Wisconsin (Region 5)
A Snapshot of Wisconsin’s TMDL Program (July 2008)

The Basics
Key Agency/Department & website
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Division of Water
http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/wqs/303d/

TMDL Program Structure/Placement
Housed in Water Evaluation Section; Integrated via Impaired Waters Team

By the Numbers
Number of Impaired Waters 593
Number of Causes of Impairment 1,163
Top Five Causes of Impairment
1. Mercury
2. Sediment
3. Nutrients
4. Habitat Alteration
5. Organic Enrichment/Oxygen Depletion

Approximate Number of TMDLs Developed Annually 15
Total Number of TMDLs Approved (1995 to present, incl. any est’d by EPA) 86
Total Number of TMDLs Approved in 2005/2006/2007 56/15/33
2008 303d/Integrated Report Submission Status (Date) 6/15/2008
Approximate Number of FTEs Working on TMDL Issues 5.75 (partial time)

TMDLs
EPA Under Consent Decree to Develop TMDLs? N
Broad-Scale? (e.g., watershed, multi-jurisdictional, etc.)

Non-TMDL Options
Use of Non-TMDL Options to Address Impaired Waters? Y

Funding
Approximate Annual Budget for TMDL Program $830,000+
Primary Source(s) of TMDL Program Funding federal 319 & 106 funds

TMDL Implementation
TMDL Implementation Required? Y

Innovations
Example(s) of Any Innovative Approach(es) Employed
--we use the Environmental Accountability Projects in WI as an alternative to TMDLs for impaired waters that already have implementation strategies taking place that will result in that waterbody meeting WQSs
--WI has a great internal WQ assessment database (WATERS) that we are modifying daily to track impaired waters, TMDLs, and other special projects from start to finish—including tracking implementation

--WI has efforts to increase regulatory authority for runoff management/NPS to enforce performance standards and manure prohibitions in TMDL/Impaired Waters areas

TMDLs that Represent a Particular Achievement
Lower Fox River TMDL (currently in development)
http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/wqs/303d/FoxRiverTMDL/

**Barriers**

Top Three Barriers to TMDL Development
1. lack of monitoring funding and subsequent data for TMDL development
2. no current internal modeling/technical support (modeler position has been vacant for over a year)
3. lack of staff to develop policy and guidance, and to prepare/write reports

Top Three Barriers to TMDL Implementation
1. limited resources for staff (implementation planning & guidance development)
2. no regional (DNR) or local (county/municipality) staff positions at this time to implement TMDLs
3. limited cost-sharing dollars available to assist landowners to enforce NPS (runoff management) performance standards (*i.e.*, regulatory authority is in our state code, just need $ to implement)