

**Technical Advisory Committee Meeting #2
North Fork Catoctin Creek Benthic TMDL**

Monday, August 3, 2015 – 2:00 pm
Rust Library –Meeting Room
380 Old Waterford Road NW
Leesburg, VA 20176

TAC Members Present:

Loudoun County (David Ward, Steve Plante)

Other Attendees

Virginia Tech – Biological System Engineering Department (Gene Yagow)
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (Craig Lott, Lilly Frazer, May Sligh, Jennifer Carlson)

TAC Members Absent:

Audubon Naturalist Society
Loudoun Soil and Water Conservation District
Loudoun Watershed Watch
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Northern Virginia Regional Commission
Piedmont Environmental Council
Potomac Conservancy
Potomac River Greenway Coalition
Potomac Riverkeeper
Sierra Club (Great Falls)
Town of Purcellville
US Geological Survey
Virginia Cooperative Extension
Virginia Department of Forestry
Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc.

TAC Meeting Minutes:

The purpose of this meeting was to share with the TAC the draft stressor analysis results, which identified the most probable stressors (pollutants and non-pollutants) to the benthic communities in the North Fork Catoctin Creek watershed. There are two segments listed as impaired for benthics in the watershed; one segment is located in the upper portion of the watershed, and the other segment is located at the mouth of the watershed. DEQ presented a brief background on TMDL project including an overview of the benthic impairments and the stressor analysis process. The contractor for the project, Virginia Tech, reviewed the data used to list the benthic impairments in North Fork Catoctin Creek; presented the data sources used to evaluate the potential stressors; and discussed the classification of the potential stressors into eliminated, possible, and most probable stressors categories. Sediment was identified as a most probable stressor to the benthic impairment located at the mouth of the watershed, and a TMDL would be developed to address the sediment sources. Low flow/hydromodification was also identified as a contributing cause of the benthic community stress in both of the impaired segments; however, it was noted that a TMDL would not be developed for low flow, as flow is not a pollutant.

Following the presentation of the stressor analysis, the TAC held discussions on engaging the community to consider best management practices and on the availability of the groundwater in the watershed.

A copy of the presentation can be found at DEQ's website:

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/programs/water/waterqualityinformationtmdls/tmdl/tmdldevelopment/documentationforselecttmdls.aspx>