

Synthesis of PCB TMDL Discussion

TCW March 2022
Synthesis Summary

Roundtable Themes, Strategies, Takeaways

- Many TMDLs existing in CB are from the “Consent decree era” (pre-2017). Very few approved since 2017.
- EPA TMDL Vision 2.0 expected end of FY22 – with a focus on improved strategy to meet expectations and handle litigation
 - Will include guidance for ARP approach – pilot in DE (St. Jones)
- Strategies vary among Bay states for TMDL implementation
 - MD-DC: Source trackdown, MS4 focus
 - DE: PMP focus, ARP pilot
 - VA: hybrid MS4 and PMP

Roundtable Themes, Strategies, Takeaways

- Guidance document status:
 - MD Source trackdown
 - VA Source trackdown and PMP guidance
 - DE PMP guidance
 - EPA TMDL Vision 2.0

*Consider a document comparison and promotion for 23-24
Research LAP*

Consider an EPA briefing on Vision 2.0 for 23-24 Research LAP

New TMDLs and Scientific Advancements

- TMDLs on horizon:
 - Conowingo Pool/Lower Susquehanna – expected to be submitted fall 2022
 - Upper and tidal James – development underway
 - Rappahannock and York – projected next in VA
- New advances in TMDL relevant science:
 - DC microcatchment modeling
 - MDE subwatershed screening approach
 - DE trend analysis in fish tissue (to 2012)

Consider report outs to TCW on these items in 23-24 strategy and LAP updates

Targeted Areas of Focus

- Urban areas of watershed including:
 - DC, including upstream MD counties
 - Baltimore, MD
 - Newport News, Hampton Roads (VA)
- Consistent with PSC enhancement monitoring proposed by TCW end of CY21

Ongoing Source Tracking

- Both desktop and field efforts are being deployed in MD, VA, DC
- Guidance is forthcoming for these activities (see slide 2)

Sampling and Analytical Methods

- Some variation in sampling methodology – grab, vs. passive, sediment.
- Congener methods being used for analytical
- Summary previously gathered for PSC monitoring
 - Re-circulated summary file for reminder

Outstanding Questions

- DRBC reports a 76 percent reduction in PCBs due to stage 1 PCB TMDL implementation (PMP focused)
- DRBC Delaware River/Bay Stage 2 PCB TMDL 16 pg/L
- DOEE: Do revisions to TMDLs include PCBs?
- MDE: Differing attainment (fish vs. human health)