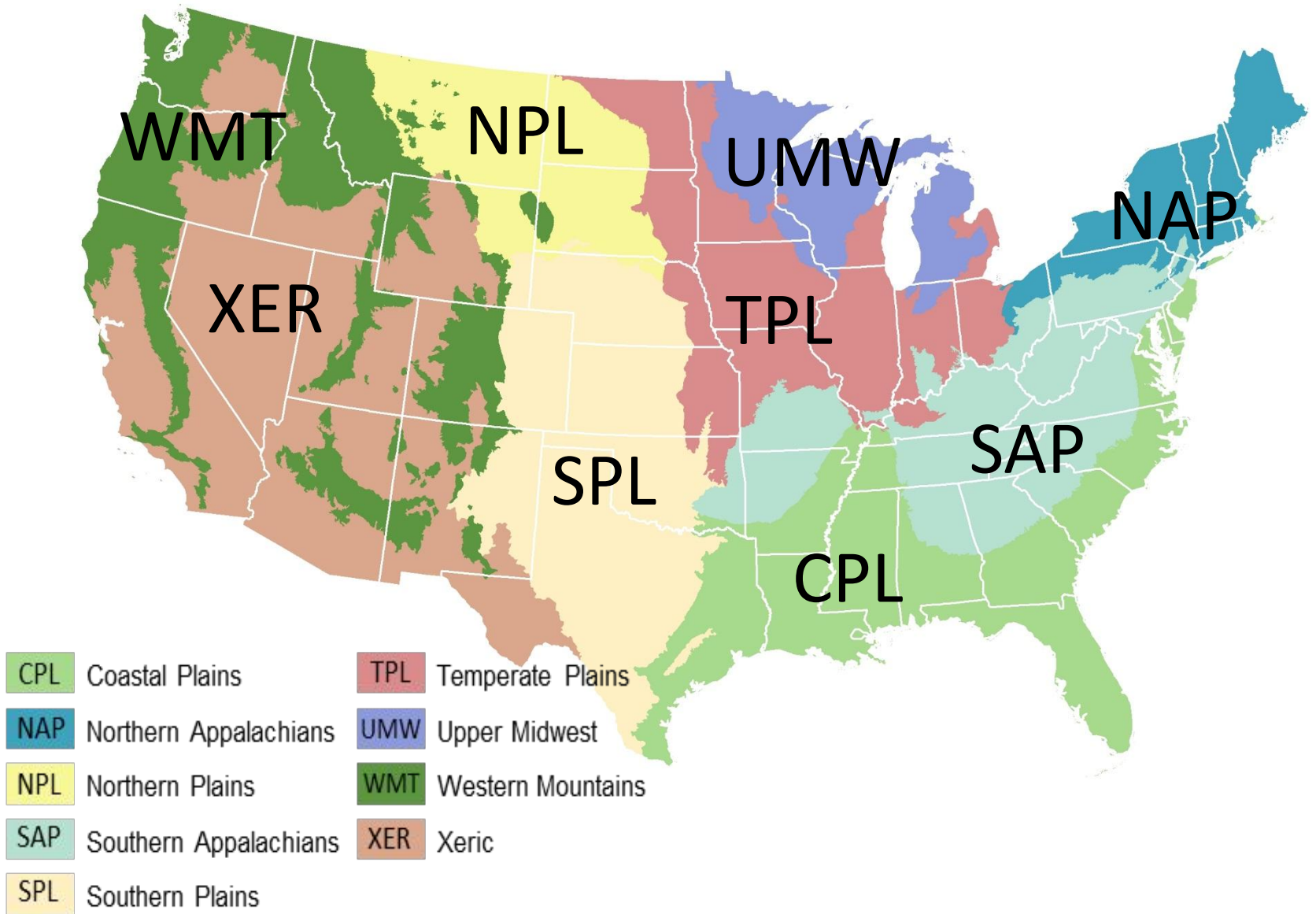


NRSA BREAKOUT

DISCUSSION TOPICS

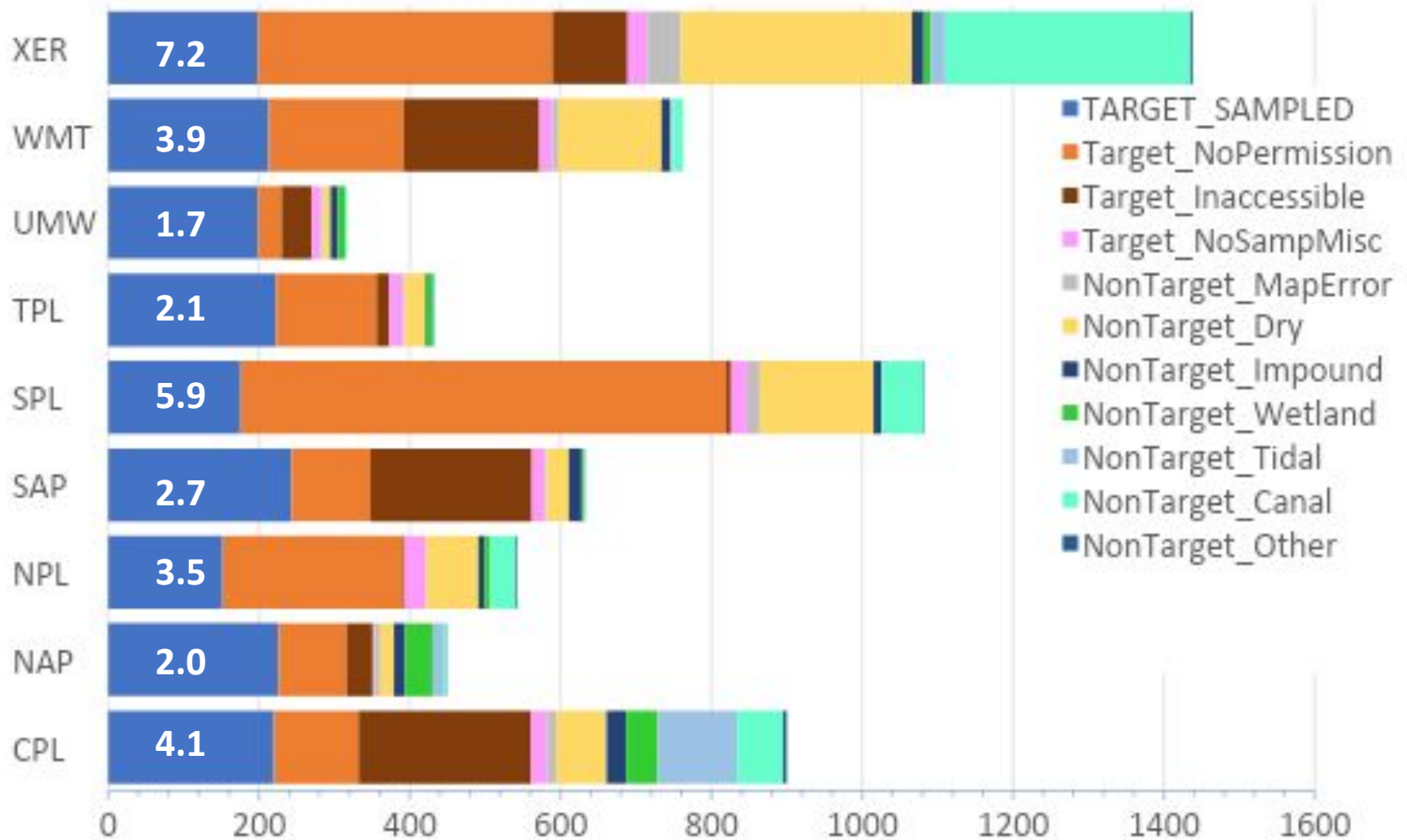
- Target population (the resource we want to monitor)
- Sample frame (map representation of the target population)
- Site evaluation (determining whether a site can/should be sampled)
- General issues
- Will discuss in regional context (as well as overall)

Ecoregions used in National Aquatic Resource Surveys



NRSA 2018-2019:

Number of sites by Ecoregion and Site Evaluation Category



TARGET POPULATION

(the resource we want to monitor)

- NRSA target population starts with headwater streams and ends at the ocean, excluding impoundments, wetlands, and canals.
- Does NRSA target population match state monitoring priorities?
- Mileage is expanding and contracting in real time (e.g., intermittent and tidal reaches); should we track the factors causing that change?
- Summarize: what are the biggest issues regarding definition of the target population?

SAMPLE FRAME

(map representation of the target population)

- How good is the sample frame? Does it vary by region?
- Has better map technology improved the sample frame? Do we see ways to improve it further?
- Are “wrong water body” sites a problem (tidal reaches, canals, wetlands, impoundments)?
- Summarize: What are biggest challenges to establishing a good sample frame?

SITE EVALUATION

(determining whether a site can/should be sampled)

- Is lack of permission a real problem?
- Is aerial imagery reliable?
- What constitutes “inaccessible?”
- Is it relatively easy to make accurate determinations (e.g. target, nontarget, temporarily nonsampleable, etc?)
- Is unpredictable hydrology a problem?
- Summarize: what are the biggest challenges to accurate site evaluation?

GENERAL QUESTIONS

- How costly is site selection (recon, permissions)?
- Ratio of sites needed to achieve sample number varies greatly by region: why?
- Identify areas of most difficulty, by ecoregion