# FCW Freshwater Outreach Resource Kit

## Strengthening Partnerships Between Scientists and K-12 Classrooms

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# FCW Outreach Network

What is the **FCW Outreach Network?**

> *A network designed to support meaningful partnerships between K-12 teachers and university scientists and outreach professionals across Wisconsin.*

# FCW Freshwater Outreach Resource Kit

**A collection of research-informed resources, activities, communication tips, and partnership ideas designed to help UW scientists and K-12 teachers work together to support water science education and student engagement**

**Teachers want real-world experiences for their students.**

**UW scientists want to engage with schools**

**Sharing limited resources & increasing capacity**

# Project Goal

**Create a practical resource to support:**

- Classroom visits
- On-campus experiences
- School programs
- Research partnerships

# Methods

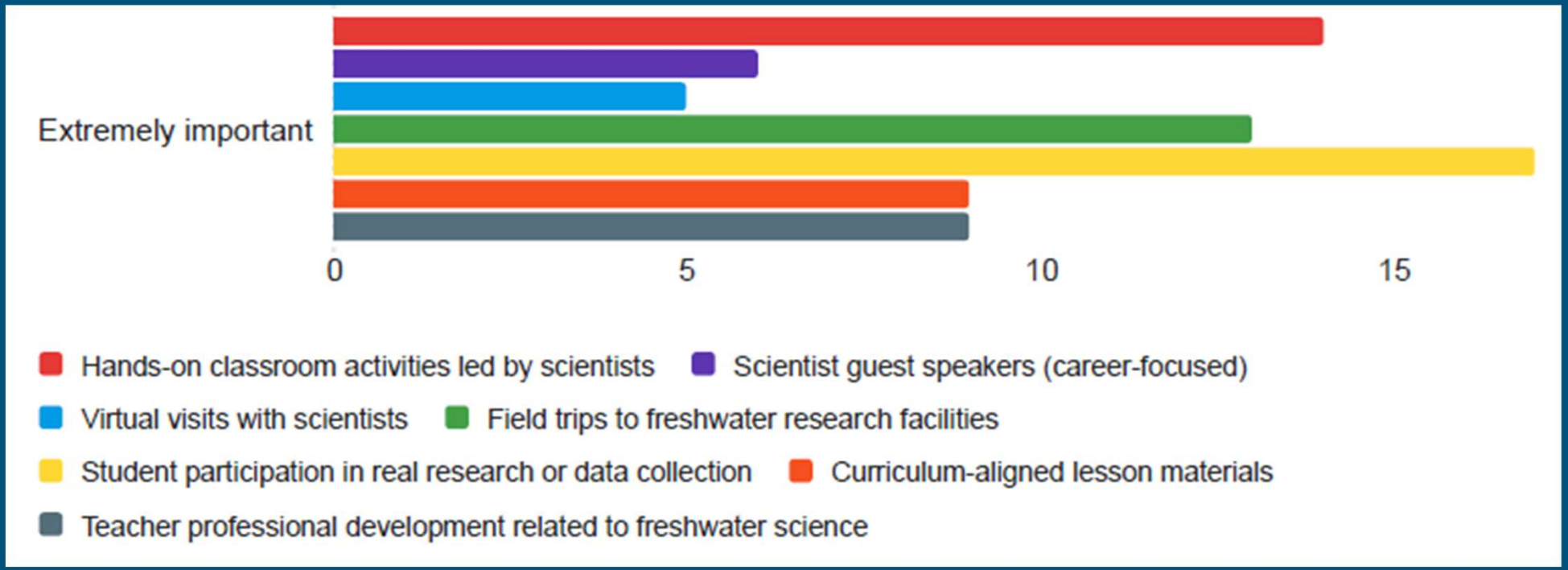
**Mixed-methods approach:**

- Resource review
- Teacher surveys
- UW scientists/outreach professionals focus groups

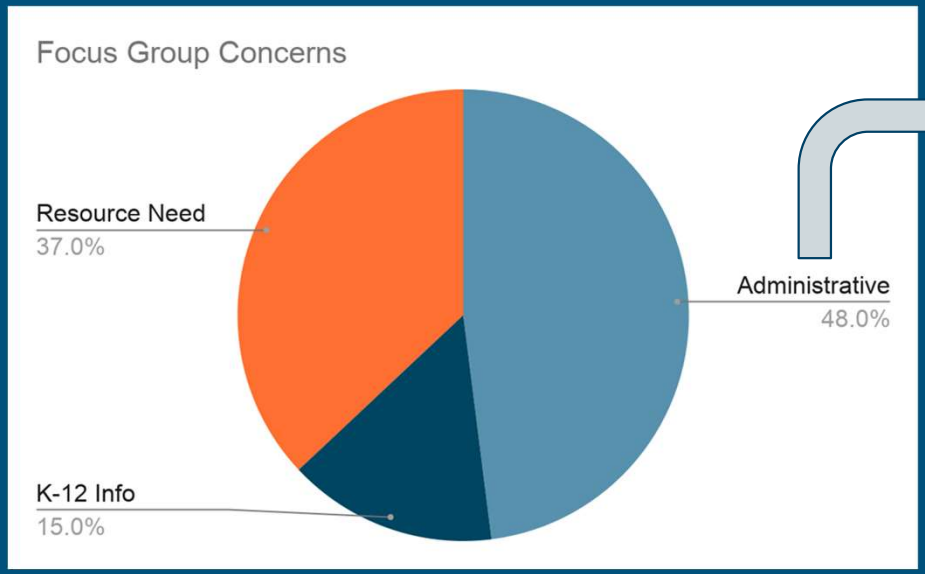
**A mixed methods approach allowed me to gather both broad trends and detailed perspectives, creating a more complete understanding of the needs, barriers, and opportunities of  teacher-scientist partnerships.**

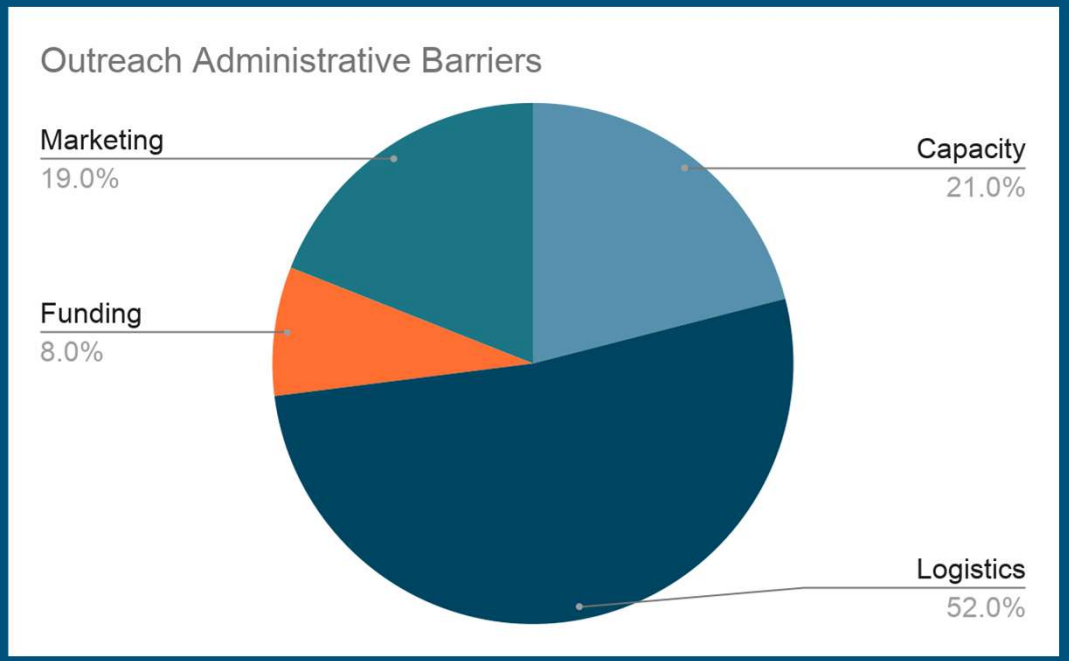
# Key Findings-Teacher Survey

**How important would each of the following outreach activities be for your classroom?**



# Key Findings–Focus Group



# FCW Freshwater Outreach Resource Kit

- Introduction
  - Developing the Resource
- Four Ways to Engage
- Outreach Activity Resources
  - Demonstrations
  - Freshwater Data Sources
  - Classroom Equipment & Kit Loans
  - Lesson Plans & Curriculum Links
- Support for Scientists
  - Communication Tips
  - Checklist for Working with Minors
  - Incorporating Careers
  - Example 2-min. Career Talk
- Campus Visit Checklist
- Finding Water Professionals in Your Community