

# WISCONSIN (REGION 5)

## *A Snapshot of Wisconsin's TMDL Program (July 2008)*

### ***The Basics***

Key Agency/Department & website

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Water  
<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/wqs/303d/>

TMDL Program Structure/Placement

Housed in Water Evaluation Section; Integrated via Impaired Waters Team

### ***By the Numbers***

Number of Impaired Waters	593
Number of Causes of Impairment	1,163
Top Five Causes of Impairment	
1. Mercury	
2. Sediment	
3. Nutrients	
4. Habitat Alteration	
5. Organic Enrichment/Oxygen Depletion	
Approximate Number of TMDLs Developed Annually	15
Total Number of TMDLs Approved (1995 to present, incl. any est'd by EPA)	86
Total Number of TMDLs Approved in 2005/2006/2007	56/15/33
2008 303d/Integrated Report Submission Status (Date)	6/15/2008
Approximate Number of FTEs Working on TMDL Issues	5.75 (partial time)

### ***TMDLs***

EPA Under Consent Decree to Develop TMDLs?	N
Broad-Scale? ( <i>e.g.</i> , watershed, multi-jurisdictional, etc.)	

### ***Non-TMDL Options***

Use of Non-TMDL Options to Address Impaired Waters?	Y
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### ***Funding***

Approximate Annual Budget for TMDL Program	\$830,000+
Primary Source(s) of TMDL Program Funding	federal 319 & 106 funds

### ***TMDL Implementation***

TMDL Implementation Required?	Y
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### ***Innovations***

Example(s) of Any Innovative Approach(es) Employed	
--we use the Environmental Accountability Projects in WI as an alternative to TMDLs for impaired waters that already have implementation strategies taking place that will result in that waterbody meeting WQSs	

--WI has a great internal WQ assessment database (WATERS) that we are modifying daily to track impaired waters, TMDLs, and other special projects from start to finish—including tracking implementation

--WI has efforts to increase regulatory authority for runoff management/NPS to enforce performance standards and manure prohibitions in TMDL/Impaired Waters areas

#### TMDLs that Represent a Particular Achievement

Lower Fox River TMDL (currently in development)

<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/wqs/303d/FoxRiverTMDL/>

#### ***Barriers***

##### Top Three Barriers to TMDL Development

1. lack of monitoring funding and subsequent data for TMDL development
2. no current internal modeling/technical support (modeler position has been vacant for over a year)
3. lack of staff to develop policy and guidance, and to prepare/write reports

##### Top Three Barriers to TMDL Implementation

1. limited resources for staff (implementation planning & guidance development)
2. no regional (DNR) or local (county/municipality) staff positions at this time to implement TMDLs
3. limited cost-sharing dollars available to assist landowners to enforce NPS (runoff management) performance standards (*i.e.*, regulatory authority is in our state code, just need \$ to implement)