EPA Follow-up to the April 2011 Training Workshop on CWA § 303(d) Listing & TMDLs

John Goodin, Chief Watershed Branch USEPA November 9, 2011

Category	Method	Action	Status/Target Date
	Program Guidance		Engaged ACWA to develop a long- term program vision. Initiated August 2011. Complete by June 2012. (See attached PowerPoint "Evolution of CWA Section 303d Listing and TMDL program Vision")
Public engagement		Explore revisiting TMDL measures (WQ-08(a,b)) for 2014 National Water Program Guidance to identify ways to better measure the success of the CWA § 303(d) Listing and TMDL Program capture environmental/water quality improvement and restoration	TBD, will align with long-term program vision exercise

Category	Method	Action	Status/Target Date
	Best Practices	Share draft compendium of nutrient-related Listing and TMDL Practices	December, 2011
	Program Guidance	Communicate to EPA Water Quality Standards Program states' desire for development of tech-based limits for nitrogen and phosphorus	Completed (July 2011)
Nutrients		Explore coordination with the EPA Water Quality Standards Program on developing questions and answers (Qs & As) or other documents to answer state questions on the nutrient framework memo	Q & A session during ELI webinar, November 2011
	New Developments post-April 2011 meeting	Released Nitrogen and Phosphorus Pollution Data Access Tool (www.epa.gov/nutrientpollution/npdat)	Completed (July 2011)

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	Best Practices		November, 2011
Downstream Impacts/ Multi-jurisdictional TMDLs		webpage on tools and approaches to TMDLs involving air issues (e.g., modeling, 319(g) conference, example TMDLs)	November, 2011 (see attachment, "Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and Mercury- Overview of Resources on the EPA Webpage")
	Program Guidance	Circulate draft Multi-jurisdictional TMDL Memo to the states	November, 2011

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Stormwater	Best Practices	Provide Residual Designation Examples (e.g., Idaho, New England states) to ELI	Completed; Posted on ELI website http://www.eli.org/pdf/RDA_VT.pdf
	Technical Tools	Provide examples of <i>E. coli</i> TMDLs and permit targets based on impervious cover TMDLs	November, 2011 (see attachments, "Examples of E. coli TMDLs," "Final Memo Summarizing DC Bacteria," and "Guidance Memo No. 03-2012")
	New Developments post-April 2011 meeting	Since the April workshop, EPA is considering comments received on the 2010 Stormwater Memo	Ongoing

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	Technical Tools	Coordinate with the EPA Water Quality Standards Program on role of secondary impacts, NPS, subsequent TMDLs and their relevance to Standards Program rulemaking or future guidance	Complete by May 2012
Antidegradation	Program Guidance	hold first meeting	Workgroup formed (September, 2011) (see attachment, "Workgroup: Antidegration") First meeting December, 2011

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	Technical Tools	Publicize recovery potential approach	Final EPA website available November 2011 [www.epa.gov/recovery potential/]; Watershed Academy webinar TBD 2012
		Seek interested Western states (ID, OR, WA, AZ, ND, R6, R8, R9, R10 came forward)	Completed (Spring 2011)
Recovery Potential	2011 meeting	EPA offered a webinar to Region 6 (Dallas) states and a total of 13 states dialed in. This included several western states as recommended in the April meeting.	Completed (June, 2011)
		EPA is working with selected states to highlight restoration and protection planning synergy by carrying out Recovery Potential Screening on healthy watersheds along with impaired watersheds. This is being demonstrated in Vermont and Massachusetts with other state projects under consideration.	Underway

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	Best Practices	Collect and post on our website state examples of PCB TMDLs (including examples of implementation language and sources of PCBs)	November, 2011
		Identify existing 4bs for legacy pollutants (including PCBs)	Completed (2009 WEF paper, http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/lawsg uidance/cwa/tmdl/upload/11A.pdf)
		Identify good opportunities for legacy pollutant 4bs	Complete in Spring 2011
Legacy Pollutants		Issue memorandum on developing TMDLs for waters impaired by PCBs	November, 2011
		Investigate role that CWA 303d Listing and TMDLs play for Superfund	Completed (see attachment, "Legacy Pollutants Session Follow-up…")
		Reminded EPA HQ and Regional Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response management that WQS can be ARARs and TMDLs can serve as targets for site cleanup through ongoing collaboration dialogue	Completed (June, 2011)

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Climate Change	Technical Tools	Share findings from Lake Champlain TMDL analysis and TMDL climate pilots	Winter 2011
Microbial Source Tracking	Technical Tools	Post Region 10's "Using Microbial Source Tracking to Support TMDL Development and Implementation" on website	Completed (May 2011) (http://www.epa.gov/region10/pdf/tmdl/ms t_for_tmdls_guide_04_22_11.pdf)
		Initiate cross-programmatic discussion, research universe of Treatment as a State for CWA § 303(d)	Underway
Treatment as a State		Respond to tribe regarding policy requirements for tribes interested in 'Treatment as a state' (TAS) for CWA section 303(d) TMDLs and Listings	Underway; Complete by January 2012
General follow-up		ELI finalized the report and proceedings from the April 2011 TMDL & Listing Workshop	Completed (http://www.eli.org/Program_Areas/state_ tmdl_center.cfm) (November, 2011)
		ELI will convene 6-month virtual meeting check-in with States	Completed (November, 2011)

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	Best Practices	Compile a set of examples of "successful" TMDLs and their associated RA (that is, those TMDLs which have successfully led to implementation of NPS controls) in order to glean characteristics of effective RA demonstrations	Underway; Complete by Summer 2012
Reasonable Assurance	Technical Tools	Explore sharing information on suites of BMPs (specific sets of BMPs to avoid mere buffet of examples) appropriate for land use types, sources, and impact levels, to help identify NPS controls likely to achieve the LA—and provide those that are part of the NPS handbooks and NRCS handbooks to advance their use	Share with states list of BMP info November, 2011 (see attachment, "Resources List") EPA will initiate a pilot to work with specific states in a region to develop a region-specific BMP approach in 2012
		Explore distributing and publicizing BMP optimization tools to help assess and achieve efficient NPS load reductions	EPA is seeking to host series of webinars in 2012
	Program Guidance	Collaborate with states to discuss a simple RA checklist and other approaches to bolster likelihood of implementation	Underway - will build on examples of TMDLs with good RA, implementation plans or TMDLs effectively implemented
	New Developments post-April 2011 meeting	Since the April workshop, WB plans to conduct study on the incremental level of effort associated with enhanced RA activities and their subsequent environmental benefits to NPS plan development and implementation	Initiated; Complete by Summer 2012