

NRCS National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI)

Briefing for EPA

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Team Members

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NWQI Focus

Objective

- Accelerate targeted funding in FY 2012
- Small watershed (12-digit HUC) emphasis
- Water quality that is impaired, threatened, has TMDL plan in place, or is critical
- No less than 1 watershed, and no more than 3 (exception requires Regional Conservationist approval)

GOAL – Remove streams and other water-bodies from 303d list, from threatened status, from contributing to impairments, or adequately addresses a TMDL plan

NWQI Focus

Watershed Selection Criteria

- 303d listed, threatened, TMDL Plan, and/or critical stream segments and water-bodies
- 12-digit HUC watersheds
- Impairments that NRCS can effectively address through voluntary action
- Agricultural sources (nutrients/sediment)
- State Water Quality Agency input, then State Technical Committee input

NWQI Focus (WS Selection)

Priority Pollutants

- Nutrients
 - Low Dissolved Oxygen
 - Ammonia
 - Algal Growth
- Sediment/Turbidity

Other Eligible Pollutants

- Pesticides
- Temperature
- Salinity
- Habitat Alteration
- Cause Unknown – Impaired Biota

NWQI Focus

Conservation Practices

- Follow MRBI Established Approach
 - 12-digit HUC
 - Core and Supporting Practices
 - Partnerships/Leveraging

- Conservation Activity Plans

NWQI Focus

Ranking Criteria

- Screen Applications (High, Medium, Low)
- National Program Questions for Consistency
- State Questions for Specific NWQI Objectives
- Local Questions from State Technical Committee
Input

NWQI Focus

Schedule

- 02-23-12 – EPA Coordination
- 03-16-12 – Program Announcements
- 04-20-12 – State WQ Agency/Tech Committee Input
- 04-20-12 – State Selection of W'Sheds
- 04-24-12 – Selected Watersheds to RCs Office

NWQI Focus

Schedule (Cont'd)

- 04-27-12 – Sub-Accounts for Tracking Established
- 05-18-12 – Application Period-1 Ends
- 06-15-12 – Application Period-2 Ends
- 07-02-12 – Obligation Deadline
- 07-30-12 – Outcome Training Completed

NWQI Focus

Tracking

- \$33 Million in EQIP FA Dedicated to this Effort
- States establish ProTracts Sub-Accounts
- STCs may add additional FA > original 5%
- Unused FA < 5% returned to NHQ for re-allocation to other states for this purpose

NWQI Focus

Payment Schedules

- Follow regional protocol for FY-12
- On very limited basis, Add practices/scenarios as needed for this effort with RC and Deputy Chief for Programs concurrence

Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Acrobat

Normal Page Layout Page Break Preview Custom Views Full Screen

Workbook Views Show/Hide

Ruler Formula Bar Gridlines Headings Message Bar

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Window View Side by Side Save Workspace Switch Windows

Macros

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National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) Information			HUC12 Total Acres	Agricultural Land (NLCD)		Water Quality (Nutrients, Low DO, Ammonia, Algal)		Soil Quality				
				Cropland, Hay, and Pasture Land		EPA 303d Impaired Waters		CEAP Vulnerable Soils				USGS
State	HUC_12	HUC12_Name	NLCD based (U.S., Lower 48 States Only)	Acres Ag Land	Percent Ag Land	303d Impaired Waters Count	303d Impaired Waters w TMDL Count	High or Moderately High Potential: Leaching (Acres)	High or Moderately High Potential: Leaching (% of Ag Land)	High or Moderately High Potential: Runoff (Acres)	High or Moderately High Potential: Runoff (% of Ag Land)	Nitrogen (kg/km ²)
ME	010100010603	Shields Branch Big Black River	11,074	0	0%	1	0	0	0%	0	0%	
ME	010100030304	Dickey Brook	16,743	5,865	35%	1	1	5,447	93%	4,461	76%	
ME	010100030305	Daigle Brook	10,071	0	0%	2	2	2,222	91%	1,660	68%	
ME	010100030306	Cross Lake	12,953	0	0%	1	0	229	86%	128	48%	
ME	010100041002	West Branch Presque Isle Stream	15,623	0	0%	0	1	0	0%	0	0%	
ME	010100041005	Shields Brook-Upper Presque Isle Stream	18,925	0	0%	0	1	215	95%	105	46%	
ME	010100041008	Arnold Brook-Lower Presque Isle Stream	29,384	5,599	19%	1	1	5,279	94%	2,129	38%	
ME	010100041009	Pettingill Brook-Aroostook River	58,024	29,107	50%	0	1	27,549	95%	10,498	36%	33
ME	010100041103	Madawaska Lake	22,227	0	0%	0	1	301	85%	243	69%	
ME	010100041110	Pattee Brook	18,238	7,479	41%	1	0	7,120	95%	2,922	39%	8
ME	010100041112	Limestone Stream	30,043	11,313	38%	1	1	10,632	94%	3,249	29%	13
ME	010100041113	Hockenull Brook-Aroostook River	37,669	20,677	55%	1	0	19,731	95%	7,452	36%	23
ME	010100050101	Christina Reservoir-Prestile Stream	22,050	11,205	51%	2	0	10,329	92%	4,979	44%	11
ME	010100050102	Rideout Brook-Prestile Stream	21,925	6,053	28%	1	0	5,614	93%	2,885	48%	6
ME	010100050403	Nickerson Lake-Meduxnekeag River	20,819	4,731	23%	0	1	4,249	90%	2,433	51%	4
ME	010100050407	Smith Brook-Meduxnekeag River	27,369	8,961	33%	0	1	7,830	87%	6,487	72%	8
ME	010100050408	Mill Brook-Meduxnekeag River	6,290	2,270	36%	0	1	2,037	90%	1,167	51%	1
ME	010200040205	Meadow Brook-Piscataquis River	31,162	3,155	10%	1	0	1,814	57%	1,336	42%	1
ME	010200050201	Seboribus Rapids-Penobscot River	26,308	1,321	5%	1	0	660	50%	947	72%	
ME	010200050205	Matanawcook Stream	20,933	416	2%	1	0	347	83%	224	54%	
ME	010200050208	Pollack Brook-Penobscot River	29,668	764	3%	2	0	435	57%	611	80%	
ME	010200050408	Penobscot River at Orson Island	28,395	153	1%	1	0	42	28%	59	38%	
ME	010200050703	Upper Kenduskeag Stream	25,494	3,498	14%	1	0	1,982	57%	2,386	68%	2
ME	010200050804	Hermon Pond-Middle Souadabscook Str	25,744	1,913	7%	2	0	949	50%	1,383	72%	

NWQI Focus

Outcomes

- NRCS uses many tools (CEAP-APEX, SWAT, SPARROW, WQIag, etc.)
- Each tool has Pros and Cons
- Use WQIag in Selected Watershed for FY-12 (Training Required)
- Develop Team to Focus for FY-13