



South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

TMDL Calculators Facilitate Allocation

Session #4 – Innovations in TMDL Development

2017 National Training Workshop for 303(d) Listing & TMDL Staff

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Outline

- Concepts
- Applications
- Demos
- Wrap Up



Concepts

TMDL Development

- Impaired Water
- Source Assessment
- Model Development
 - Setup and Calibration
 - Critical Conditions
- Initial Scenarios
 - e.g. Equal percent below permit
 - e.g. Same treatment level
 - “Size of the Pie”

- Allocation
- TMDL Drafting
- Public Comment
- Final TMDL
- Reallocation
- ~~• Redo TMDL~~

TMDL Calculator



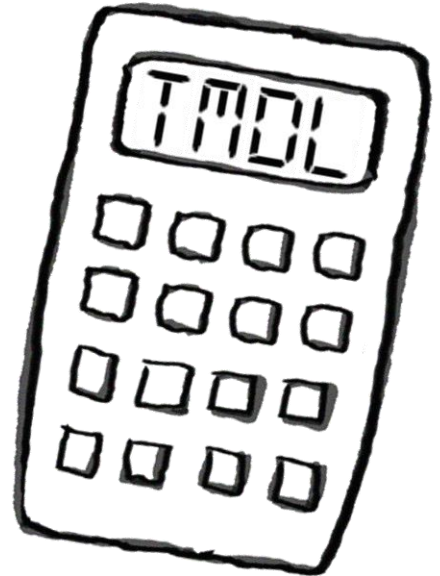
Technical



Political

What is a TMDL Calculator?

- Basically, a “model of the model”
- Easy to use spreadsheet or program, inputs loads, outputs predicted WQ
- Load combinations are adjusted until the WQS is met
- Constructed after the baseline critical conditions WQ model is established
- Conceived by Jim Greenfield while at EPA R4 for the 2002 Charleston Harbor DO TMDL



TMDL Calculator Concepts

- Establish baseline WQ model first
- Then make a LOT of model runs
 - Individually, for each POC and for each source, determine unit response in critical segments
 - Often, the response is linear in the practical range
 - $y=mx+b$ where x =POC load, y =WQ response, m =strength of the response, and b =WQ when load=0
 - Unique relation determined for each **POC**, each **source**, each **segment** and each **day** in the simulation
 - Keep track of all this in a spreadsheet, database, etc.

TMDL Calculator Concepts (cont.)

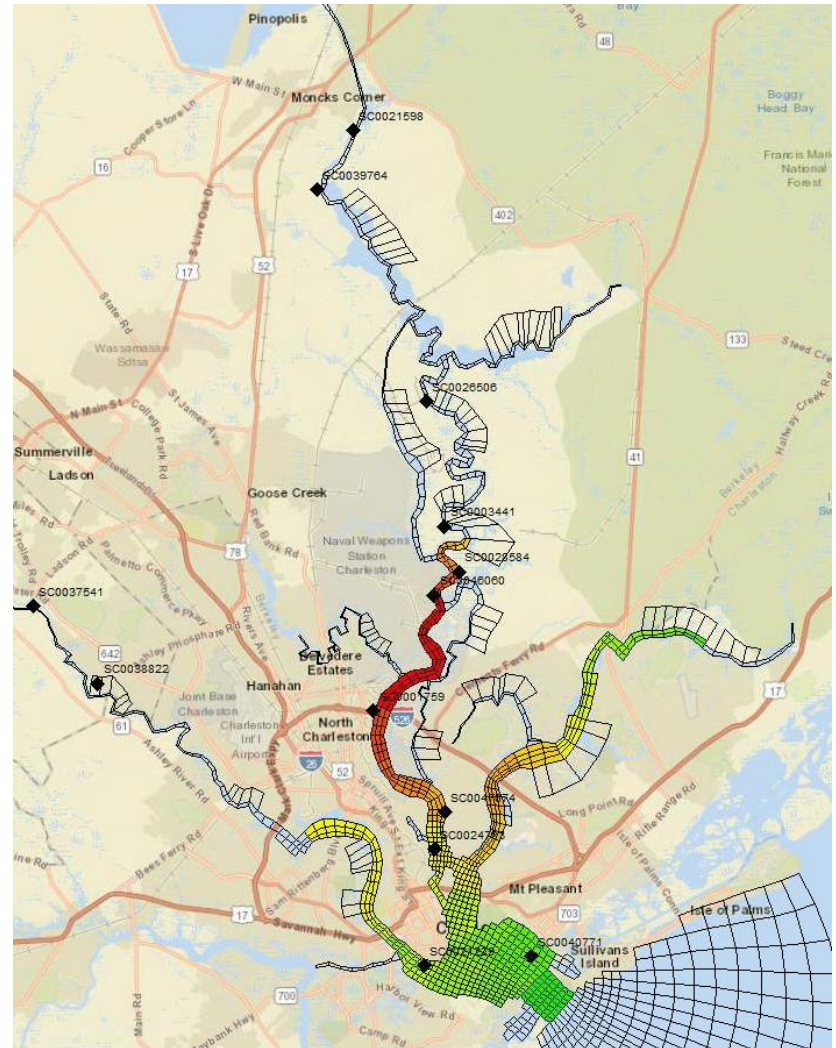
- Users adjust loads on the interface
- All of the individual daily responses are instantly recalculated and summed to get the total response in each segment
- Source-specific waste characteristics, assimilation rates, travel times, etc. are accounted for
- The TMDL Calculator is confirmed against the actual WQ model
- End result is a tool that replicates the WQ model without the work/time/cost of rerunning the full model



Applications

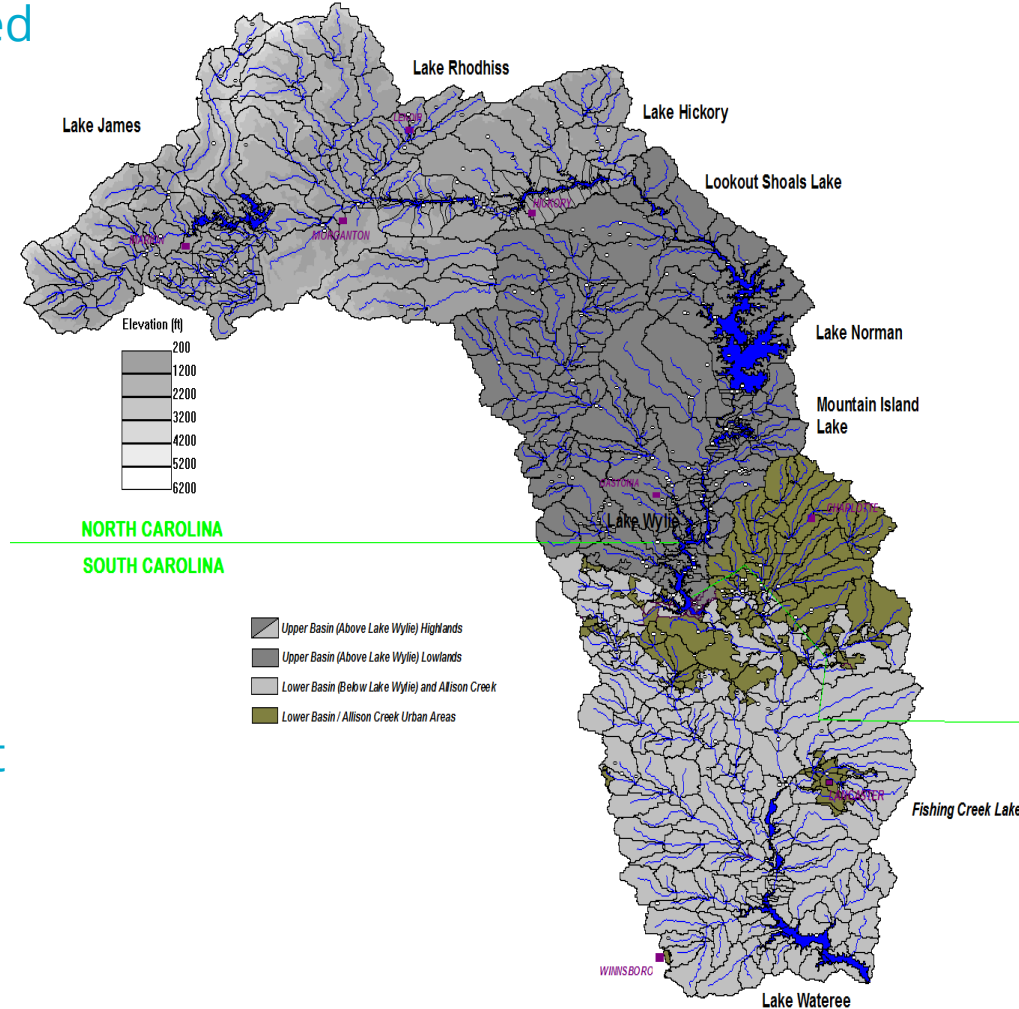
Charleston Harbor 2013 DO TMDL Model

- Model developed by Tetra Tech for BCDCOG
- 3-D EFDC Hydro & WQ
- POCs – fast and slow organic carbon, ammonia
- 13 NPDES facilities (domestic, industrial, paper)
- Target – 0.1 mg/L DO deficit (change from background)
- Total permit load cut ~60%



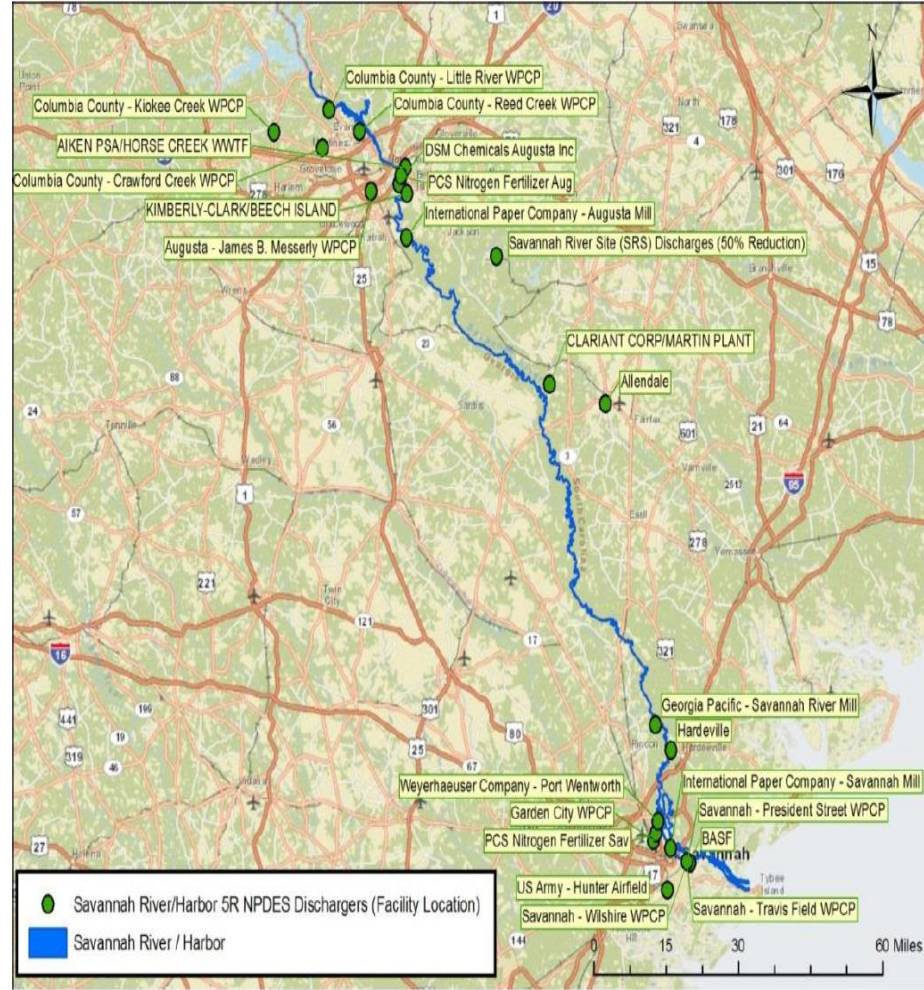
SC-NC Catawba Basin Nutrient Model

- WARMF model originally developed by Systech Water Resources for Duke Energy, NC and SC
- Lower basin updated by Systech for SCDHEC
- POCs – Phosphorus and Nitrogen
- 15 large NPDES facilities, 12 small NPDES facilities, MS4s, NPS
- 2 states, multiple municipalities
- Targets – 0.06 mg/L TP, 1.5 mg/L TN, 40 ug/L chl_a (SC WQS)
- Initial TP results - ~60% permit cut for facilities, ~40% cut in existing stormwater and NPS
- Additional work to refine model is underway



GA-SC Savannah Harbor 2016 5R Plan Model

- EPD-RIV1 river model developed by GA EPD linked to EFDC/WASP harbor model by Tetra Tech and EPA
- POCs – 2-component CBOD (river), 3-component CBOD (harbor), ammonia
- 24 NPDES facilities (domestic, industrial, paper)
- Time-varying load inputs
- 2 states, 2 metropolitan areas, multiple municipalities
- Target – 0.1 mg/L DO deficit (change from background)
- Total baseline load cut ~72%





Demos



Lower Catawba Basin TP Calculator* DEMO

| | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q |
|----|--|----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | "Baseline" - 2014 Permit Limits and Existing MS4s and Human NPS | | | | | | | | Results | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | NPDES | Name | Downstream Lake | Flow (MGD) | TP (mg/L) | TP (lbs/day) | TP (kg/day) | Fraction of Baseline | | | Fishing Ck Res | Great Falls Res | Cedar Ck Res | Wateree HW | Wateree Upper | Wateree Middle | Wateree Lower |
| 3 | NC0024937 | CMUD/Sugar Ck WWTP | Fishing Ck Res | 20 | 1.00 | 166.9 | 75.7 | 1 | | Seg ID | L1562 | L1563 | L1567 | R0624 | L0579 | L2310 | L2292 |
| 4 | NC0024945 | CMUD/Irwin Ck WWTP | Fishing Ck Res | 15 | 1.00 | 125.2 | 56.8 | 1 | | TP mg/L | 0.12 | 0.14 | 0.12 | 0.13 | 0.09 | 0.07 | 0.07 |
| 5 | NC0024970 | CMUD/McAlpine Ck WWTP | Fishing Ck Res | 64 | 1.00 | 534.2 | 242.3 | 1 | | WQS = 0.06 mg/L TP | | | | | | | |
| 6 | NC0085359 | Union County/Twelvemile Ck WWTP | Fishing Ck Res | 6 | 0.42 | 20.9 | 9.46 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | SC0001015 | Resolute Forest Products | Fishing Ck Res | 25 | 1.40 | 291.9 | 132.4 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | SC0020371 | Fort Mill WWTP | Fishing Ck Res | 3 | 0.50 | 12.5 | 5.67 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | SC0020443 | Rock Hill WWTP | Fishing Ck Res | 20 | 0.75 | 124.6 | 56.5 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | SC0027146 | Foxwood SD/Blue Ribbon Utilities | Fishing Ck Res | 0.12 | 1.00 | 1.0 | 0.454 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | SC0030112 | Lamplighter Village SD/CWS | Fishing Ck Res | 0.63 | 2.00 | 10.5 | 4.76 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | SC0046892 | City of Lancaster WWTP | Fishing Ck Res | 7.5 | 0.77 | 48.0 | 21.77 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | SC0047864 | Lancaster County/Indianland WWTP | Fishing Ck Res | 1.2 | 1.67 | 16.7 | 7.57 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 | SC0038156 | York/Fishing Ck WWTP | Great Falls Res | 2 | 1.02 | 17.0 | 7.71 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | SC0001741 | Chester/Lando-Manetta WWTP | Great Falls Res | 0.8 | 0.62 | 4.1 | 1.88 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 16 | SC0036056 | Chester/Rocky Ck WWTP | Cedar Ck Res | 1.36 | 1.00 | 11.3 | 5.13 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 17 | SC0021211 | Great Falls WWTP | Cedar Ck Res | 1.4 | 1.03 | 12.0 | 5.44 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19 | FCR Subwatershed MS4s and Human NPS | | Fishing Ck Res | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 | GFR Subwatershed MS4s and Human NPS | | Great Falls Res | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 21 | CCR Subwatershed MS4s and Human NPS | | Cedar Ck Res | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 22 | LWAT Subwatershed MS4s and Human NPS | | Lake Wateree | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 23 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 25 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 26 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Input Effluent Flow Check | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Scenario Total Effluent Flow (MGD) = | 168.01 |
| Baseline Total Flow (MGD) = | 168.01 |
| Percent Change from Baseline = | 0.0% |
| INPUT FLOWS OK | |

*Initial version for information only, model is being refined

Wrapping Up...Why do this?

- With complex models, one scenario can take days and \$\$\$ to set up, run, process and communicate results **versus** a few mouse clicks with the calculator
- Source weighting is clear and transparent which facilitates optimization and trading
- Empowers stakeholders to instantly evaluate unlimited alternatives in group settings
- Helps the conversation move from model minutiae to equitability, future growth, interstate allocations, etc.
- Allows future reallocations without redoing the TMDL...the calculator **is** the TMDL

CONTACT US

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Stay Connected