



ENVIRONMENTAL LAW INSTITUTE®

AN INDEPENDENT, NON-PARTISAN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND POLICY RESEARCH CENTER.

2017 NATIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR CWA 303(d) LISTING & TMDL STAFF

MAKING THE IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE

National Conservation Training Center
Shepherdstown, West Virginia
May 31 - June 2, 2017

TRAINING WORKSHOP AGENDA

**Made possible through a cooperative agreement with the
United States Environmental Protection Agency**

PURPOSE OF THE TRAINING WORKSHOP

To provide an opportunity for staff from state and territorial Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Listing and TMDL programs and tribal water quality programs to learn about and discuss new opportunities and practical approaches to address difficult water quality and program challenges.

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

- Learn about **strategies and practices employed** by states, tribes, and territories to make progress in common but challenging circumstances.
- Learn about the **improvements to tools and data systems** for decision-making and water quality data reporting.
- Learn **diverse approaches to establish and sustain relationships** with various stakeholder groups.
- Learn about and discuss the new **CWA 303(d) TAS rule**.
- Enhance the **network of listing and TMDL professionals** by expanding and improving communication among the states, tribes, and territories and with EPA regions and headquarters.

OUTPUT

A final report summarizing presentations and discussions from the training workshop. The report will include a summary of individual input from workshop participants and may serve as a reference for program personnel implementing their responsibilities consistent with the Vision.

AGENDA

Tuesday, May 30

Arrival, Check-In, and Registration

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 2:00 pm – 8:00 pm | NCTC Check-In and Training Workshop Registration
Main Lobby |
| 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm | Dinner
Commons Dining Room |
| 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm | Informal Welcome
Ding Darling Lodge, Lounge Area |

6:30 am – 8:15 am Breakfast
Commons Dining Room

8:30 am – 9:00 am **Welcome**
Auditorium

Greeting

Adam Schempp, ELI

Opening Remarks

*John Goodin, EPA HQ
Alex Dunn, ECOS*

9:00 am – 10:00 am **Session #1**
Water Quality Framework
Auditorium

**Overview of the Water Quality Framework and Demonstration of
the ATTAINS Tool**

Dwane Young, EPA HQ

Session #1 Outcomes:

- *Participants will better understand the changes that have been made to the Water Quality Framework, and the next phase of implementation under this effort.*
- *Participants will be familiar with how the Integrated Reporting process and performance measures will work in the new ATTAINS.*
- *Participants will know what developments in water quality data management tools are on the horizon.*

10:00 am – 10:20 am Morning Break

10:30 am – 11:00 am **Introductions and Training Workshop Overview**
Auditorium

Opening Remarks

Jim Havard, EPA HQ

Overview of the Agenda

Adam Schempp, ELI

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Session #2
The CWA 303(d) TAS Rule
Auditorium

Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303(d) Treatment in a Similar Manner as States (TAS) Rule: Increasing Opportunities for Tribes in Water Quality Restoration and Protection

Ruth Chemerys, EPA HQ

Treatment as a State for §303(d) Authority

Nancy Schuldt, Fond du Lac

State and Tribal Cooperative Work at Red Lake Reservation, MN

Shane Bowe, Red Lake Nation

James Courneya, MN

Facilitated Discussion

Session #2 Outcomes:

- *Participants will better understand the CWA 303(d) TAS rule and how it may be implemented.*
- *Participants will know more about how other states and tribes already are collaborating on water quality assessment, planning, and plan implementation.*

Potential Discussion Questions:

- In what ways are states and tribes working well together on common water resources, and how can collaboration be improved?
- What are the opportunities and obstacles for state-tribal data sharing?

12:00 pm – 12:30 pm

Session #3a
Introduction to the Particularly Difficult Challenges
Auditorium

Nutrients (Technical)

Trevor Flynn, KS

Nutrients (Implementation)

Helen Bresler, WA

Mercury and PCBs

David Croxton, EPA R10

Chlorides

Kimberly Groff, MA

Bacteria

Amy Feingold, R4

Pollution from Active and Legacy Mining

Jason Gildea, EPA R8

12:30 pm – 1:15 pm Lunch
Commons Dining Room

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm **Session #3b**
Implementation Strategies for Addressing Particularly Difficult Challenges
Breakout Rooms, Various Locations

This session will consist of six breakout groups, with each group being assigned a different one of the selected water quality challenges. A pair of moderators will lead each breakout group through a discussion of the challenge, from the specifics of the obstacles, to strategies for overcoming them, to the results of past and present efforts, and how EPA might be able to assist moving forward. Each participant is assigned to a group based on his/her topic preference expressed prior to the training workshop.

3:00 pm – 3:20 pm Afternoon Break

3:30 pm – 4:30 pm **Session #3c**
Report Back and Discussion
Auditorium

Nutrients (Technical)

Taimur Shaikh, EPA R6

Nutrients (Implementation)

Selena Medrano, EPA R6

Mercury and PCBs

Traci Iott, CT

Chlorides

Dave Werbach, EPA R5

Bacteria

Alan Wittmuss, SD

Pollution from Active and Legacy Mining

Jason Sutter, AZ

Facilitated Discussion

Session #3 Outcomes:

- *Participants will be more familiar with the strategies that others have used to address certain water quality problems, what has worked and not worked, and why.*
- *Participants will have developed new strategies for addressing these water quality problems.*
- *Participants will have fresh ideas for addressing their own water quality challenges, and resource contacts for more information.*

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Session #4
Innovations in TMDL Development
Auditorium

Hydrology Calibration with PRISM

Mindy Ramsey, WV

TMDL Prioritization, Public Process, and Streamlining

Erin Rasnake, FL

TMDL Calculators Facilitate Allocation

Wade Cantrell, SC

Facilitated Discussion

Session #4 Outcome:

- *Participants will know about more tools and approaches that others are using to develop TMDLs with better information, with more buy-in, and that are more implementation-ready.*

Potential Discussion Questions:

- What new models or stressor identification tools have you found helpful in developing TMDLs?
- In what ways have you been integrating other programs or agencies into TMDL development?
- What tools or procedures have you been using to improve stakeholder engagement in TMDL development?

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Dinner
Commons Dining Room

8:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Bonfire

6:30 am – 8:15 am Breakfast
Commons Dining Room

8:30 am – 10:00 am **Session #5a**
Stakeholder Engagement
Auditorium

This session will bring together individuals who have worked on water quality issues from a variety of perspectives and with a wide range of partners to share their individual experiences and lessons learned, through brief introductions, a question and answer period, and facilitated discussion. The subsequent breakout sessions will allow participants more in-depth facilitated conversations with several members of this panel.

10:00 am – 10:20 am Morning Break

10:30 am – 11:15 am **Session #5b**
Engagement Breakout Session I
Breakout Rooms, Various Locations

Each breakout group, led by a moderator and with the participation of one or more of the stakeholder participants, will discuss communication and collaboration with an identified category of stakeholder. Each participant is assigned to a group based on his/her preference expressed prior to the training workshop.

11:30 am – 12:15 pm **Session #5c**
Engagement Breakout Session II
Breakout Rooms, Various Locations

Participants will change rooms, as assigned, to discuss communication and collaboration with a different category of stakeholder with another moderator and one or more stakeholder participants.

Session #5 Outcomes:

- *Participants will be more familiar with the diversity of interests, needs, and potential contributions of CWA 303(d) Program stakeholders.*
- *Participants will have gained practical lessons about engagement from the stakeholder participants and from their state, territorial, and tribal counterparts.*

12:15 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch
Commons Dining Room

1:15 pm – 3:00 pm **Session #6**
Breakouts by Region
Breakout Rooms, Various Locations

This session will consist of ten breakout groups, one for each region, each with state, tribal, territorial, and EPA participants from that region and from EPA headquarters.

Session #6 Outcomes:

- *Participants will better understand the needs, challenges, and views of others in their respective regions.*
- *Participants will have resolved, or at least advanced conversation on, issues important to the states, tribes, and territories of the region.*

3:00 pm – 3:20 pm Afternoon Break

3:30 pm – 5:30 pm
(variable durations) **Optional Small Group Trainings**

- *Recovery Potential Screening tool (with Preliminary Healthy Watersheds Assessment data)*
154 Instructional West
- *USGS Water Balance Model Futures database and web portal*
109 Instructional East
- *Retrieval and analysis R tools off the Water Quality Portal*
G24 Instructional East & G30 Instructional East
- *Causal Assessment, Stressor Identification, and CADDIS*
Auditorium

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm Dinner
Commons Dining Room

7:30 pm – 8:30 pm **Informal Evening Sessions**

- *Building and Supporting a Network of Modelers*
Ding Darling Lodge, Lounge Area
- *Telling the Water Story: Feedback Session on the New Public Website*
Rachel Carson Lodge, Lounge Area

Friday, June 2

Training Workshop Day 3

6:30 am – 8:15 am Breakfast
Commons Dining Room

8:30 am – 10:00 am **Session #7**
Urban Waters
Auditorium

Using CADDIS for Causal Assessment in Urban Streams

Kate Schofield, EPA HQ

**Communicating the Challenges of Urban Streams through Better
Biological Assessments**

Will Isenberg, VA

**Moving Beyond Assessments to Successful Implementation: Tools
for Use with Urban Waters**

Traci Iott, CT

**Leveraging Policy & Public Funds to Restore Waters in the
District of Columbia**

Jeff Seltzer, DC

The Urban Waters Program at U.S. EPA

Roy Simon, EPA HQ

Facilitated Discussion

Session #7 Outcomes:

- *Participants will better understand the range of challenges regarding urban stream impairments as well as strategies for addressing them.*
- *Participants will know additional means of communicating impairments, goals, and progress in the urban stream context.*

Potential Discussion Questions:

- How have you balanced communicating the challenges of urban streams while still maintaining stakeholder confidence?
- What other obstacles have you found to water quality restoration in urban streams?
- With what could you use help in this context?
- In what instances have you seen progress being made from implementation efforts?

10:00 am – 10:20 am Morning Break

10:30 am – 11:30 am

Session #8
Nonpoint Source Integration
Auditorium

National Level Activities

Cyd Curtis, EPA HQ
Jim Havard, EPA HQ

The Bad Axe Creek TMDL/WMP Hybrid

Molly Rippke, MI

Update: Nebraska's 5-Alt

Laura Johnson, NE

Prairie Dog Creek Watershed Plan to TMDL

Sol Brich, WY

Session #8 Outcomes:

- *Participants will know more about collaboration opportunities in the course of nonpoint source priority setting.*
- *Participants will be familiar with more examples of integrating TMDLs and nine-element watershed plans.*

11:30 am – 12:00 pm

Training Workshop Wrap-Up
Auditorium

Summary and Next Steps

Jim Havard, EPA HQ
Adam Schempp, ELI

Send-Off Remarks

Jeff Berckes, IA

12:00 pm

Lunch
Commons Dining Room