Implementing Mixed Point Source/ Nonpoint Source Nutrient TMDLs

Kathy Stecker, North Carolina

- Estuaries, reservoirs impaired by nutrients
- Both point and nonpoint sources contribute
 - o Point sources don't want to be responsible for all reductions
 - o Historically, nonpoint source controls dependent on voluntary action
- Nutrient TMDLs developed for large watersheds, sometimes whole river basins
- After modeling completed, stakeholder process for rulemaking begins
- Authority through existing designations or new legislation
 - o "Nutrient Sensitive Waters," "Water Supply Watershed," e.g.
- Stakeholders request and review reduction scenarios, make recommendations
- NC Division of Water Quality makes final recommendations
 - o Public hearing(s), public comment, revisions
- NC Environmental Management Commission approves
- NC Legislature adopts, NC DWQ enforces
- Regulations include requirements for
 - o Permit limits for NPDES wastewater facilities
 - Agriculture loading reductions
 - Stormwater (existing and new)
 - o Nutrient applicators (golf courses, commercial lawn care, etc.)
 - o Protection and maintenance of riparian buffers
- For more information, see http://h2o.enr.state.nc.us/nps/
 - o Or contact Kathy Stecker, kathy.stecker@ncmail.net