

Indiana's Annex 4 Domestic Action Plan (DAP) Advisory Committee Meeting

Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB)

October 14, 2016

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 17, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.

Allen County NRCS Service Center, 3718 New Vision Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46845

1. Attendees (9)

Jessica D'Ambrosio, Jessica Faust, Jeff Frey, Julie Harrold, Greg Lake, Dick Miller, Bowden Quinn, Marylou Renshaw, and Sandy Voglewede

Attended by Conference Call (3)

Jill Reinhart, Anne Marie Smrcheck, and Ron Turco

2. Discussion

a. Point contact for the Advisory Committee

i. Jessica Faust, Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM),
jfaust@idem.in.gov.

ii. Contact for distribution of shared information.

b. Indiana's Nutrients Annex (Annex 4) Domestic Action Plan (DAP) web presence

i. Webpage is located at <http://www.in.gov/isda/3432.htm>.

ii. Webpage includes,

1. Annex 4, Nutrients Annex, background information.
2. DAP outline. (Updated versions will be posted once developed.)
3. Loading targets for which Indiana is responsible.
4. Advisory Committee members
5. Meeting agendas and summaries.
6. Contacts.
7. Additional resources.

c. Proposed monitoring site and parameters, as well as funding opportunities

- i. To evaluate progress toward meeting the Total Phosphorus (TP) and Dissolved Reactive Phosphorus (DRP) spring-time flow-weighted concentrations on the Maumee River in Indiana the U.S. Geologic Survey (USGS) auto-sampler (in place) located at Antwerp, OH will be used and paid for by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (DNR). IDEM, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), USGS (both Indiana and Ohio), and the U.S EPA discussed this, as well as the possibility of installing a supergage at the site (and all "sites for determining progress") in order to develop a relationship between TP and DRP, as well as nitrogen so that over time, the auto-sampler may be decommissioned as a way to reduce costs and to provide real-time data via the internet.
 1. There are safety concerns at the Antwerp site regarding deploying the supergage, so further investigation will be done into this site or using the SR 101 site in Indiana (where IDEM, the Allen County SWCD, and the City of Fort Wayne all collect water samples).
 2. The issue with using this location for the supergage is that a comparison of the data from SR 101 and Antwerp indicate increased pollutants at Antwerp signifying additional sources of pollution between the two sites.
- ii. To determine what is entering Indiana from Ohio, Ohio is seeking GLRI funding for USGS operated auto-samplers on the St. Mary's at Willshire, OH and on the St. Joseph near Newville, OH.
- iii. To determine a better baseline of nutrient contributions from the St. Mary's before its confluence with the St. Joseph to form the Maumee, Indiana is seeking GLRI funding for a USGS operated auto-sampler for a three-year period.

iv. Discussion ensued on the attributes of the autosampler and supergauge.

1. Autosampler

- i. Water samples pulled from one side of the stream.
- ii. Up to 24 water quality samples during peak flows, which are composited.
- iii. Parameters include total nitrogen, nitrate-nitrite, total phosphorus, possibly orthophosphate, ammonia, total suspended sediments, BOD, temperature, and pH.
- iv. Samples analyzed in a lab, therefore data obtained within four (4) weeks.

2. Supergauge

- i. Data sondes with sensors (probes) for water quality parameters (pH, specific conductivity, dissolved oxygen, temperature, and turbidity), as well as nitrate and orthophosphate.
 - 1. Using these continuous parameters and discrete samples collected 20 times per year, surrogates could be developed for continuous suspended sediment, total nitrogen, and total phosphorus.
- ii. Usually deployed in the center of a river/stream.
- iii. Continuous data can be transmitted in real time and real-time loads can be calculated.
- iv. Water samples are typically taken 20-26 times per year in order to correlate the results of the sensor readings.

- v. Further discussions are underway at the federal level for long-term funding of key indicator sites for the Great Lakes.

d. Draft of Indiana's DAP

- i. Draft due end of December of 2016.
- ii. Essential for all committee members and partners to share information regarding their efforts for inclusion within the DAP and to assist with its development. Lou will send a request with more details.
- iii. A federal DAP should be available in January of 2017.
 - 1. Pertinent information from federal DAP will be used within Indiana's DAP.
- iv. Pertinent information found within the *Progress Report of the Parties, 2016*, will be utilized within Indiana's DAP.
- v. The state DAPs will not be approved by the US EPA, but reviewed to assure consistency of information between DAPs and how progress is being measured.
- vi. There are no obligations as the manner in which the DAP is public noticed, only that it is public noticed.
 - 1. The Advisory Committee will decide the manner in which the DAP is public noticed. The period of time for public comment was discussed with a proposal for 90-days.
 - 2. This will be further addressed at the November meeting.
- vii. Ensure the DAP is written in one (1) voice.
 - 1. Use of formal verbiage and active voice.
- viii. Include proposal for rule policy changes, listed as recommendations.
- ix. Include tillage transect data.
- x. Develop adaptive management program prior to finalizing the DAP.
 - 1. Annual check-list of activities, challenges, results.
 - 2. A formal review of the DAP will occur in 2020 and every five (5) years there-after resulting in a report of progress.

3. Accomplishments

- a.** Assembled Advisory Committee.
- b.** Established committee ground rules.
- c.** Established meeting logistics.
- d.** Agreement as to proposed monitoring sites.
- e.** Agreement on process for determining critical areas/priority watersheds.
- f.** Established website.
- g.** Submitted monitoring proposal for GLRI funding.
- h.** Using the DAP outline, began fleshing it out.

4. Next Steps

- a.** Development of the draft DAP.