

Mountain Run PCB TMDL Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting #2
Meeting Minutes
July 26, 2022
2:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. at Culpeper Public Library

Participants:

DEQ: Rebecca Shoemaker, Mark Richards
DEQ Contractor (BSE at VA Tech): Karen Kline, Brian Benham
State Government: Steve Cook, VDH; Richard Jacobs, Culpeper SWCD
VPDES Permittees: Jacqueline Goldmon, Cabinetworks Group

The following entities have been identified as members of the TAC and were invited to the meeting but were not in attendance:

Mark McGeechan, TE Connectivity	Culpeper Recycling
Melanie Bayne, Town of Culpeper	Karl Thornhill, Updike Industries
Dick Sedgley, AquaLaw	Todd Atkins, Superior Paving Corporation
Sam McLearn, Culpeper County Planning	Jennifer Bunting, Southern States Cooperative
Joe Rosetti, Dept of Forestry	Deanna Crumbling
Friends of the Rappahannock	Michelle Edwards, Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission
Bill Graves, ENSAT Corporation	Carl Stafford, Virginia Cooperative Extension
Maggie Blomstrom, Piedmont Environmental Council	

The meeting started with introductions and general discussion about the project. Mark Richards led the presentation; he explained DEQ's continuous planning process, Virginia's TMDL program, and background information relevant to the Mountain Run PCB TMDL project. The presentation summarized the suggested TMDL endpoint and allocation scenario and noted that the PCB water quality standard has been proposed for update in the current triennial review. Karen Kline presented the Mountain Run PCB model used to develop the TMDL; she noted that she was presenting the same information that was included in the first TAC meeting in January 2021.

Various questions were addressed during the meeting:

Q: How is WLA calculated?

DEQ: The existing load (or baseline) is calculated outside the model using mean flow for a specific period of time; a facility's mean concentration is used to calculate loading. The WLA is calculated using the design flow for a WWTP (or treatment system at an industrial site) and the TMDL endpoint is used as the PCB concentration. For industrial stormwater facilities, stormwater flow is calculated using the spatial area of industrial/impervious use and PCB data are used (if available) for the existing load; to calculate the WLA the TMDL endpoint is substituted as the PCB concentration.

Q: Why are there high levels of PCBs recorded in American eel?

DEQ: They are predators and fatty. It's not necessarily due to their migratory nature because they live their adult lives in tributaries like Mt Run and when they travel to the Sargasso Sea as adults to spawn, they do not return.

Q: What are the unregulated sources?

DEQ: We can use the implementation process to determine more about these sources, and we may need more monitoring. It may be useful to utilize the model sub-watersheds to hone in on sources areas.

Q: Do sediment loads include sediments from wet ponds? SWCD noted that there are pond BMPs in the area.

DEQ: Sediment loading within the TMDL includes the stream sediment, so it shouldn't include sediment from a BMP unless there is transfer of sediment from pond to stream. If there is PCB contamination in the sediment within a pond, there is potential that the pond could become a source of PCBs to the stream.

The meeting concluded with a summary of the proposed schedule. DEQ hopes to provide the draft TMDL report to the TAC in September. A public meeting will be held after the draft report is complete.