

MASSACHUSETTS (REGION 1)

A Snapshot of Massachusetts' TMDL Program (November 2008)

The Basics

Key Agency/Department & website

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Resource Protection
Division of Watershed Management
<http://mass.gov/dep/water/resources/tmdls.htm>

TMDL Program Structure/Placement

Housed in Watershed Planning Program; Integrated (across WQS & monitoring functions, & located in same office as NPDES and grant staff)

By the Numbers

Number of Impaired Waters	837
Number of Causes of Impairment	1,731
Top Five Causes of Impairment	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Pathogens2. Nutrients3. Noxious Aquatic Plants4. Organic Enrichment/Oxygen Depletion5. Turbidity
Approximate Number of TMDLs Developed Annually	20-150
Total Number of TMDLs Approved (1995 to present, incl. any est'd by EPA)	330 (pollutant/segment); 371 (pollutant stressor combinations)
Total Number of TMDLs Approved in 2005/2006/2007	2/18/145 (pollutant stressor combinations)
2008 303d/Integrated Report Submission Status (Date)	Draft submitted 4/1/08 (Final pending potential litigation)
Approximate Number of FTEs Working on TMDL Issues	4 (+3-4 for sp. projects)
<i>TMDLs</i>	
EPA Under Consent Decree to Develop TMDLs?	N
Broad-Scale? (<i>e.g.</i> , watershed, multi-jurisdictional, etc.)	Y

Non-TMDL Options

Use of Non-TMDL Options to Address Impaired Waters?

Investigating original listing through collection of new data to confirm impairment and use of 4b

Funding

Approximate Annual Budget for TMDL Program

\$600,000 +/-
(staffing);
\$500,000 +/-
(contracting)

Primary Source(s) of TMDL Program Funding

state funds; federal
106 & 319 funds;
some funds from
USACE & USGS

TMDL Implementation

TMDL Implementation Required?

Y (for point
sources)

--includes recommendation for implementation for nonpoint
sources

Innovations

Example(s) of Any Innovative Approach(es) Employed

--regional approach to Mercury TMDL

--use of the State Revolving Fund and development of
Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plans to identify
cost-effective solutions, rather than dictate outcome

--watershed TMDLs for certain pollutants including
concentration-based TMDLs for bacteria

TMDLs that Represent a Particular Achievement

--Regional Mercury TMDL

--Massachusetts Estuaries Project

--Assabet River Nutrient TMDL

Links to MA TMDLs:

<http://mass.gov/dep/water/resources/tmdls.htm>

Barriers

Top Three Barriers to TMDL Development

1. lack of staff
2. lack of detailed data for modeling
3. EPA timelines

Top Three Barriers to TMDL Implementation

1. lack of federal funds for implementation work
2. lack of state funds for implementation work