

Nutrient Science Advisory Committee

Tentative Conclusions and Next Steps

April 13, 2016

9 am – 3 pm CST

SIU Morris Library

Actions and Tentative Conclusions

1. Communication with PWG regarding NSAC actions and decisions is important. NSAC efforts in the future are to include the following:
 - a. Finalize NSAC work plan;
 - b. Schedule a webinar to share the NSAC work plan.
 - c. Webinar for Fox River and other watershed/point source groups to present information on data the NSAC should consider (June-July) 4 groups 30 min
 - d. Candice, Todd, Matt, Walter and Paul will be able to attend PWG Aug 30. Dinner. Then, NSAC meeting the next day.
2. Data discussions:
 - a. The current effort to identify nutrient-relevant (i.e., eutrophication) criteria for Illinois waters differs from two previous attempts in that significant additional data are available (e.g., IEPA datasets from 2009 – 2014, continuous DO data, and maybe other sources) and there is increased opportunity to identify approvable criteria that considers numeric criteria for nitrogen and phosphorus as part of a more comprehensive eutrophication standard.
3. The role and definition of reference sites needs further discussion.
4. Roy Smogor working to provide IEPA data by end of June.
 - a. Will prioritize habitat data over fish data.
5. Bob Mosher will send Paul Terrio DO analysis. Amy Walkenbach will provide a map overlay of 660 DO sites, sites where IEPA has found 303(d) DO/algal impairments, algal narrative standard, sites not meeting algal narrative but full use. Provide lat and long info (data used to develop maps).

Next steps

1. Walter Hill will look into literature on chlorophyll degradation during laboratory preparation and storage.
2. Amy Walkenbach to seek semi-quantitative/categorical data on algal abundance and other habitat/site conditions noted during sampling events.
3. Amy Walkenbach to gather information on sampling and analysis methods used by other groups such as those working in the DuPage River, Fox River, and Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago.
4. IEPA to send continuous DO monitoring locations (intensive monitoring) for the years 2009-14.
5. Diane Shasteen will provide DO database with station/date combinations, to include both DO concentration and percent saturation.

6. Roy Smogor to provide station and data on 4 physical habitat fields (Algae_Bloom, Periphyton, Filamentous_Algae, Macrophytes) and for QHEI data. Bob Mosher will get this information and send it to Eliana for distribution.
7. Completing NSAC workplan
 - a. Candice to provide additional text on “eutrophication standard”
 - b. Revise language regarding how quantitative relationships may be developed from conceptual models
 - c. NSAC to review the next revision within one week
8. Review Tetra Tech draft work plan, markup and send to Candice Bauer.
9. Target date for draft Tetra Tech report: November 2017;
Database compilation due to NSAC: June 30, 2016;
Tetra Tech draft analysis done by October 2016.

Future meeting (June 8) topic: Tetra Tech Work Plan