

Evaluating the Water Quality Effects of TMDL Implementation

How States Have Done It and the Lessons Learned



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Background

- The Topic
- Technical Assistance Planning Group
- Fall 2017 Questionnaire
 - Completed by staff from 39 states and the District of Columbia
- Follow-up conversations and independent literature reviews by ELI
- The information is not intended to be comprehensive

Objectives

Facilitate communication among water quality programs, especially CWA 303(d) programs, and help generate new ideas in this underexplored area

- Highlight the diversity of approaches to evaluating the water quality effects of TMDL implementation
- Explain some of those methods
- Conveys lessons learned
- Detail terminology challenges
- Identify relevant resource materials

Content

- I. Overview
- II. Terminology
- III. Types of Approaches
- IV. Lessons from Experience
- V. Approaches for Getting Data to Evaluate TMDL Effectiveness
- VI. Collection of Monitoring Resources

Terminology

	Federal Resource				
Monitoring Term	Potyondy 1980	Solomon 1989	MacDonald et al. 1991	EPA 1999	EPA 2013
<i>Baseline</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓
<i>Trend</i>		✓	✓	✓	
<i>Project</i>	✓		✓	✓	
<i>Effectiveness</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Implementation</i>		✓	✓	✓	
<i>Compliance</i>			✓		
<i>Validation</i>		✓	✓	✓	
<i>Planning</i>					✓

Types of Approaches

- Using the Existing Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Processes
- Leveraging Information from Effectiveness Evaluations of CWA 319-Funded Projects
- Developing Location-Specific Plans in the TMDL Implementation Plan
- Establishing a Collaborative Monitoring Program
- Adaptive Management through “Effectiveness Monitoring” Reports

Other Pieces

- Lessons from Experience
- Approaches for Getting Data to Evaluate TMDL Effectiveness
- Collection of Monitoring Resources
- Examples of Language in TMDLs and TMDL Implementation Plans

Questions?

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