APPENDIX A

WATERSHED ORGANIZATION FACT SHEETS

Table A-1. List of Watershed Organization Fact Sheets by State Contained in Appendix A

State	Watershed Organization
Florida	Bay Area Resource Council (BARC)
	Tampa Bay Estuary Program
Georgia	Middle Chattahoochee River Watershed Steering Committee
	Upper Suwannee River Watershed Alliance
Idaho	Lower Boise River Watershed Advisory Group
	Tri-State Water Quality Council
Indiana	Upper White River Watershed Alliance
Kentucky	(See Tennessee – Cumberland River Compact)
Maryland	Chesapeake Bay Program
	Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin
Massachusetts	Charles River Watershed Association
	Ten Mile River Watershed Association
Michigan	Huron River Watershed Council
	Little Rabbit River Watershed Project
	Kalamazoo River/Lake Allegan Watershed TMDL Implementation Committee
	Rouge River Project
Minnesota	Clearwater River Watershed District
	Mississippi Headwaters Board
New Jersey	Ten Towns Great Swamp Watershed Management Committee
	Upper Raritan Watershed Association
North Carolina	Cape Fear River Assembly
Ohio	Mill Creek Watershed Council
	Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission
Oregon	Tualatin River Watershed Council
	Willamette Riverkeeper
Tennessee	Cumberland River Compact
Texas	Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority
Vermont	Lake Champlain Basin Program
Virginia	Elizabeth River Project
Washington	Chehalis River Council

BAY AREA RESOURCE COUNCIL
Pensacola, Florida

Overview of Organization
The Pensacola Bay watershed covers 7,000 square miles through 15 counties in the States of Florida and Alabama. One third of the bay system is in Florida, the other two thirds are in Alabama. The Bay Area Resource Council (BARC) resulted from the Escambia (FL)/Santa Rosa Coast Resource Planning and Management Committee created in February 1985. An inter-local agreement between Escambia (FL) and Santa Rosa Counties and the Cities of Pensacola and Gulf Breeze was established in May 1987 to solidify the organization into an entity that could accept funding and promote goals of the committee. Since then the City of Milton has joined BARC. Citizen and Technical Advisory Committees were established to begin development of a management plan for the Pensacola Bay System. The BARC may forward information that receives their approval to the individual units of local government for consideration.

Organizational Structure and Function
The seven members of the BARC are elected representatives from their counties. The participating counties include: Escambia (FL); Santa Rosa; Okaloosa; Walton; Holmes; Washington; and Bay. Two Advisory Committees (Citizen and Technical) have been established to begin development of a management plan. The Technical Committee evaluates data and defines trends within the Bay area. The Citizens Advisory Committee discuss issues of interest to the general public. The driving factors for the BARC are local water quality, estuary quality, and shoreline restoration. The BARC was formed to create agreements with public and private entities to advance the health of the Pensacola Bay watershed. This includes all aspects from planning, financing, managing, data management, and the development of a restoration program.

Funding and Resources
Funding is steady and the council is able to maintain a full time employee. The primary sources of funding are federal and state grants.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities
The BARC has formed relationships with various county and city governments to establish similar minimum stormwater rules and regulations. The organization seems to focus the majority of its resources on outreach and environmental awareness.

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www.wfrpc.dst.fl.us/barc/barc_history.htm
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TAMPA BAY ESTUARY PROGRAM
St. Petersburg, Florida

Overview of Organization

The Tampa Bay watershed is 6,583 square kilometers which extends through the counties of Sarasota, Pasco, Polk, Manatee, Hillsborough, and Pinellas. Point source and nonpoint source impacts include wastewater treatment plants, utilities, fertilizer manufacturers, agriculture, urban runoff, and aquaculture.

Tampa Bay was designated an "estuary of national significance" by Congress in 1990. The Tampa Bay National Estuary Program (NEP) was established the following year under Section 320 of the Clean Water Act and administered nationally by U.S. EPA to assist the community in developing a comprehensive plan to restore and protect the Bay. The Program established a Management Conference consisting of the following stakeholders:

- Federal, state, and regional agencies;
- The three counties and three major cities surrounding the bay;
- Affected industries;
- Educational and research institutions; and
- The general public.

In 1997, a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan was approved. In 1998, the partners of the organization signed an agreement pledging to commit to the implementation of a management plan. The organization was reorganized into an independent regional alliance, establishing the Tampa Bay Estuary Program. The organization builds partnerships with local governments and industries with the goal of securing their commitment to voluntary five-year nitrogen reduction plans.

Organizational Structure and Function

The Tampa Bay Program is a partnership of Pinellas, Hellsborough and Manatee counties, Tampa, St. Petersburg and Clearwater cities, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Southwest Florida Water Management District and the U.S. EPA. The Program is governed by a Policy Board composed of elected officials and a Management Board of top level bay managers and administrators. Advising the Board are technical and citizen advisory groups. The technical advisory group consists of 200 members that includes scientists, managers of local government, regulatory agencies, consultants, academia, and the general public. This group meets 3 to 4 times a year. Members can participate on the seven subcommittees that address more specific technical issues. A standalone committee called Nitrogen Management Consortium public/private that deals just with nitrogen also exists.
The organizations goal is to provide technical assistance and coordinated planning

services within the region. The Program addresses water and sediment quality, bay habitats, fish and wildlife, dredging and dredged material management, spill prevention and response, and public education and outreach.

Funding and Resources

The Program has two full time staff members and many volunteers. The Program has secured over one million dollars in grants to assist the repair and restoration of the bay. Federal funds (Section 320 NEP grants) administered by the Tamp Bay Regional Policy Council from U.S. EPA make up about 30 percent of the programs funding. State watershed management districts distribute roughly another 30 percent of the Program's funding. The remaining 40 percent is fixed into the budget from local sources, including three counties and three cities.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

The Tampa Bay Estuary Program conducts many activities that could relate to NPDES permitting. These activities include:

- Collecting and managing data;
- Designing monitoring programs;
- Developing GIS maps;
- Evaluating the Bay's environmental health;
- Estimating nitrogen and phosphorus loadings into the Bay;
- Developing guidelines for calculating nitrogen load reduction credits;
- Developing a watershed management model for optimal allocation of best management practices (BMPs);
- Providing funding for smaller local conservation projects;
- Establishing sediment quality targets; and
- Establishing nitrogen management goals.

Nitrogen targets developed by the Program will serve as the basis for a TMDL that has received EPA approval. The approved TMDL will impact NPDES permit limits in the future.

Through educational activities, the Program targets point sources. The Program has conducted workshops that target the wastewater treatment plants within the watershed and target permittees such as local governments and industries through its full-time outreach efforts.

Contact Information

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MIDDLE CHATTAHOOCHEE WATERSHED STEERING COMMITTEE
Harris, Muscogee, Stewart Counties, Georgia

Overview of Organization

The Middle Chattahoochee River watershed spans the States of Georgia and Alabama, flowing through approximately 17 counties and numerous cities, including Columbus, Georgia. Both nonpoint source and point source pollution impact the Middle Chattachoochee River, including agricultural runoff and combined sewer overflows (CSOs). Impairments due to fecal coliform, low dissolved oxygen, and metals have resulted in Section 303(d) listing of many tributaries in the Middle Chattahoochee River watershed. Concerned about growth issues, local governments within the watershed initiated a planning project entitled "Blueprints for Successful Communities" initiated in the Middle Chattahoochee River with support from The Georgia Conservancy. Through this effort, the local governments and The Georgia Conservancy established a watershed steering committee. After a year-long planning effort, the Middle Chattahoochee River Watershed Steering Committee has decided to continue its work as an organization.

Organizational Structure and Function

Representatives from local government, environmental groups, federal and state agencies, and large corporate interests, totaling 35 members, from within the State of Georgia comprise the Watershed Steering Committee. Some representatives from the State of Alabama have also participated. The Watershed Steering Committee focuses on the portion of the watershed between West Point Lake and Lake Walter F. George. The group set the watershed boundaries and identified three sub-watershed for further study. Although land use planning was the initial focus of the group, its implementation strategies will focus on ways to protect water resources, as well as natural and cultural resources, and promoting environmentally-sensitive economic development. A final report from the Blueprints process is due from the group in fall 2002. The Watershed Steering Committee has decided to focus on education as it moves into the implementation phase.

Funding and Resources

A grant from a local community foundation in Columbus has funded the Blueprints project for a two-year period. Beyond this period, it is unknown how the Steering Committee will fund its continued efforts. The group is looking into the Watershed Initiative as a possible source of funding in the short-term.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

Specific information on group's implementation strategies has been requested from The Georgia Conservancy.

Contact Information

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UPPER SUWANNEE RIVER WATERSHED INITIATIVE
Atlanta, Georgia

Overview of Organization

The Upper Suwannee River watershed covers approximately 9,950 square miles in south-central Georgia and north Florida. The Alapapha, Little, and Withlacoochee Rivers and most of the Okefenokee Swamp all drain into the Suwannee River. Portions of the basin are permanently protected under federal and state ownership. Florida and Georgia natural resource agencies also own and manage some lands adjacent to the tributaries. Low dissolved oxygen (DO) levels negatively impact the health of the watershed. Although DO levels are naturally low in southern Georgia, the concentrations are further impacted by urban runoff and wastewater treatment plants. Other pollutants of concern include fecal coliform and nutrients.

Initially started by the National Wildlife Federation, the Upper Suwannee River Watershed Initiative is a citizen-led "grass roots" coalition in partnership with public and private agencies. The goal of the Initiative is to bring together residents of the watershed to identify and solve problems that affect their water, soil, forests, and quality of life in with the objective of identifying and solving problems for improved management of the watershed.

Organizational Structure and Function

The Upper Suwannee River Watershed Initiative is a citizen-led advisory panel which oversees and guides the efforts of the organization. Technical subcommittees comprised of federal, state, regional, and local government personnel and issue committees made up of concerned citizens will provide assistance. These committees are not yet established. As new issues arise, new issue committees may be formed. The organization has built partnerships with various regional and state conservation agencies, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Georgia Wildlife Federation, and the National Wildlife Federation. Public workshops will be held throughout the watershed to gather input from citizens regarding their concerns for the watershed. The organization plans to create education and outreach efforts to help citizens better understand their role in protecting the watershed.

The organization is focused on education and outreach at the moment. The Initiative conducts limited monitoring for water quality and quantity. The Initiative is also working on plans to address economic development, public land management, and water quality. The National Wildlife Federation, a partner in the organization, has developed a GIS database for the watershed.

Funding and Resources
The organization has one part time employee and funding comes from Section 319 grants from U.S. EPA.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities
The Initiative is attempting to have the DO standard changed, which would impact NPDES permits. Outreach and education activities may include point sources as a target audience.

Contact Information
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LOWER BOISE RIVER WATER QUALITY PLAN
Boise, Idaho

Overview of Organization

The Lower Boise River watershed drains 1,290 square miles of rangeland, forests, agricultural lands, and urban areas. The lower Boise River itself is a 64-mile stretch that originates at Lucky Peak Dam and flows northwesterly through Ada and Canyon counties and the cities of Boise and Caldwell, Idaho. The lower Boise River flows into the Snake River near Parma, Idaho. The Lower Boise River Water Quality Plan (LBRWQP) is the state-designated watershed advisory group (WAG) for the lower Boise River, which flows from Lucky Peak Dam to its confluence with the Snake River. The mission of the WAG is to protect appropriate designated uses of the Boise River and to ensure that related expenditures provide real environmental benefits.

Organizational Structure and Function

There are 11 members of the Lower Boise River Water Quality Plan, Watershed Advisory Group (WAG) and they were selected based upon various areas of concern: Agriculture (3), Industry (1), Local Government (3), Flood Control (1), Stormwater (1), Environmental (1), and Citizen at Large (1). In addition to this group, there is a Technical Advisory Committee, a General Committee, and several other technical committees dedicated to monitoring, industrial, agricultural, municipal issues.

Functions of the group include advising the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on total maximum daily load (TMDL) implementation, providing recommendations on actions to control point and nonpoint sources, and working with DEQ to provide public involvement. The WAG has achieved many accomplishments related to its mission. To protect appropriate designated uses, the WAG supported a technical analysis that resulted in the delisting of the main stem for phosphorus impairment and conducted a use attainability analysis for several tributaries that led to new modified use criteria. Accomplishments related to ensuring expenditures lead to environmental benefits, the WAG expanded watershed sampling, prepared a study on DNA fingerprinting of bacterial sources, and assessed the impacts of groundwater on phosphorus and bacteria concentrations in surface water. Local stakeholder involvement accomplishments include maintaining and upgrading a web site, providing opportunities for participation in the TMDL process, and providing information and education about TMDLs to the group's committees.

Funding and Resources

Primary source of funding are contributors such as local governments, ditch companies, the Idaho Power Company, soil conservation districts, water companies and irrigation

districts. Several Section 319 grants fund projects conducted by the WAG. They have hired a consultant to serve as a facilitator for the group.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

Through its various efforts such as monitoring, TMDL development, and analyses related to designated uses, the WAG will likely influence future NPDES permitting activities. WAG assists the Division of Environmental Quality with technical analysis for TMDLs in the river and tributaries. The WAG's efforts to develop a TMDL implementation plan and working with stakeholders to optimize the use of limited funding for implementation efforts may also impact point sources within the watershed.

Contact Information

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Follow Up Questions

1. How was the group originally formed? Legislation?
2. What is the annual budget and how are funds managed?
3. Does the group mange implementation funding? Provide grants, etc.?

TRI STATE WATER QUALITY COUNCIL
Sandpoint, Idaho

Overview of Organization

The Clark Fork-Pend Oreille watershed drains 26,000 square miles in portions of western Montana, northern Idaho and northeastern Washington. The watershed also encompasses 14 counties, several Indian reservations, and spans an area within two U.S. EPA regions. In 1987, Congress mandated the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to conduct a three-year study of the watershed. Citizen concerns regarding increased aquatic weeds and algae in the watershed prompted this mandate. The objectives of the study were to identify water quality problems and pollution sources and to make recommendations for restoring water quality throughout the watershed.

Representatives from EPA and the three watershed states formed a Steering Committee to oversee the study and report to Congress. The Clark Fork-Pend Oreille Basin Water Quality Study, published in January 1993, summarizes findings and lays out a series of recommended goals, objectives and priorities. One priority listed in the study was the formation of a tri-state council to implement the management plan actions addressing both point and nonpoint sources. In 1993, EPA and the three participating states established the Tri-State Implementation Council (referred to as the Tri-State Water Quality Council) to implement the management plan.

Organizational Structure and Function

The Council is a 28 member stakeholder group representing interests from all jurisdictions, as well as citizens and businesses. A four-person Board of Directors serves the Council with day-to-day operations performed by a part-time staff. To implement the watershed management plan, the Council developed eight standing committees. These committees are as follows:

- Voluntary Nutrient Reduction Program Committee;
- Water Quality Monitoring Committee;
- Pend Orenille Water Festival Committee;
- Pack River Watershed Council;
- Pend Oreille Lake Management Plan Committee;
- Pend Oreille River Watershed Coordinating Committee;
- Milfoil Committee; and
- Funding Committee.

The watershed management plan, which focuses on reducing nutrients loads to the watershed, drives the Council's activities. To meet the objectives of the plan, the Council has developed a basin-wide water quality monitoring program and numerous public education programs. In addition, the Council developed the Voluntary Nutrient Reduction

Program aimed at reducing nutrient levels along a 200-mile stretch of the Clark Fork River. This program, implemented over 10 years, calls for the four major point source dischargers to take site-specific nutrient reduction measures. The Council intends for these reductions to achieve in-stream nutrient targets developed by consensus through the former Nutrient Target Committee. The Council also actively builds partnerships among local, state, and federal entities to facilitate the implementation of the management plan.

Funding and Resources
The organization has three part-time employees. Federal grants serve as the Council's primary source of funding.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities
The Council developed the Voluntary Nutrient Reduction Program that focuses on reducing nutrient loadings from both point and nonpoint sources. The targets will not be included in permits for 10 years as part of an agreement reached with the dischargers at the outset of the program.

The Council also developed recommendations to the State of Montana for improvements to its discharge permitting policy that would provide better protection for Clark Fork River water quality.

Other activities related to the operations of the watershed's wastewater treatment plants include technical assistance to local cities to develop and implement options for reducing nutrient loadings. For example, the Council assisted with development of a system to land apply a city's wastewater on nearby hayfields thereby eliminating this source of nutrient pollution from the Clark Fork River during summer months.

The Council's three-state water quality monitoring program for Montana, Idaho and Washington portions of the watershed aid in detecting long term water quality trends and to gauge the effectiveness of water quality clean-up solutions.

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UPPER WHITE RIVER WATERSHED ALLIANCE
Indianapolis, Indiana

Overview of Organization

The Upper White River watershed covers roughly 2,271 square miles and is the largest watershed contained completely within Indiana's boundaries. Agricultural activities dominate the watershed, but the population in this area is rapidly growing. Within the watershed, 34 stream segments are listed on the Section 303(d) list and require total maximum daily loads (TMDLs). To address the water quality and flooding problems in the watershed, various local governments, industries, and other stakeholders formed the Upper White River Watershed Alliance, Inc. (UWRWA) in 1998. The mission of UWRWA is "to improve and protect water quality on a local watershed basis by consolidating data, integrating planning and priorities, and encouraging the development of smaller watershed partnerships that can more efficiently implement projects and plans within the larger, Upper White Region."

Organizational Structure and Function

UWRWA is led by a Board of Directors that has 11 members and two committee chairs. The Board is comprised of representatives from municipalities, counties, industries, business, and local agencies. The Technical Committee focuses on obtaining better and more cost-efficient data, while the Policy Committee focuses on increasing the involvement of local leadership on water management decisions. A Public Relations Committee has the responsibility for raising funds from the private sector and developing a regional water quality campaign. Goode & Associates, Inc. provides facilitation services and acts as the Executive Director for UWRWA.

Acting as a forum for its members to speak and share ideas, UWRWA facilitates coordination among watershed stakeholders and promote smaller watershed partnerships. According to UWRWA's Winter/Spring 2002 newsletter, approximately nine watershed coordination and planning programs in sub-watersheds are underway. Current issues of priority for UWRWA include TMDL development, Phase II storm water permitting, regional water quality monitoring, water quality standards, and development and regional flooding. UWRWA has created a GIS database of information collected by supporting members and is undertaking a survey to document and inventory water quality monitoring activities throughout the Upper White River watershed.

Funding and Resources

As previously mentioned, Goode & Associates, Inc. serves as an Executive Director for the organization. Membership dues and corporate grants fund UWRWA.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

Although UWRWA's activities are geared more toward watershed assessment and information collection at this time, the overall goals of the organization do directly address NPDES issues. The Technical Committee's objectives include working collectively on "wellhead protection, stormwater management, and NPDES permit requirements through information sharing and mutual assistance." The Policy Committee's objectives include examining "concepts and mechanics necessary to embark upon either voluntary or potential permit-driven effluent trading." UWRWA is also helping communities in the watershed prepare for new Phase II MS4 Storm Water permit requirements. It is likely given UWRWA's current activities and stated objectives that the organization will become more involved in NPDES permitting over time.

Contact Information

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CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM
Annapolis, Maryland

Overview of Organization

The Chesapeake Bay watershed contains more than 64,000 square miles of land across the states of New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. The Chesapeake Bay Program addresses portions of Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and the District of Columbia that drains into the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The Program was established in 1983 by the signing of the Chesapeake Bay Agreement which formed a Chesapeake Executive Council to assess and oversee the implementation of coordinated plans to improve and protect the water quality and living resources of the Bay. In 1987, a new Bay Agreement was signed that sets goals to reduce nitrogen and phosphorous loading by 40 percent. In 1992, another agreement was signed as an agreement to continue the 40 percent reduction goal. The new Chesapeake 2000 Agreement commits to protecting and restoring living resources, vital habitats and water quality of the watershed.

Organizational Structure and Function

The Chesapeake Bay Program is a multi-governmental, interstate, co-operative partnership between Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, the District of Columbia, the Chesapeake Bay Commission (a tri-state legislative body) and the federal government represented by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Representatives from each of the jurisdictions, along with officials from other federal agencies, local governments, and citizen representatives, meet regularly to carry out the policies set by the Chesapeake Executive Council. The Chesapeake Executive Council consists of the Governors of Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, the Mayor of the District of Columbia, the Chair of the Chesapeake Bay Commission, and the U.S. EPA Administrator. Committees under the Executive Council include:

- the Implementation Committee,
- the Citizens Advisory Committee,
- Local Government Advisory Committee,
- Federal Agencies Committee, and
- the Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee.

Subcommittees include:

- Air;
- Nutrient;
- Toxics;
- Monitoring;
- Modeling;

- Living Resources;
- Land Grant and Stewardship;
- Communications and Education; and
- Information Management.

The Chesapeake Bay Program works with local governments, community groups, and watershed organizations to develop and implement locally-supported watershed management plans. In addition, it conducts public outreach and education, develops restoration agreements and goals, collects data, funds projects, identifies research needs, and assesses progress toward watershed goals.

Funding and Resources

The Chesapeake Bay Program receives funds as part of the U.S. EPA's overall budget. Other federal agencies with interests within the watershed and from the states of Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia provide additional funding. Funding may be as high as $35 million a year in total.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

The Chesapeake Bay Program conducts a number of activities that could relate to NPDES permitting. These activities include:

- Modeling of point source contributions of nutrients;
- Developing nutrient reduction plans and tributary strategies;
- Developing nutrient trading criteria;
- Monitoring water quality;
- Collecting and managing data;
- Distributing grants conservation projects;
- Performing outreach and educational services;
- Developing nutrient trading criteria; and
- Creating a permitting task group under the Water Quality Steering Committee.

Contact Information

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(410) 267-5700

INTERSTATE COMMISSION ON THE POTOMAC RIVER BASIN
Rockville, Maryland

Overview of Organization

The Potomac River Basin is 14,670 square miles in the states of Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. The Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB) was established in 1940 by an interstate compact and Congress. Its mission is to enhance, protect and conserve the water and associated land resources of the Potomac River basin and its tributaries through regional and interstate cooperation. At the end of 1999 the Commission adopted a strategic plan with clear goals in order to serve as a basis for achieving this mission. One goal is to be the leader in the coordination of basin-wide interstate and regional efforts to improve and protect water quality and related resources.

Organizational Structure and Function

ICPRB consists of three members from the states of Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia, and three members representing the federal government appointed by the President of the United States. The Commission sets policy and provides guidance for the organization. The organization is a non-regulatory agency that recommends ways to stop watershed pollution and conserve the associated land resources.

The action plan states that ICPRB is active in a variety of activities, including:

- Conducting basin water resources conferences;
- Providing technical assistance to states and water supply agencies on water quality, source protection and water quantity matters;
- Forming relationships with various agencies and meet with representatives of local governmental organizations to discuss their needs;
- Reviewing states' water quality and quantity laws and regulations and to promote consistency of these requirements among the basin;
- Assisting in forecasting future water needs; and
- Providing technical information and local level coordination and support where necessary and supporting local conservation grass roots organizations.

Other activities include monitoring, collecting and managing data, and developing mathematical models of watersheds that the states can use to evaluate options for reducing pollutant loads. ICPRB also conducts education and outreach efforts, including publishing articles and newsletters.

Funding and Resources
ICPRB maintains a professional staff with over two-thirds of expenses going toward salaries and related costs. ICPRB receives its funding through signatory partner contributions and grants, such as U.S. EPA Chesapeake Bay Program grants and various grant programs under the Clean Water Act. ICPRB also has various contracts.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities
ICPRB is an active partner in addressing wet weather related issues impacting the Potomac River watershed. Worked with the District of Columbia and other stakeholders to develop the Anacostia River Toxics Management Action Plan (ARTMAP). ICPRB shares information about NPDES related activities, such as the District of Columbia storm water permit, with watershed stakeholders through its website.

Contact Information
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Follow Up Questions
4. Modeling both point source and non-point source contributions? Which pollutants?
5. How are modeling outputs used?

CHARLES RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
Auburndale, Massachusetts

Overview of Organization
The Charles River Watershed Association (CRWA) was formed in 1965 in response to public concern about the declining condition of the Charles River. The organization works with government officials and citizen groups from 35 towns within the watershed spanning from Boston to Hopkinton. The organization is one of the country's first watershed organizations.

Organizational Structure and Function
CRWA is led by a board composed of citizens with interests in business, government, science, and marketing. Supporting the board are various committees including membership, policy (technical), executive, and various project committees. Nearly 5,000 members with diverse backgrounds support the goals and projects chosen by the board and committees.

CRWA plays a role in education, advocacy and conservation in the watershed. CRWA sponsors various education and outreach projects such as conferences and public forums. CRWA secured money to provide funding to 13 watershed organizations to support assessments of open space priorities and determine the impacts of development on water resources. The organization also conducts monitoring, collects data and performs computer modeling. Monitoring activities assess flow, water and sediment quality. CRWA is also active in development and planning issues as it reviews building plans with potential impacts on the river and makes recommendations to minimize pollution. CRWA has completed an environmental assessment for a zoning plan.

Funding and Resources
The majority of funding for this organization is from donations from environmentally-minded foundations. In addition, local, state and federal agencies provide funding. For the fiscal year of 2001, CRWA raised over $1.25 million dollars.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities
CRWA is involved in a watershed permitting project with the U.S. EPA and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). This project is intended to create a permitting process that addresses the river's tolerance for water withdrawals and polluted discharges. This "tolerance," or amount of pollution the waterbody could take and still meet water quality standards, would then be divided among the

pollutant's sources. The project will provide the basis for the DEP to establish water quality-based permits and controls for the treatment and discharge of nitrates and phosphates. In addition, CRWA is assisting DEP in preparing TMDLs for the upper Charles River watershed. This project includes water quality monitoring, measurements of river flow, computer modeling of flow and water quality.

Contact Information

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www.crwa.org

Follow Up Questions

1. What pollutants and sources impact the watershed?
2. When was the pilot program initiated? What is the status of the program to date?

TEN MILE RIVER WATERSHED ALLIANCE
Attleboro, Massachusetts

Overview of Organization
The Ten Mile River watershed covers 54 square miles in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, draining parts of Attleboro, North Attleborough, Plainville, Seekonk, Wrentham, Foxborough, Rehoboth, as well as Providence and Pawtucket, RI. It is part of the Massachusetts' Watershed Initiative, a broad partnership of state agencies such as Department of Environmental Management (DEM), the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA), and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and federal agencies such as U.S. EPA and the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), conservation organizations, businesses, and municipal officials and individuals. Through the Initiative, 27 watersheds have teams comprised of governmental agency representatives and community partners.

Organizational Structure and Function
The organization is led by a Board of Directors. Committees support the Board and carry out the objectives set forth by the Board. The current committees include: Restore the Ten Mile River, Finance and Fund-raising, Water Quality Monitoring, Greenway Promotion, and Pesticide Awareness Committee. Committees are only created when a member volunteers to lead them. The organization, in partnership with various local and state government agencies, created a Watershed Action Plan to address the following:

- Water quality;
- Restore natural flows to rivers;
- Protect and restore habitats;
- Improve public access and balanced resource use; and
- Promote shared responsibility for watershed protection and management.

The organization conducts water quality monitoring, promotes, coordinates, and implements land use plans, conducts various forms of outreach and education and builds partnerships with stakeholders.

Funding and Resources
Funding is provided by Section 319 nonpoint source grants, 604(b) Water Quality Management Grants, DEM Symms National Recreation and Trails Grants Program, and the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Environmental Law Enforcement (DFWELE) Clean Vessel Act Grants.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

Ten Mile River Watershed Team's Action Plan states that the organization will work with EPA and DEP to ensure all NPDES permits in the watershed are accurate, appropriate, and current.

Contact Information

www.ci.attleboro.ma.us/tenmileriver/10miler.htm

Follow-Up Questions

6. How as the Ten Mile River Watershed Team worked with EPA and DEP on NPDES permitting issues in the watershed?

HURON RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Overview of Organization
The Huron River watershed covers 908 square miles through 53 townships, villages, and cities in southeast Michigan. The Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC) is a non-profit governmental institution developed under the Local Rivers Management Act established by citizens of this watershed in 1965. Although it is considered a governmental unit, HRWC has no regulatory authority. The Council hopes to provide local government with data that will help make decisions that affect the watershed.

Organizational Structure and Function
The organization has a ruling board composed of representatives of local governments within the watershed. Supporting the board are nine staff members and nearly 450 individual volunteers, including 40 business members. Members are various stakeholders of the watershed with diverse interests including science, conservation, government and business.

The organization is focused primarily on advocacy. HRWC provides technical assistance and scientific information to governmental agencies, local businesses, and citizens for policy development and river protection projects. Currently HRWC is managing the development of several Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for phosphorous and E coli. Volunteers monitor water quality, producing data which meet quality assurance/quality control requirements. Their data are therefore used by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MI DEP). Other functions performed by HRWC include GIS mapping, watershed modeling, and outreach and education through direct mail, advertising, and storm drain marking.

Funding and Resources
The organization has seven full time employees and two part time employees. Federal and state grants serve as the primary funding sources. Private donations and grants from foundations and businesses are also accepted. Membership dues from individuals and businesses comprise roughly 25 percent of HRWC's funding.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities
TMDL development and modeling activities could have implications for point sources within the watershed.

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LITTLE RABBIT RIVER WATERSHED PROJECT
Allegan, Michigan

Overview of Organization

The 30,850-acre Little Rabbit River watershed is in southwest Michigan, primarily in the northern section of Allegan County. The dominant land use in the watershed is agriculture (73 percent) with some forest land (17 percent) and urban area (7 percent). Sediment, nutrients, and high flow are adversely affecting the Little Rabbit. Unrestricted livestock access, plowing up to the edge of the watercourse, and conventional fall plowing are common problems impacting the watershed.

The Little Rabbit River flows southwesterly to the Rabbit River, a tributary of the Kalamazoo River. The Little Rabbit is designated for public water supply and as a warmwater fishery. In 1995, a broad partnership of local, state, and federal stakeholders developed a watershed management plan that focused on nonpoint source contributions to the watershed and stated the overall goals of a watershed project to address these impacts. The objectives of the Little Rabbit River Watershed Project, led by the Allegan County Conservation District, were to improve water quality by reducing the amount of sediment and nutrients entering surface water and promoting farmland preservation and controlled development.

Organizational Structure and Function

The project's Steering Committee consisted of a broad range of active participants, including the County Drain Commissioner, County Road Commission, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency, Michigan State University Extension, County Board of Commissioners, Dorr Township Parks and Recreation, other township officials, West Michigan Regional Planning Agency, and local residents and agricultural producers. The Allegan Conservation District acted as grants coordinator.

The Steering Committee decided that one key to the project's success would be to engage area landowners. The Steering Committee exceeded its goal of contacting 50 landowners, reaching 64 landowners to discuss their water quality issues. In addition, the Steering Committee advises townships within the watershed on land use issues to facilitate watershed protection through land use planning tools.

A number of best management practices (BMPs) were installed as a result of the project, including:

- Implementation of 4,750 acres of mulch-till and no-till.
- Installation of more than 14,000 linear feet of exclusion fencing.
- Installation of seven stream crossings and seven watering facilities.

- 190 linear feet of streambank stabilization.
- Installation of 135.9 acres of filter strips.
- Addition of ten animal waste storage facilities.
- Installation of one sediment detention and one erosion control structures.
- Restoration of more than 9 acres of wetlands.

The quantity of sediment and nutrients entering the Little Rabbit River was substantially reduced with the installation of water quality-protective BMPs. Pollution reductions were calculated for all erosion control BMPs. The total amount of pollutants prevented from entering the Little Rabbit River during the 3 years of project implementation was 19,852 tons of sediment, 19,706 pounds of phosphorus, and 39,321 pounds of nitrogen.

In addition, the awareness of water quality issues in the community increased. The local residents stated that the project newsletter was a primary source of conservation information. A watershed logo was developed for use on T-shirts, hats, and watershed cooperator signs, which created an identity for the watershed project.

Although the Section 319 portion of the Little Rabbit River Watershed Project was completed in March 2000, water quality improvement and protection efforts are continuing in the Allegan Conservation District and the community. U.S. Department of Agriculture's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funds are available for agricultural BMP implementation and watershed planning and protection efforts have expanded to the Rabbit River watershed and adjoining watersheds (Macatawa, Gun River) as a direct result of the positive response from the local community. In addition, stakeholders have participated in ordinance revisions and public outreach to focus people's attention on the watershed's future.

Funding and Resources

In 1995, through the efforts of local leaders and a broad conservation partnership, a Section 319 watershed grant of $380,936 was awarded to the Allegan Conservation District. This grant began a five-year program that built a team of proactive stakeholders to direct project activities, develop a watershed management plan, and implement best management practices (BMPs) to protect water quality. In addition to 319 funding, other significant sources of funding included EQIP and Michigan's Groundwater Stewardship Program. The Steering Committee currently has a grant that provides enough funding to address the entire watershed.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

Given that a Section 319 grant funded the Little Rabbit River Watershed Project, nonpoint source pollution was the focus of the project. Although the Project did not specifically address point sources within the watershed, stakeholders within the watershed initiated TMDL studies for phosphorus and developed plans to reduce phosphorus loads. The new

NPDES Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) rule may require animal feeding operations within the watershed to obtain permit coverage in the near future.

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KALAMAZOO RIVER/LAKE ALLEGAN WATERSHED TMDL IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE
Kalamazoo River Watershed, Michigan

Overview of Organization

The Kalamazoo River Watershed drains approximately 2,000 square miles of southwest Michigan, and discharges to Lake Michigan. It is a Great Lakes Area of Concern and a federally listed Superfund Site, primarily because of discharges of PCBs to the river from some of the many regional paper companies in the mid-20th century. Stretches of the Kalamazoo River, some of it's tributaries and lakes are also on Michigan's 303(d) list for nutrients, impaired benthic communities, and atmospheric deposition of mercury. Lake Allegan is an impoundment of the Kalamazoo River, draining about 1600 square miles of the Kalamazoo River Watershed, and was placed on the State's 303(d) list because of it's hypereutrophic status.

In 1997 the State of Michigan began development of a phosphorus TMDL for Lake Allegan. A group of stakeholders representing a wide array of interests came to the table to assist in the development of the TMDL and the Implementation Plan. The group provided technical input and oversight to the State during the TMDL development process; was very active in setting allocations; and eventually derived a Cooperative Agreement to structure implementation of the wasteload allocation. In lieu of individual waste load allocations, each facility agreed to work cooperatively with other dischargers in the watershed to meet the overall wasteload allocation (23% reduction from 1998 baseline loads), and also to assist with nonpoint source reductions. In 2001 MDEQ re-issued all individual permits in the watershed with the cooperative agreement language, but without individual wasteload allocations; phosphorus permit limits remained at the same levels as in the previous permit. EPA approved the TMDL in 2001. A multi-faceted Implementation Plan was completed in 2002.

Organizational Structure and Function

The Kalamazoo River/Lake Allegan Implementation Committee has thoughtfully eschewed any formal structural organization (such as incorporation or obtaining nonprofit status). The Implementation Committee has multiple members from a wide array of organizations, industries, local government, etc., and has several co-chairs, seeking to keep those seats balanced among various local interests.

There is a Point Source Committee, comprised of representatives from most of the 38 industries and municipalities with individual NPDES permits in the watershed. This committee has 3 co-chairs, and has formed working groups to address issues such as funding, data tracking and review, and participation.

During Implementation Plan development, there were a dozen ad hoc committees formed to craft strategies for the many storm water and nonpoint sources of phosphorus. Representatives of all of those groups sit on the Implementation Committee, although most of the strategy committees remain ad hoc.

Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) currently provides the Implementation Committee logistical meeting support, facilitation support, and support for some of the implementation efforts, especially those involving public education. MSU is also developing a GIS-based tracking system for nonpoint source reductions and reduction activities. This system is expected to be available on-line in early 2003. The Point Source Committee has worked with a local consultant to develop a point source loading tracking system. This system, as well as a great deal of other information on the TMDL is available at http://www.kalamazooriver.net.

Funding and Resources

Variable and discontinuous 104(b)(3) and 319 funding has come through MDEQ to various watershed organizations to support different facets of TMDL development and implementation. The current MSUE efforts are funded by a 319 grant. Implementation Committee member organizations have contributed significant in-kind or matching funds, or simply undertaken certain Implementation Committee support efforts themselves (e.g. development of the web-site). The Committee has been active in supporting a variety of local organizations to obtain grants to fulfill implementation goals. For example, there are currently 5 sub-basin watershed planning projects ongoing in the watershed. The Implementation Committee also operates under the assumption that "new" money isn't always necessary, and member organizations have undertaken a number of phosphorus reduction efforts with existing programs and funding. Because of the broad-based participation in this effort, the wide array of federal, state and local resources available is significant.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

- Most of the individual permittees (and many general permittees as well) are participating, as are many of the individuals and groups with an interest in the quality of those discharges. Permitted entities have agreed to develop individual wasteload allocations for the next round of permits should they not reach the collective wasteload allocation by that time.
- Because of trade-offs in wastewater treatment between phosphorus and other pollutants (e.g. BOD, aluminum), and because most of the players are already convened around this TMDL, discussions on a wide array of NPDES issues (permits, biosurveys, toxicity testing, treatment technologies, etc.) take place in this forum.
- Because of the Cooperative Agreement, the Implementation Committee and signatories to the Agreement provide input to MDEQ on issues like new and increased use requests.

- The TMDL Implementation Plan sets goals for NPDES storm water permit programs. Goals are for permittees as well as MDEQ compliance programs. MS4 operators in this watershed are well-ahead of the federal deadlines for Phase II, many already with permits and implementing measures. MDEQ has targeted industrial and construction storm water compliance efforts in this watershed.
- The Plan reserves the option of issuing CAFO permits to livestock operations in the watershed, even those that may not automatically fall under the new rules when they are issued.

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ROUGE RIVER WATERSHED (ROUGE PROJECT)
Wayne County, Michigan

Overview of Organization

The Rouge River watershed covers 438 square miles of three counties and 48 municipalities in Michigan. The Rouge River Project was established in 1992 by the Wayne County Department of the Environment to manage pollution and restore the water quality of the Rouge River. Initially the program focused on combined sewer overflows, but as time passed it became clear that the Project would also have to address nonpoint sources to obtain sufficient improvements in water quality. The Project is managed by Wayne County and focuses on distributing funds for watershed conservation. The Rouge Project oversees 17 combined sewer overflow abatement projects. The Rouge Project is assessing and implementing nonpoint source controls and implements pollution prevention programs for watershed residents and businesses. This program is a combined effort between state, federal, and local agencies.

Organizational Structure and Function

Wayne County works with various advisory groups to govern the Rouge River Project. A remedial action plan was developed by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MI DEP), with input from communities, citizens, businesses, industries, and local governments, for the Rouge River watershed. Wayne County leads implementation of the plan through the Rouge River Project (also referred to as the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project). To develop the plan, MI DEP conducted extensive water quality and quantity modeling, data management, sampling, monitoring, and GIS development. The Project is demonstrating how the use of a systematic watershed approach offers a cost-effective and enhanced solution to conserve and restore urban watersheds.

Funding and Resources

Funding comes from multi-year grants from the U.S. EPA and additional funding from local communities. Wayne County manages these grants.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

Wayne County has used data gathered by the Rouge Project and other organizations to create a watershed-based permit for municipal storm water discharges. Currently coverage under this permit is only voluntary, but it will serve as the basis for NPDES Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permitting in Michigan. Over 95 percent of the watershed is now covered under this voluntary permit. Twenty-five different communities throughout the watershed are implementing more than 100 pilot projects. Illicit connections and failing septic systems have been shown to be significant sources of pollution and creative solutions are underway. Various groups have conducted water quality monitoring along the Rouge River since 1994. The percent of DO readings that

have violated the standard has dropped from 61 percent to 4 percent. Frog and toad surveys have demonstrated ecological improvements. Nonpoint sources are not currently included, however the Rouge Project envisions that a TMDL-based watershed management plan will be developed to set pollution reduction responsibilities contributing to nonattainment.

The Rouge Project also offers free, non-regulatory, confidential assistance for on-site pollution prevention to businesses located in the watershed.

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CLEARWATER RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT
Annandale, Minnesota

Overview of Organization
The Clearwater River Watershed District (CRWD) is located in Central Minnesota and covers 159 square miles, the entire drainage area of the Clearwater River. The watershed stretches through Meeker, Stearns, and Wright Counties and three municipalities and various townships. In April 1975 the Clearwater River Watershed District was established as a unit of local government by the Minnesota Water Resources Board under the Minnesota Watershed Act and became part of the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts. These are local units of government that work to conserve and restore water related problems. Duties of the Watershed District is set forth in Minnesota Statue 103D.

Organizational Structure and Function
A five-member board governs the CRWD. Each board member serves a three year term. Participating counties appoint the board members. An overall plan outlines the District's management philosophy, policies, programs, and objectives which are stated in Minnesota Statue 103D. Watershed Rules and Regulations is a document which lays out the requirements and procedures for implementing the overall plan.

The CRWD conducts a variety of functions, including providing outreach and education for those in need of technical assistance, funding various restoration efforts and serving an important advocacy role in the community. Partners such as the Planning and Zoning Departments of Wright, Stearns, and Meeker Counties screen permit applications for those that could effect water quality, these counties then send these applications to the CRWD for comments and conditions to be considered. County and state highway departments submit plans for highway and bridge maintenance to the CRWD for approval. The CRWD offers engineering advice and approval for farmers seeking tiling permits. The organization has conducted monitoring programs for water quality, stream flows, and precipitation. CRWD has also used computer modeling to identify erosion and nutrient export. The organization facilitates coordination between various local, state, and federal governments. CRWD meetings act as forums for citizens and government representatives to voice opinions, listen, and state criticism.

Funding and Resources
Funding has been provided from U.S. EPA for various conservation and restoration efforts. In addition, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has provided various funds at the state level as well. Local property owners have also provided additional funding.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

Focus of the CRWD is primarily on nonpoint sources, however, addressing phosphorus loadings from wastewater treatment plants is part of the organization's accomplishments. The CRWD promoted the use of on-land spray irrigation sewage treatment plants; most municipalities now use this approach and have a zero phosphorus discharge. In addition, the CRWD is facilitating master sanitary sewer planning to alleviate phosphorus loadings from septic systems and serves a coordination role among local, state, and federal governments.

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Follow Up Questions

1. What is the primary pollutant problem in the Clearwater River watershed and what point sources discharge to the watershed?
2. How has the CRWD used modeling results?
3. How has the CRWD used monitoring data that it collects?

MISSISSIPPI HEADWATERS BOARD
Walker, Minnesota

Overview of Organization

The Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB) addresses the first 400 miles of the Mississippi River in Minnesota. The organization is a Joint Powers Board that consists of Crow Wing, Clearwater, Beltrami, Cass, Itasce, Aitkin, and Morrison Counties. MHB was established in 1980 as an alternative to the designation of the river into the National Wild and Scenic River System and is mandated by Minnesota Statute 103F.361-377. The organization is tasked with the duties to protect and enhance the headwaters region. MHB has created a Comprehensive Management Plan which governs their actions and the actions of the participating counties.

Organizational Structure and Function

The Board consists of a County Commissioner in each of the eight counties. MHB is supported by an advisory committee, comprised of various county, state, and federal representatives for technical guidance, citizens of the watershed, and interest groups. MHB works with eight counties, the Chippewa National Forest and the Leech Lake Indian Reservation to promote and coordinate water quality monitoring, education and stewardship activities for shore land property owners. The organization has been given authority by the Minnesota Legislature to do the following:

- Implement specific regulation and management strategies necessary to achieve protection of the natural, cultural, scenic, scientific and recreational values of the Mississippi River corridor;
- Monitor land use and administration of local regulations within the Mississippi River corridor through fair and equitable implementation of the MHB Model Ordinance;
- Educate the public about the River and promote stewardship of its water and shore lands;
- Monitor the chemical, physical and biological health of the River's water; and
- Encourage and promote consistent and effective protection of the natural, cultural, scenic, scientific and recreational values of the Mississippi River by the public sector.

Funding and Resources

MHB employs a full time director and office manager. It maintains contracts for professional services with an attorney, a lobbyist, a limnologist, and a graphics designer. A base amount of funding is provided for the organization in Minnesota's fiscal budget and MHB has also received various state grants. The participating counties provide funding and in-kind services. Private and federal grants, such as Section 319 grants, also fund this organization.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

Unsure of scope of point sources impacting the Mississippi headwaters at this time. Organization focuses primarily on nonpoint source issues.

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Follow Up Questions

1. What, if any, are the point source impacting this portion of the Mississippi watershed?
2. How does MHB use monitoring data?
3. Could MHB's authority have any bearing on NPDES permitting in the Mississippi headwaters?

TEN TOWNS GREAT SWAMP WATERSHED MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Cedar Knolls, New Jersey

Overview of Organization

The Great Swamp watershed covers 55 square miles in the State of New Jersey, draining ten municipalities and encompassing the Great Swamp Wildlife Refuge. Land within the watershed is 48 percent developed, resulting in contributions of nutrients and soil. The Ten Towns Great Swamp Watershed Management Committee was formed in 1995 as a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization through an inter-municipal agreement to develop and implement a watershed management plan addressing these issues. The management plan focuses on water quantity, water quality, macroinvertbrates, stream characteristics, vegetation, flooding, and wastewater. All ten towns have adopted the Management Plan.

Organizational Structure and Function

Each of the participating towns and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service appoint a member to the Ten Towns Great Swamp Watershed Management Committee. Supporting the Committee is an advisory sub-committee to provide regional perspective. The advisory committee consists of representatives of Morris County, Somerset County, the Great Swamp Watershed Association, the Passaic River Coalition, and the Community Builders Association of New Jersey. A technical sub-committee consisting of representatives from various soil conservation districts, planning boards, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJ DEP), the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJ DOT), the U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and an environmental consultant also support the Committee. Additional sub-committees are to be created as needed.

The Committee's main role in the watershed is to facilitate coordination among the participating governments for activities such as developing and implementing the watershed management plan. While developing the watershed management plan, the Committee developed GIS maps and performed riparian buffer study to identify lake and stream buffers. To implement the plan, the participating members conduct comprehensive water quality monitoring of in-stream water quality, stream flow and pollutant loads. The organization is currently collecting and managing these data. Watershed investigations are also helping to identify sources of nonpoint source pollution. Monitoring began in 1998 for benchmarking the health of the watershed – to compare monitoring data to baseline information to identify problem areas and prioritize activities.

The organization has developed a set of ordinances to be adopted by the local governments for stormwater management, soil erosion and sediment control, steep slopes,

stream buffers, tree preservation and removal, and wetland protection. The organization performs outreach and education through monitoring "stream teams" and also has developed a series of fact sheets of best management practices (BMPs) for use in the watershed.

Funding and Resources

The Committee is funded by annual financial contributions from each of the participating municipalities and Somerset and Morris Counties. Some funding has been made available through Section 319 grants from the EPA and the NJ DEP.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

The watershed management plan developed by the Committee addresses storm water management and wastewater treatment issues in a variety of ways.

For example, a private, nonprofit advocacy group, The Great Swamp Watershed Association, is a member of the Committee's advisory sub-committee and obtains data from the self-monitoring efforts of the wastewater treatment plants in the watershed and determines the amounts of pollutants being contributed to the Great Swamp.

Although storm water is viewed as a nonpoint source in the context of the watershed management plan, NPDES permitting requirements under Phase II may soon affect storm water management in this watershed.

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THE UPPER RARITAN WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

Gladstone, New Jersey

Overview of Organization

The Upper Raritan watershed includes the 194 square mile area of the drainage basin of the north branch of the Raritan River and its tributaries. The watershed stretches across Somerset, Hunterdon, and Morris Counties and includes 23 municipalities. The Upper Raritan Watershed Association (URWA) was formed in 1959 by a group of conservationists as a grass roots movement to preserve and protect the watershed. The Association does have 501 (c)(3) status as a nonprofit organization. The mission statement for the organization includes the following:

- Secure the highest degree of environmental protection for the watershed;
- Identify potential and current threats to the environment, and work toward the alleviation thereof;
- Provide detailed geographic analysis and computer-generated maps to government agencies, environmental commissions, citizen groups, and other non-profit organizations;
- Increase environmental awareness, and encourage citizen organization
- Promote open-space preservation through conservation easements, land donations, and other available means;
- Properly manage land reserves; and
- Assist in agricultural planning and erosion control.

Although there are a few point source dischargers within the watershed (e.g., wastewater treatment plants and industries), the focus is on pollutant contributions from nonpoint sources.

Organizational Structure and Function

URWA operations are overseen by a Board of Trustees and sub-committees. Every day operations are managed by a paid staff person. The Association is focused on achieving its mission through advocacy, research and education. URWA supports land conservation within the watershed, conducts biological stream monitoring, does storm drain marking and sends out a quarterly newsletter. The Association conducts GIS mapping and analysis for portions of the watershed. They have committed to producing basic maps sets for 15 municipalities within the watershed. These maps will cover boundaries, topography, geology, wetlands, roads, and land use/land cover. Along with many other GIS projects the Association is also providing the N.J. Water Supply Authority with GIS mapping and

analysis along with other project partners including U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). URWA uses volunteers to conduct biological stream monitoring; data from this effort will be available to watershed stakeholders through a "state of the stream" report.

Funding and Resources

The Association has five full time and two part time employees. These include an Executive Director, a Development Director, a Watershed Projects Manager, a Geographic Information Systems Director, a Development Assistant and part time Office Administrator and Farm Manager. Funding for the Association is supplied by membership dues, contributions, and project grants from local, state, and federal sources.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

Research to date indicates that this organization does not participate in any NPDES related activities.

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CAPE FEAR RIVER ASSEMBLY
Fayetteville, North Carolina

Overview of Organization

The Cape Fear River watershed covers 9,322 square miles within the State of North Carolina. This river system is the largest and most industrialized in the State. Although over one-half of the land in the watershed is forested, it contains approximately 54 percent of the State's swine operations. In addition to agricultural practices, development issues also place pressure on the watershed which encompasses 26 counties and 116 municipalities. The Cape Fear River Assembly (CFRA) was founded in 1973 to achieve quality of life for Cape Fear River basin residents through proper management of the Cape Fear River. In January 2000, the CFRA approved a draft final report of a plan to identify future needs and actions of the organization. This draft set and prioritized goals and objectives, identified resources, and served as an action plan for the Assembly.

Organizational Structure and Function

The CFRA consists of several hundred members and a 34-member Board of Directors that represents varying watershed interests, including: local, state, and federal government; the general public; business and industry; educational institutions; and various environmental/conservation organizations. The daily operations of the organization are the responsibility of the Executive Director. Through the strategic planning process, the CFRA created four task forces to address participation, education, funding, and water quality management issues.

The CFRA serves as the umbrella organization for three associations of NPDES dischargers. These associations are voluntary and are intended to integrate instream sampling requirements as set forth in NPDES permits with the North Carolina Division of Water Quality's (NC DWQ) basinwide management program. Each dischargers association monitoring network is designed to complement the DWQ's ambient sampling sites. In addition to ongoing water quality monitoring at 109 stations, the CFRA leads a variety of projects including storm event sampling, clean metals sampling, hydrologic modeling, and a GIS/land use project.

Funding and Resources

Appropriations from the North Carolina General Assembly, membership dues, and contributions serve as the CFRA's primary sources of funding. The Mid-Carolina Council of Governments provide both administrative and financial support to the CFRA. In 1997,

the organization received $1.5 million for monitoring and research activities from the State. An additional allotment of $500,000 to continue the program followed in 1999.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

As mentioned above, the CFRA is the umbrella organization for three associations of NPDES dischargers. These associations monitor at a total of 109 stations in the lower, middle, and upper portions of the watershed. The January 2000 Strategic Plan for the CFRA contains several water quality management target objectives, including a review of the relationship of water quality from discharges to mass loadings and discharge quantity. Other activities such as monitoring, GIS mapping, facilitation, and education may also prove valuable to NPDES permitting activities in the watershed.

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MILL CREEK WATERSHED COUNCIL
Cincinnati, Ohio

Overview of Organization

The Mill Creek watershed covers 106 square miles in southwest Ohio. Many large corporations and industries line the banks of this watershed. In 1993, the Hamilton County Environmental Action Commission declared Mill Creek the worst environmental problem in the greater Cincinnati area. The Ohio EPA reported the following year that water quality in the creek was very poor. In 1996 and 1997, American Rivers listed Mill Creek as one of the 20 most threatened waterways in North America and then "the most endangered urban river in North America." To address the water quality issues within the watershed, 17 political jurisdictions signed an intergovernmental agreement to work together to restore the watershed. The Mill Creek Watershed Council (MCWC) was formed as a nonprofit organization in 1995 to address the issues impacting the watershed.

Organizational Structure and Function

MCWC is governed by an Executive Committee comprised of three officers, chairs of the standing committees and five members at large. The Executive Committee coordinates the activities of the standing committees, which address water quality, flood damage reduction, economic development, watershed awareness, and recreation. Representatives from political jurisdictions, government agencies, business associations, industries, universities, environmental organizations and recreation groups comprise MCWC. The Executive Director is responsible for day-to-day operations. MCWC uses a consensus-based approach for making policy decisions.

MCWC functions as a forum for the public to state concerns within the watershed and works with local governments to improve stormwater, flood control, and erosion control regulations. Through the work of the standing committees, MCWC will develop the Mill Creek Watershed Action Plan, address flood protection through coordination with the Army Corps of Engineers, organize stream-clean ups, and conduct outreach activities. In addition, MCWC funds various flood protection activities. Partnerships with local government and other local entities also help MCWC achieve their goals. For example, MCWC created GIS maps of fecal coliform data working with the University of Cincinnati.

Funding and Resources

MCWC's Executive Director is the only full-time employee. The Council receives funding through member dues, donations and grants.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

The organization facilitates local government relationships within the watershed. MCWC addresses point source discharges through the Water Quality Committee's efforts to develop TMDLs and the Mill Creek Watershed Action Plan. A TMDL Technical Advisory Committee leads MCWC's efforts related to TMDL development.

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Follow Up Questions

1. Is the TMDL Technical Advisory Committee working with Ohio EPA to actually develop a TMDL for the Mill Creek watershed? If so, how will the Committee participate (e.g., as a facilitator among sources, data provider, modeling, etc.)?

OHIO RIVER VALLEY WATER SANITATION COMMISSION
Cincinnati, Ohio

Overview of Organization

The Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission (ORSANCO) addresses 164,000 square miles of the Ohio River basin reaching into the States of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. The Commission was established in 1948 as an Interstate Agency with regulatory authority under an Interstate Compact approved by all participating states and Congress for improving and maintaining water quality within the watershed and to carry out the objectives of the Interstate Compact.

Organizational Structure and Function

ORSANCO is comprised of three Governor-appointed commissioners from each of the eight signatory States. In addition, three commissioners representing the United States, appointed by the President, also participate in ORSANCO's activities. Various state and federal agencies are also close partners. Numerous committees provide specialized support. These committees include:

- Citizens Advisory Committee
- Technical Committee
- NPDES Committee
- Water Quality Committee
- Biological Committee
- Stream Criteria Committee.

ORSANCO performs a regulatory and coordinating role within the watershed. The organization has regulatory authority granted to it by an interstate compact and Congress to prescribe standards of wastewater treatment in any interstate stream within the district. ORSANCO has only used this authority, however, for the Ohio River itself. Through its Watershed Pollutant Reduction Program, ORSANCO assists signatory States and U.S. EPA in TMDL development throughout the watershed. The organization is currently doing technical work on TMDLs through out the watershed. ORSANCO does other relevant applied research to the various objectives of the interstate compact.

Funding and Resources

The organization contains a full staff of paid professionals. Funding for the organization is provided by the signatory States based on their population and land area within the watershed as stated in Article X of the Interstate Compact.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

ORSANCO, more specifically the NPDES Committee, works with the applicable permitting agency to coordinate permit requirements within the basin in terms of standards and timing of issuance. Through review and comment, ORSANCO participates in the NPDES permitting process within its jurisdiction. ORSANCO conducts various water quality and biological monitoring, then coordinates these data for the participating States. ORSANCO also coordinates state source water assessments, supports Section 303(d) related activities, conducts wet weather related studies and establishes objectives for the similar to water quality standards.

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TUALATIN RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL

Hillsboro, Oregon

Overview of Organization

The Tualatin River watershed encompasses approximately 710 square miles and lies between the Coast Range Mountains and the Willamette River in northwestern Oregon, just west of the City of Portland. Forested land comprises 49 percent of the watershed while agriculture accounts for 38 percent and urbanized portions account for the remaining 13 percent. Agricultural runoff and wastewater from industries have raised concerns regarding water quality. Illegal water diversions, 303(d) listed streams, low dissolved oxygen, and high fecal coliform are some of the current concerns within the watershed.

In 1993, a group of local and state government representatives formed the Tualatin River Watershed Council (TRWC) to help coordinate planning for the Tualatin River watershed. For the next two years the group met to create bylaws, and create goals and objectives. In 1995, the Oregon Legislature passed a bill establishing guidance in creating a watershed council, defined as a locally organized, voluntary, non-regulatory group. The Washington County Board of Commissioners formally recognized the TRWC in 1996. The mission of the Council, as contained in its charter, is "to foster better stewardship of the Tualatin River watershed resources, deal with issues in advance of resource degradation, and ensure sustainable watershed health, functions, and uses."

Organizational Structure and Function

TRWC is an advisory body to established, decision-making entities and communities of interest. The purpose of the Council is to bring residents, local governments, and organizations together to take a pro-active approach to addressing watershed management issues in the Tualatin Basin. The Council provides a framework for coordination and cooperation and uses consensus as its decision-making process.

The Council is comprised of 20 members representing citizens, agriculture, business/industry, the environmental community, the forestry community, local governments, chambers of commerce, the urban community (i.e., water and sewer districts), commercial/recreational fisheries, and the education community. A Technical Assistance Committee (TAC) made of various scientists and government officials identify problems within the watershed and recommend appropriate actions to correct these problems. In addition to the TAC, the Council also has an Action Plan sub-committee that worked with the TAC to create the Tualatin River Watershed Action Plan in 1999.

The Action Plan reflects TRWC's goals and vision and is a resource guide containing a suite of action items addressing water quality, watershed habitat, flooding and soil erosion, and recreational activities within the watershed. Action items are voluntary in nature. Projects conducted by TRWC include a citizen volunteer monitoring initiative, assessments of sub-watersheds, and a fish habitat and distribution study. In addition, TRWC is active in data collection and management. It has gathered data from public sources to create a GIS CD-ROM which includes data layers for environmental quality, land use, and hydrology. The Tualatin Watershed Resources Collection is a single repository for data on the watershed developed by TWRC. Educational activities conducted by TWRC include nonpoint source education at local schools, as well as publication of a newsletter.

Funding and Resources

TRWC has a full-time professional coordinator funded through grants from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB). TRWC has also received funding from partners such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Tualatin Valley Water Quality Endowment Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

TRWC's Action Plan appears to focus on conducting watershed assessments and outreach/education type activities. The Action Plan does not contain action items that directly address NPDES permitting issues. However, TRWC does have participation from Clean Water Services (formerly Unified Sewerage Agency), the lead watershed management organization for Washington County. TRWC's role in the watershed as a facilitator, educator, and data collector could prove useful to NPDES watershed-based permitting.

Contact Information

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Council Coordinator

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WILLAMETTE RIVERKEEPER

Portland, Oregon

Overview of Organization

The Willamette River watershed drains an area of 11,500 square miles, home to nearly 70 percent of Oregon's population. As a result of the various land uses the watershed supports, the Willamette is on the State of Oregon's Section 303(d) list for pollutants such as bacteria and mercury, as well as violations of the State's temperature water quality standards. Founded in 1996, Willamette Riverkeeper is a program of the national umbrella organziation known as Waterkeeper Alliance. It is the only organization dedicated to the protection and restoration of the Willamette River watershed.

Organizational Structure and Function

Willamette Riverkeeper is comprised of staff, a board of directors, and a group of volunteers. The Public Trust Doctrine serves as the operating principle for Willamette Riverkeeper, stating that rivers belong to everyone. As part of the Waterkeeper Alliance, Willamette Riverkeeper is a member and an active participant in the Alliance's activities.

Programs implemented by Willamette Riverkeeper include the River Guardian Program, the Natural Waters Program, and the River Discovery Education Program. Through the River Guardian Program, watershed volunteers conduct visual and water quality monitoring to help fill data gaps and to verify data collected by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). DEQ provides equipment and training for this program. The Natural Waters Program focuses on implementation of Clean Water Act requirements, as well as other issues impacting the watershed. Under this program, Willamette Riverkeeper works to promote the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), participates in the Agricultural Water Quality Management Planning process for the Willamette River, and identifies willing sellers of riparian lands. The River Discovery Education Program focuses on raising watershed citizens' awareness through publications, presentations, and paddling activities to promote recreation on the Willamette River.

Funding and Resources

Financial support comes from individuals, foundations, and businesses within the region.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

Through the Natural Waters Program, Willamette Riverkeeper stays actively involved in

NPDES activities within the watershed. The organization reviews all permit applications and comments on them to "ensure that the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality understands the need to issue protective permits." In addition, Willamette Riverkeeper tracks stormwater permits and works to ensure municipal wastewater treatment plants are implementing strategies to stop combined sewer overflows at the earliest possible date. When necessary, Willamette Riverkeeper files lawsuits to ensure compliance with NPDES permits and Clean Water Act requirements. The organization also sits on a committee involved in TMDL development.

Contact Information

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Executive Director

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www.willamette-riverkeeper.org

www.keeper.org

Follow Up Questions

1. Has Willamette Riverkeeper participated in any TMDL development activities for the Willamette and, if so, how has their involvement in NPDES permit review played a role?

CUMBERLAND RIVER COMPACT

Nashville, Tennessee

Overview of Organization

The Cumberland River watershed is 18,000 square miles, split between Kentucky and Tennessee. The Cumberland River Compact is a non-profit group formed in 1997 through the efforts of citizens, businesses and corporations in an effort to clean the Cumberland River. The organization considers itself "non-confrontational," meaning it prefers to work with the community and businesses rather than against them. The Cumberland River Compact addresses the whole watershed throughout both states. The organization focuses on education and outreach, working with businesses with technical support for developing "greener" ways to develop.

Organizational Structure and Function

The organization is operated through a board comprised of citizens and agency representatives. Advising the board are a water quality committee, a land committee, and the education/outreach program and marina program. Participating stakeholders include small businesses, large corporations, local government, state and federal agencies, and citizens. The organization focuses on education and outreach through working with teachers, landowners, contractors, marinas and other interested groups.

Funding and Resources

The organization has three full time employees. Funding is provided by Section 319 grants and donations. Dues are not required, although members are encouraged to donate.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

Any involvement in NPDES related activities is limited to partnership development with various state and federal agencies.

Contact Information

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(615) 382-4443

Follow Up Questions

1. What types of discharges (NPS/PS) primarily impact the watershed?
2. Who are the target audiences of their education and outreach efforts?
3. What specific issues does the water quality committee address?

GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY

Seguin, Texas

Overview of Organization

The Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority's (GBRA) is one of eight river authorities in the State of Texas. River authorities were created by the Texas Legislature to develop and conserve surface water resources within their respective jurisdiction for the beneficial use of Texas residents. The term "River Authority" applies to larger water districts and waste disposal authorities that operate in parts of three or more counties and are created by the Texas Legislature.

In the case of GBRA, their statutory district begins at the headwaters of the Guadalupe and Blanco Rivers and ends at San Antonio Bay, an area characterized by low dissolved oxygen and high bacteria concentrations. GBRA was established in 1933 as the "Guadalupe River Authority", as a public corporation under Section 59, Article 16 of the Constitution of Texas. In 1935 an act of the Texas Legislature reauthorized the organization as the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority. The organization was created to conserve and protect the watershed of the Guadalupe River. The organization, serving ten counties, is involved with various services in the watershed including the production of electricity from seven hydroelectric plants, water rights management, delivery of water, and water and wastewater treatment.

Organizational Structure and Function

River Authorities in the State of Texas vary in terms of legal structure and power. GBRA is governed by a Board of Directors consisting of nine Governor-appointees that have been approved by the Texas Senate. Committees support the Board of Directors by reviewing policies, programs and actions to be considered by the board. Eleven operating divisions include a General Division that provides administrative, technical and support services, a Water Resources Division that is responsible for distributing water throughout the basin, and Hydroelectric Divisions that generate electricity. A general manager is responsible for the operations of these divisions.

In addition to providing water and electricity, GBRA provides system design services for water and wastewater plants, conducts rainfall and river monitoring, maintains recreational facilities, manages floods, and manages water and waste water treatment plants (WWTPs). Currently GBRA manages ten wastewater treatment facilities with discharge permits issued by the Texas Natural Resource Conservation (TNRCC). The GBRA also performs various educational activities which include producing an educational video and creating a new science curriculum for middle school students. It also distributes funds to address water

quality issues in the basin and helps secure funds for various water-related recreation in partnership with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. GBRA also takes an active role in developing partnerships with state and federal agencies to address water quality and conservation needs.

Funding and Resources

GBRA has 120 employees. The organization is self-sufficient through the funds it receives for its services throughout the watershed. Some state and federal grants fund specific projects.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

GBRA manages 13 wastewater treatment plants. These facilities have coverage under NPDES permits issued by TNRCC and provides comments on these permits as they come up for renewal and reissuance. GBRA also offers technical assistance to local customers and communities regarding water and wastewater treatment facility design. GBRA builds partnerships with many local, state and federal agencies in order to address water quality and quantity issues.

Contact Information

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LAKE CHAMPLAIN BASIN PROGRAM

Grand Isle, Vermont

Overview of Organization

The Lake Champlain watershed covers 8,234 square miles reaching into Vermont, New York, and Canada (Quebec). Lake Champlain was designated a resource of national significance in 1990. As a result, legislation (Public Law 101-596) to create a comprehensive pollution prevention plan was passed. The plan was completed in 1996 and called "Opportunities for Action." It is this plan that guides the actions of the Lake Champlain Basin Program. The Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP) works with government agencies from Vermont, New York, Quebec, and private organizations, local communities, and individuals. The goal of LCBP is to coordinate efforts to conserve the watershed in the face of increased levels of phosphorus from sewage treatment plant discharges and runoff from agriculture and urban surfaces, increased levels of toxic substances, the introduction of nonnative species, and habitat fragmentation. The plan addresses water quality, living natural resources and recreation and cultural resources. In 2002 a new revised plan was approved by the Lake Champlain Steering Committee. The plan is still pending the endorsement of Vermont, New York, Quebec, and the U.S. EPA. It is expected to be fully endorsed by the supporting governments sometime in summer 2002.

Organizational Structure and Function

The LCBP is administered jointly by a variety of stakeholders representing U.S. interests at the federal, regional, and state levels, as well as Canadian interests. Members include:

- U.S. EPA Region 2
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Geological Survey
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration
- National Park Service
- Quebec Ministry of Environment
- New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission
- Lake Champlain Sea Grant

- N.Y. Department of Environmental Conservation
- N.Y. Department of Agriculture, Food and Markets
- N.Y. State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
- Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
- Vermont Department of Agriculture, Food and Markets
- Vermont Geological Survey.

A Steering Committee facilitates communication and coordination among the various partners, secures and directs funding, and provides technical and financial assistance to local communities and organizations. The Steering Committee is composed of top level officials representing local, state, federal and provincial governments and includes the Citizen Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee Chairs. A Citizens Advisory Committee has been created for New York, Vermont and Quebec to comment on the management of the watershed to the Steering Committee. The Technical Advisory Committee is made up of professionals appointed by the Steering Committee to provide technical information, advise about management issues, and interpret monitoring program results.

The main role of the organization is to facilitate coordination among the participating governments and assist in implementing the management plan. Participants conduct water quality monitoring funded in part by the program. The LCBP is currently considering the construction of a database to manage data. Grants are awarded through a competitive-based process for local implementation projects. Around 460 grants totaling nearly 2.25 million dollars has been awarded since 1993.

Funding and Resources

The LCBP has six paid employees working to coordinate the effort. In-kind contributions in the forms of services and staff are provided through various state and federal agencies. Funding is provided by federal sources, such as U.S. EPA, U.S. Geological Survey, and National Park Service, in the form of grants.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

Increased levels of phosphorus from sewage treatment plant discharges is one of the problems that LCBP is trying to address. Point sources contribute approximately 20 percent of the phosphorus loading to the Basin. The Program's website serves as a conduit for information to all stakeholders on three major steps of the phosphorus reduction strategy

for Lake Champlain. Annual reports contain information on progress toward achieving phosphorus reductions through implementation of "Opportunity for Action." LCBP tracks expenditures on point source controls, as well as reductions in phosphorus loadings.

Contact Information

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Follow Up Questions

1. Has the phosphorus loading reduction goal impacted NPDES permit requirements?
2. How has LCBP been working with point sources to reduce their contributions?

THE ELIZABETH RIVER PROJECT
Norfolk, Virginia

Overview of Organization

The Elizabeth River watershed spans areas of the Chesapeake, Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Portsmouth, and Suffolk located in the state of Virginia. It is a watershed impacted by legacy pollutant discharges (e.g., creosote plant spill that occurred 30 years ago). Point source discharges currently impacting the watershed include ship building activities and naval facilities.

The Elizabeth River Project was founded in 1992 by four citizens to build broad community involvement in restoring the environmental health of the river. In 1995, the Elizabeth River Project worked in partnership with the Commonwealth of Virginia, with support from U.S. EPA and the Virginia Environmental Endowment, to create the Elizabeth River Restoration Action Plan. The Restoration Action Plan focuses on public outreach, restoring wetlands, storm water runoff, establishing a monitoring program, watershed restoration and pollution reduction.

Organizational Structure and Function

The Elizabeth River Project is has a Board of Directors and a staff comprised of an executive director, assistant director, various project managers, a technical intern, and project liaisons. The Board comprises representatives from industry, government, environmentalists, scientists, educators, and citizens. Various standing committees support the everyday activities such as funding and board development, technical policy committees and event committees also support the board. The organization works closely with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the federal government and the cities of Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth and Virginia Beach.

Working as a watershed advocacy group, the Elizabeth River Project mainly uses education and outreach to build partnerships (e.g., facilitating cost-share agreements between local governments and the Army Corps of Engineers for pollution reduction). In 1996, the organization began a River Stars Program to encourage voluntary pollution prevention among businesses. Sixty businesses participate, including large corporations within the watershed. Under the Restoration Action Plan, the organization also maintains an Elizabeth River monitoring program and data bank to monitor river trends.

Funding and Resources

The organization maintains a staff of four full-time and five part-time employees, yet relies heavily on its 2,000 member base. Primary funding for the organization comes from federal and state grants, as well as membership dues.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

The organization has built partnerships with industries to reduce pollution through the River Stars Program. The organization recently secured a grant from the Small Watershed Grant Program to address storm water runoff.

Contact Information

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Follow Up Questions

1. Do any of the participants in the River Stars Program try to achieve pollutant reductions through NPDES permits?
2. How are grant funds used to address stormwater?

CHEHALIS RIVER COUNCIL

Centralia, WA

Overview of Organization

The Chehalis River basin is located in southwest Washington, spanning five counties including Grays Harbor and Lewis. It is the largest river basin in the State of Washington, outside of the Columbia River system. The drainage area, approximately 2,660 square miles, is comprised of forested lands (85 percent), agriculture (over 9 percent), and urbanized areas (3 percent). According to the Chehalis River Basin Nonpoint Action Plan, both point and nonpoint sources have contributed to the degradation of the Basin and continued pressure from growth continue to impair the watershed. Numerous segments of the Chehalis River watershed are on Washington's Section 303(d) list of impair waters for low dissolved oxygen, temperature, and bacteria.

The Chehalis River Council (CRC) formed in 1994 to spearhead the implementation of the 1992 Chehalis River Basin Action Plan (CRBAP). Due to lack of state and federal funds, the CRBAP had limited implementation. Through the CRC's efforts to identify and secure funding, actions contained in the CRBAP are underway.

Organizational Structure and Function

The CRC is a nonprofit corporation that operates through an elected Board of Trustees. Members that pay dues elect the Board. Membership is open to everyone and all meetings are open. Working with its membership and the Board, the CRC establishes a yearly program of activities in five topical areas. These areas are as follows:

- Continue what the CRC has done
- Become more active
- Establish financial independence
- Stress membership growth
- Pursue grant opportunities.

Partners of the CRC include the Washington Department of Ecology, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, local conservation districts, schools, cities, counties and businesses. With its members and partners, the CRC has generated a list of accomplishments which include developing a water quality monitoring plan and volunteer

guide, conducting educational activities on the TMDL program, creating a public resource library, and conducting monthly public seminars throughout the watershed. In addition, the CRC has implemented volunteer monitoring projects in the watershed. Future goals include conducting more activities in the subbasins of the watershed and increasing membership.

Funding and Resources

Funding for the CRC's activities come from a variety of sources, including grants from federal, state, and private sources, as well as donations. Membership dues are also an important source of funding. CRC relies on the support of its volunteer base and Board of Trustees.

Involvement in NPDES-Related Activities

Point source contributions have an impact on the health of the Chehalis River basin, therefore, the CRC is involved in a variety of NPDES-related activities. Providing watershed citizens with access to information is one of the CRC's primary functions. Its web site provides a comprehensive compilation of local news stories related to NPDES permitting issues and TMDL development and implementation. The CRC tries to influence NPDES permitting within the watershed by reviewing and commenting on proposed permits. It also hosted a public meeting related to the fecal coliform TMDL for Grays Harbor.

Contact Information

www.crcwater.org

Follow Up Questions

1. Are there other ways that the CRC is involved in NPDES-related issues, other than providing comments on proposed permits?
2. Does the CRC provide any technical support to the Washington Department of Ecology's TMDL development efforts in the Chehalis River watershed?