Review of TMDL Process and Next Steps

Allen Berthold
Texas Water Resources Institute
Topics Discussed to Date

- January 30, 2012
  - Overview of Water Quality Standards and Previous Efforts
  - Alternatives Available to Address Water Quality
- March 28, 2012
  - Overview of Water Quality in Impaired Waterbodies
  - Review of Alternatives Available to Address Water Quality
  - Decision was to proceed with TMDL
Review of TMDL

- A budget for pollution into the stream
- Defines the maximum amount (or load) of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive on a daily basis and still meet water quality standards
- Allocates pollutant loads between point and non-point sources
- Includes a margin of safety
- Requires adoption by TCEQ and must be approved by USEPA
TMDL Allocations

\[ \text{TMDL} = \text{WLA} + \text{LA} + \text{MOS} \]

- WLA = Waste load Allocation = Regulated sources
- LA = Load Allocation = Non-regulated sources
- MOS = Margin of Safety
TMDL: Wastewater Treatment Facilities

- Included in the WLA of the TMDL Equation
- Permit limits for *E. coli* concentration in discharges
- Monitoring requirements for *E. coli*
- Other stakeholder initiated actions may be included in the Implementation plan
TMDL: Urban and Suburban Storm Water (TPDES MS4 Permits)

- Also included in the WLA of the TMDL Equation
- TPDES Storm water permits must be consistent with TMDL and Implementation Plan
- USEPA does not require numeric limits in MS4 permits, but TMDLs include an aggregate allocation for all permitted stormwater sources
- Storm water quality improvement strategies will be identified in the Implementation Plan
- Management Measures will be established by stakeholders
TMDL: Non-Regulated Sources

- LA in TMDL Equation
- Management Measures will be established by stakeholders
Review of TMDL Implementation Plans

- The I-Plan is developed to make continuous improvement toward the environmental target of TMDL; it:
  - Prescribes measures necessary to mitigate human-caused sources of that pollutant in the waterbody
  - Specifies limits for point source dischargers & recommends best management practices for both point and nonpoint sources
  - Can be revised by stakeholders in accordance with the principles of adaptive management
  - The initial plan requires approval by the State, but not the EPA
TMDL Implementation Plans

- Implementation Plan
  - Developed by local stakeholders (1-2 years)
  - Typically a 3-5 year plan of activities
  - Revised periodically to evaluate the process of improving water quality and revised as necessary
  - Renewed at the end of the time period of the plan
Next Steps

- Decide on structure of stakeholder group
  - (Ex. Coordination Committee) that will submit the plan to TCEQ for approval
  - Approves control actions and management measures

- Estimated timelines for TMDL and I-Plan:
  - 1-2 years

- Keep in mind that there is much overlap between the two but they are two separate documents
# Timeline for TMDL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Meet with stakeholders to discuss modeling strategy</td>
<td>September 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Begin data review and compilation for model(s)</td>
<td>October 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop model(s) and describe preliminary (Technical Support) results within the context of TMDL equation</td>
<td>October 2012 – March 2013</td>
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<td>Present preliminary results to stakeholders and get feedback</td>
<td>March 2013</td>
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<td>Finalize Technical Support Document</td>
<td>April 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop TMDL document in TCEQ format and submit TMDL Report to TCEQ</td>
<td>May 2013</td>
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<td>Address comments to TMDL Report</td>
<td>May 2013 – August 2013</td>
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### Timeline for I-Plan

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<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Decision on preferred structure of stakeholder group</td>
<td>Tonight</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meet with stakeholders (or groups) with examples and expectations</td>
<td>July 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Begin determining management measures</td>
<td>Roughly September 2012</td>
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<td>Discussions of Management Measures; presentation of draft I-Plan content</td>
<td>September 2012– March 2013</td>
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<td>Address comments from Stakeholder meetings</td>
<td>March 2013 – May 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Present final draft TMDL I-Plan to Stakeholders</td>
<td>June 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Send final draft TMDL I-Plan to TCEQ</td>
<td>July 2013</td>
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Questions/Discussion

Kevin Wagner, PhD
Texas Water Resources Institute
klwagner@ag.tamu.edu
979-845-2649

Allen Berthold
Texas Water Resources Institute
taberthold@ag.tamu.edu
361-318-8780