

MICHIGAN (REGION 5)

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

The Basics

Key Agency/Department & website

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Water Bureau
http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3313_3686_3728-12464--,00.html

TMDL Program Structure/Placement

Housed in the Surface Water Assessment Section / Lake Michigan Unit

By the Numbers

Number of Impaired Waters 430

Number of Causes of Impairment 557

Top Five Causes of Impairment

1. Mercury
2. PCBs
3. Pathogens
4. Cause Unknown–Impaired Biota
5. Nutrients

Approximate Number of TMDLs Developed Annually 10-15

Total Number of TMDLs Approved (1995 to present, incl. any est'd by EPA) 84

Total Number of TMDLs Approved in 2005/2006/2007 20/10/22

2008 303d/Integrated Report Submission Status (Date) 4/11/2008

Approximate Number of FTEs Working on TMDL Issues 3-5

TMDLs

EPA Under Consent Decree to Develop TMDLs? N

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 \$475,000

Primary Source(s) of TMDL Program Funding federal 205(j) & 106 funds

TMDL Implementation

TMDL Implementation Required? N

Innovations

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

--many TMDLs are now developed using the load duration curve approached developed by EPA

--MI is considering the 5M approach for many of its mercury-impaired waters

TMDLs that Represent a Particular Achievement

Lake Allegan phosphorus TMDL—implementation of this TMDL has been very successful in terms of cooperation among stakeholders and reductions in phosphorus levels to date
<http://www.deq.state.mi.us/documents/deq-swq-gleas-tmdlallegan.pdf>

Barriers

Top Three Barriers to TMDL Development

1. TMDL staffing levels
2. lack of money to conduct necessary monitoring in preparation for TMDLs
3. lack of enthusiasm for TMDL development

Top Three Barriers to TMDL Implementation

1. TMDL staffing levels
2. lack of financial resources to conduct necessary coordination and monitoring
3. lack of enthusiasm among some stakeholders