

MISSISSIPPI (REGION 4)

A Snapshot of Mississippi's TMDL Program (August 2008)

The Basics

Key Agency/Department & website(s)

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Land and Water Resources
http://www.deq.state.ms.us/MDEQ.nsf/page/TWB_Total_Maximum_Daily_Load_Section?OpenDocument

TMDL Program Structure/Placement

Housed in Surface Water Division

By the Numbers

Number of Impaired Waters 378

Number of Causes of Impairment 614

Top Five Causes of Impairment

1. Cause Unknown–Impaired Biota
2. Sediment
3. Nutrients
4. Organic Enrichment/Oxygen Depletion
5. Pathogens

Approximate Number of TMDLs Developed Annually

Total Number of TMDLs Approved (1995 to present, incl. any est'd by EPA) 816

Total Number of TMDLs Approved in 2005/2006/2007 57/254/154

2008 303d/Integrated Report Submission Status (Date) 8/1/2008

Approximate Number of FTEs Working on TMDL Issues 8

TMDLs

EPA Under Consent Decree to Develop TMDLs? Y

Broad-Scale? (*e.g.*, watershed, multi-jurisdictional, etc.)

Non-TMDL Options

Use of Non-TMDL Options to Address Impaired Waters?

Funding

Approximate Annual Budget for TMDL Program \$25 million

Primary Source(s) of TMDL Program Funding state funds; federal 106 and 319 funds

TMDL Implementation

TMDL Implementation Required? N

Innovations

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

--TMDL development: keeping it simple

--TMDL implementation: communication and participation in permitting, basin management, and 319 programs

--measuring success: using biological monitoring

TMDLs that Represent a Particular Achievement

--Tombigbee River Basin TMDL

[http://www.deq.state.ms.us/MDEQ.nsf/page/TWB_tombigbeest
atrep?OpenDocument](http://www.deq.state.ms.us/MDEQ.nsf/page/TWB_tombigbeest
atrep?OpenDocument)

Barriers

Top Three Barriers to TMDL Development

1. large 303(d) list = large # of TMDLs due under consent decree (many with no data)
2. consent decree forcing development of TMDLs prior to criteria development for nutrients and sediment
3. consent decree deadlines forcing development of approaches to TMDLs

Top Three Barriers to TMDL Implementation

1. voluntary BMPs