

COLORADO (REGION 8)

A Snapshot of Colorado's TMDL Program (August 2008)

The Basics

Key Agency/Department & website

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq/assessment/TMDL/tmdlmain.html

TMDL Program Structure/Placement

Housed in Water Quality Control Division / Watershed Section,
 Assessment Unit

By the Numbers

Number of Impaired Waters 139

Number of Causes of Impairment 216

Top Five Causes of Impairment

1. Metals (other than mercury)
2. Pathogens
3. pH
4. Organic Enrichment/Oxygen Depletion
5. Sediment

Approximate Number of TMDLs Developed Annually 40

Total Number of TMDLs Approved (1995 to present, incl. any est'd by EPA) 886

Total Number of TMDLs Approved in 2005/2006/2007 166/75/71

2008 303d/Integrated Report Submission Status (Date) EPA has taken
 final action

Approximate Number of FTEs Working on TMDL Issues 3 (going to 4)

TMDLs

EPA Under Consent Decree to Develop TMDLs? Y (ends 6/30/2008)

Broad-Scale? (*e.g.*, watershed, multi-jurisdictional, etc.)

Non-TMDL Options

Use of Non-TMDL Options to Address Impaired Waters?

Funding

Approximate Annual Budget for TMDL Program \$350,000

Primary Source(s) of TMDL Program Funding federal 106 funds;
 some past state
 funding

TMDL Implementation

TMDL Implementation Required? N

Innovations

Example(s) of Any Innovative Approach(es) Employed

Have a lot of experience writing TMDLs to address water
 quality degradation from legacy hard rock mining; this has

involved extensive work with state/EPA Superfund and
Voluntary Clean Up Program (VCUP) staff

TMDLs that Represent a Particular Achievement

--Kerber Creek TMDL

[http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq/assessment/TMDL/tmdls.pdf/
Kerber_Creek_TMDL_draft_With_EPA_comments_Ver_2.pdf](http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq/assessment/TMDL/tmdls.pdf/Kerber_Creek_TMDL_draft_With_EPA_comments_Ver_2.pdf)

--Silver Creek TMDL

[http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq/assessment/TMDL/tmdls.pdf/
Silver_Creek_TMDL_final.pdf](http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq/assessment/TMDL/tmdls.pdf/Silver_Creek_TMDL_final.pdf)

Barriers

Top Three Barriers to TMDL Development

1. EPA
2. lack of sufficient data
3. stakeholders

Top Three Barriers to TMDL Implementation

1. lack of funding
2. lack of Good Samaritan legislation
3. process