

IDEM Watershed Management Plan (WMP) Checklist 2024

Name of Project:		
WMP Draft Date:		
IDEM Reviewers:		WMP Review Date:
1.	2.	3.

Instructions: Elements 1-27 must be met for the WMP to be able to be approved by IDEM. The most current IDEM WMP Instructions document should be used to complete the WMP.

Section 1: Watershed Community Initiative

Pages	✓	Element 1: Community Initiative
		Describes the concerns that led the community to initiate this watershed project and discusses the local leaders

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 2: Steering Committee
		Has a description and table of the steering committee and who they represent

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 3: Public Outreach and Stakeholder Concerns
		Describes any outreach efforts used to generate stakeholder involvement
		Explains how stakeholder concerns were gathered
		Includes a list of stakeholder concerns

Comments:

Section 2: Overall Watershed Inventory

Pages	✓	Element 4: Geology/Topography Characteristics
		Explains the geologic/topographic features that define the watershed's drainage pattern
		If applicable, describes karst topography or any other unique features

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 5: Hydrology Characteristics
		Includes a brief overview of the hydrology as it pertains to the watershed
		Has map(s) of <input type="checkbox"/> streams, <input type="checkbox"/> lakes, <input type="checkbox"/> wetlands, <input type="checkbox"/> watershed boundaries
		Quantifies <input type="checkbox"/> streams (miles), <input type="checkbox"/> lakes (# & acreage), <input type="checkbox"/> wetlands (acreage)
		Explains how <input type="checkbox"/> streams, <input type="checkbox"/> lakes, and <input type="checkbox"/> wetlands are used by the public

		Describes any hydrological modifications within the watershed (such as legal drains, dams, channelization, tile drains, dredging)
		Includes list of subwatersheds with names, HUC #, and acreage of each subwatershed

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 6: Soil Characteristics
		Includes narrative of soil characteristics that can affect water quality
		Has map(s) of <input type="checkbox"/> highly erodible soils, <input type="checkbox"/> hydric soils, and <input type="checkbox"/> septic system suitability
		Quantifies <input type="checkbox"/> highly erodible soils, <input type="checkbox"/> hydric soils, and <input type="checkbox"/> septic system suitability (ac, % of watershed)

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 7: Land Use Characteristics
		Includes a description of general land use in the watershed
		a. Has map(s) of land use layers pertinent to the watershed
		b. Quantifies land use types (acreage and percent of watershed)
		Includes narrative of major nonpoint source pollutants potentially impacting watershed. Consider sources from agricultural, forested, and urban areas. (such as tillage transect information, fertilizer/manure, livestock operations, pet and wildlife waste, large unsewered communities, etc.)
		Includes narrative and map(s) of major point source pollutants potentially impacting the watershed (such as NPDES facilities, CAFOs, CSOs, SSOs, brownfields, superfunds, LUSTs, manure application or storage, etc.)

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 8: Other Planning Efforts
		Explains how other planning efforts impact water quality in the watershed (such as MS4 plans, city/county master plans, TMDL reports, other WMPs)

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 9: Threatened & Endangered Species
		Describes threatened & endangered aquatic species that would most likely be found in the watershed. Habitats, impacts, and ongoing conservation efforts should be noted.

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 10: Connections & Relationships
		Describes interconnection between the characteristics discussed in elements 4-9 and how they relate to the stakeholder concerns and nonpoint source pollution

Comments:

Section 3: Subwatershed Inventories

Pages	✓	Element 11: Data Targets
		Includes a table with applicable targets for <input type="checkbox"/> water quality parameters (physical & chemical), <input type="checkbox"/> biological data, <input type="checkbox"/> habitat data, & <input type="checkbox"/> references for each target
		a. If an Indiana State Standard exists for a parameter of concern, target must be at least as stringent as that standard
		b. If an NPS TMDL exists for the watershed, target must be at least as stringent as the NPS TMDL target

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 12: Data Sources & Methodology
		For each data set used, there is narrative of <input type="checkbox"/> data background, <input type="checkbox"/> data's age, and <input type="checkbox"/> how often data was collected (potential sources include project data, windshield or desktop surveys, TMDL reports, 305b and 303d lists, other IDEM data, other WMPs, LARE studies, USGS)
		Includes methodology for each data set collected as part of the grant
		Has map of watershed boundaries with sampling locations

Comments:

Elements 13-14 should be discussed for each 12-digit HUC. If the project is at the 10-digit scale, 12-digit HUCs may be combined into sections.

Pages	✓	Element 13: Water Quality Data Analysis
		Summarizes important findings and trends from water quality data sets in Element 12 for each subwatershed
		Has map of <input type="checkbox"/> impaired waterbodies & <input type="checkbox"/> water quality sampling locations for each subwatershed

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 14: Land Use Information
		Discusses major land use types for each subwatershed and also includes:
		a. Includes relevant information from Element 7 on a subwatershed scale
		b. Includes summary and map(s) of relevant desktop and windshield survey results (if relevant): <input type="checkbox"/> Streams lacking buffers (mi or # of locations), <input type="checkbox"/> bank erosion (mi or # of locations), <input type="checkbox"/> livestock access areas, <input type="checkbox"/> illegal dump sites, <input type="checkbox"/> large unsewered communities, <input type="checkbox"/> CSOs, <input type="checkbox"/> CAFOs, & <input type="checkbox"/> CFOs.

		c. A discussion and quantity, if relevant, of <input type="checkbox"/> fertilizer use, <input type="checkbox"/> other farm types, <input type="checkbox"/> pet and wildlife waste, <input type="checkbox"/> NPDES facilities, <input type="checkbox"/> other contaminated areas
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Comments:

Section 4: Watershed Inventory Summary

Pages	✓	Element 15: Watershed Inventory Summary
		Summarizes important findings, relationships, or trends
		Has map(s) of important water quality and habitat/biology results with watershed boundaries shown

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 16: Analysis of Stakeholder Concerns
		Includes a table that <input type="checkbox"/> lists each stakeholder concern, <input type="checkbox"/> whether the concern is supported by data, <input type="checkbox"/> evidence for each concern, <input type="checkbox"/> if concern is outside the project's scope, and <input type="checkbox"/> which concerns will be focused on
		Has narrative explanation for each concern that is supported by data but will not be focused on

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 17: Causes
		Includes a table that pairs each concern from Element 16 with the potential causes for that problem. Potential causes must be a specific pollutant parameter, but secondary causes may also be identified. (Examples of causes include high TSS, high turbidity, high nutrient levels, high E. coli levels).

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 18: Sources
		Includes a table that links together <input type="checkbox"/> potential causes from Element 17 with potential source(s), <input type="checkbox"/> magnitude, and <input type="checkbox"/> appropriate subwatershed(s) where sources are present

Comments:

Section 5: Pollutant Loads, Critical Areas, & Goals

Pages	✓	Element 19: Current Pollutant Loads & Needed Reductions
		Describes how pollutant loads and reduction needs were calculated
		Includes a table that <input type="checkbox"/> lists current loads for each pollutant identified as a potential cause, <input type="checkbox"/> the target loads, and <input type="checkbox"/> the reductions needed to meet the target loads

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 20: Critical Areas
		Identifies critical areas that conform to the definition in the Checklist Instructions and describes how those critical areas were determined
		Describes specific <input type="checkbox"/> water quality pollutant(s) and <input type="checkbox"/> source(s) in each critical area
		Map(s) showing all critical areas

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 21: Goal Statements
		Goal statements include <input type="checkbox"/> concern or pollutant, <input type="checkbox"/> current load or concentration for water quality goal statements, or current condition of the problem for outreach, social, or administrative goal statements, <input type="checkbox"/> target pollutant load, concentration, or condition of the problem, and <input type="checkbox"/> timeframe for goal completeness
		If water quality standards exist for a pollutant, the goal, at a minimum, must be to meet that standard
		If a NPS TMDL has been developed for the watershed, the goal, at a minimum, must be designed to achieve the reduction in pollutant load called for in the NPS TMDL

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 22: Goal Indicators
		Includes indicators that can be measured for each goal to determine whether progress is being made toward achieving that goal
		Water quality restoration goal indicators show environmental changes in the aquatic ecosystem or water quality parameters
		Non-water quality restoration goal indicators show administrative success or social change

Comments:

Section 6: Action Register and Future Activities

Pages	✓	Element 23: Best Management Practices (BMPs) and Measures
		Lists relevant BMPs and other management measures that will achieve load reductions from Element 19 and goal statements from Element 21
		Each listed BMP is paired with the <input type="checkbox"/> pollutant(s) it will address & <input type="checkbox"/> critical area(s) it should be implemented in.
		Brief descriptions of the main BMPs are included

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 24: Expected Load Reductions
		Includes a table that <input type="checkbox"/> lists relevant BMPs, <input type="checkbox"/> expected load reduction for each BMP, and <input type="checkbox"/> target amount to install for each BMP

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 25: Action Register Table
		Includes a description of considerations of federal, state, local, or private funds or resources to assist with implementing the plan
		Includes an Action Register Table that contains the following:
		a. A list of objectives designed to achieve the goals from Element 22
		b. What BMPs or education and outreach activities will be used to achieve each objective
		c. Identifies target audience for each objective
		d. Includes a timeline of measurable milestones (ex: short/mid/long term) for determining whether each objective is being implemented according to the schedule
		e. An estimate of financial cost (in dollar amount) needed to achieve each objective. May include financial estimates for BMPs, outreach activities, salary, promotional costs, technical costs, travel, training, etc.
		f. Identifies potential partners, technical assistance needed, and who will provide technical assistance to implement each objective

Comments:

Section 7: Tracking Effectiveness

Pages	✓	Element 26: Monitoring and Tracking Strategy
		Includes a monitoring and tracking strategy that has the following components in a table:
		a. Lists and explains each method that will be used to track indicators
		b. The tracking schedule
		c. Estimated cost for tracking indicators
		d. Lists potential partners responsible for implementing
		e. Explain technical assistance needed and who will provide it
		Includes an adaptive management strategy

Comments:

Pages	✓	Element 27: Future Activities
		Includes a description of future WMP activity
		Has project sponsor contact information
		Has criteria and timeframe for when WMP will be re-evaluated and revised
		Describes who will be responsible for the re-evaluating and revisions

Comments: