

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

Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB)

June 6, 2017

Next Meeting: TBD

1. Attendees (16)

Tony Bailey, Rick Duff, Jessica Faust, Jeff Frey, Julie Harrold, Allen Haynes, Greg Lake, Janel Meyer, Dick Miller, Doug Nusbaum, Bowden Quinn, Marylou Renshaw, Kate Sanders, Justin Schneider, Anne Marie Smrcheck, and Sandy Voglewede

Attended by Conference Call (0)

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. Updates

- i. NRCS, Rick Duff, is working with various states in developing the federal DAP which will serve as an umbrella for individual state DAPs.
- ii. IDEM, Marylou Renshaw, shared the following.
 1. Submitted the Indiana Snapshot to the US EPA for incorporation into the federal DAP.
 1. The federal DAP will be shared once final.
 2. Great Lakes Executive Committee (GLEC) meeting on June 25, 2017 through June 28, 2017 is open to the public. Jessica shared the link with agenda and registration information.
 3. 2014, 2015, and 2016 monitoring results at the Antwerp, OH location were shared at the previous Annex 4 meeting.
 1. Loadings and flow weighted mean concentrations were calculated for dissolved reactive phosphorus (DRP), total phosphorus (TP), and nitrogen (NO₂ + NO₃).
 2. Summary reports can be found at <http://lakeerie.ohio.gov/>.
 4. With Paul Novak, IDEM, met with Great Lakes Committee staff to discuss the Erie P trading pilot project for which Indiana has a potential industrial permittee.
 1. Language allowing potential trading has been incorporated into the B. F. Goodrich NPDES permit.
- iii. IFB, Justin Schneider, is a partner to implement the St. Marys River Watershed Initiative project.
 1. IFB is working with the ISDA to develop a position for a state agricultural coordinator who will be a central point contact and work with all applicable organizations.
- iv. Sierra Club, Dick Miller and Bowden Quinn, met with interested individuals in Fort Wayne, IN to discuss nutrients and water quality, as well as a potential Sierra Club chapter in Fort Wayne.
- v. Adams County SWCD, Sandy Voglewede, holding a Pasture Walk on June 12th.
 1. Recently held a Stone Lab tour on with approximately thirty (30) attendees, twenty (20) of which are Amish.
 2. Working with the county in regards to upcoming manure storage management ordinance and education of management.

- vi. ISDA, Julie Harrold, met with USGS staff, Jeff Frey and Wes Stone, regarding monitoring results at Antwerp, OH.
 - 1. Summary reports do not explain the type of modeling used.
 - 2. Data collected is considered intermittent and is not continuous. (Data used for the report are from the USGS auto-sampler.)
- vii. DNR, Doug Nusbaum, participating in the Great Lakes Sediment and Nutrient Reduction Task Force.
 - 1. DNR is meeting in two (2) weeks to review and determine awarding of LARE grants.
- viii. City of Fort Wayne, Anne Marie Smrcheck, will be submitting the Milestone table with comment.
 - 1. Comments given pertain to both the St. Joseph River (Lake Erie) TMDL and the DAP go hand-in-hand.
- ix. Steuben County SWCD, Janel Meyer, water quality sampling with TNC.
- x. Dekalb County SWCD, Allen Haynes, has a Clean Water Indiana (CWI) grant for implementation of cover crops and application of gypsum.
 - 1. Hosting an Agronomy Field Day on July 19th at the Andersons, but registration ends July 15th.
 - 2. County-wide septic onsite treatment ordinance approved soon.
 - 1. Coordinating a cost-share program with the county to assist with septic repair/replacement.
 - 2. Funding for areas in which clusters of septic are found.
 - 3. Having initial conversations as to manure storage and planning outreach.
- xi. Allen County SWCD, Kate Sanders, coordinating with the USGS regarding an NWQI Edge-of-Field monitoring site within the Black Creek sub-watershed in which funding will continue for three (3) years and possibly longer.
 - 1. Phosphorus-Risk Reduction Pilot project reimbursement program and calculator have been finalized and submitted for approval.
- xii. Allen County SWCD, Greg Lake, participated in multiple meetings with local Rotary to discuss water quality (WQ) monitoring data and how to use them.
- xiii. IDEM, Jessica Faust, three (3) FFY 2018 319(h) grant NOIs were submitted in which the projects will be located within the WLEB.
- xiv. TNC, Jessica D'Ambrosio, shared a list of summer events within the WLEB.

c. Public Notice of DAP

- i. Comments will be responded to in-writing.
 - 1. [IDEM, Marylou Renshaw, will check with IDEM's Media and Communication Services \(MACS\) to determine method of comment submittal and response to comments.](#)
 - 2. Subcommittee of members who will respond to comments will need to be developed.
- ii. Include notification that comments and the response to comments will be public.
- iii. Clarify the DAP and Milestone Table are dynamic documents.
- iv. Clarify there will be one (1) comment period and it will consist of 60 days.
- v. Clarify comments will be submitted to IDEM and give location in which comments can be submitted and where the response to comments will be posted.
- vi. Include inquiry as to additional stakeholders interested in participation in the Committee.
- vii. The response to comments will indicate if a revision to the DAP and/or Milestone Table was made and where it was made, if applicable.
- viii. The DAP and Milestone Table will be public noticed on IDEM's website, but links to the PN can be placed and advertised on Committee members sites.
- ix. [If there are ideas as to additional public notice questions, please let IDEM, Marylou Renshaw and/or Jessica Faust, know.](#)

d. Public Meetings

- i. Four (4) meetings will be held.
 1. Indianapolis.
 2. Auburn.
 3. Decatur.
 4. Fort Wayne.
- ii. Meetings held in August.
 1. Timing is beneficial with producer's schedules.
- iii. Two (2) meetings per location as the first will be held during the day and a second in the evening.
- iv. Ideas as to hosting include,
 1. The Andersons.
 2. Rieke Park Lodge.
- v. If there is interest in presenting, please let [IDEM, Marylou Renshaw and/or Jessica Faust, know.](#)

e. Additional discussion

- i. Monitoring results at Antwerp, OH.
 1. Committee in agreement that should prioritize watersheds at 12-digit HUC.
 2. Verify that St. Marys sub-basin is the focus of Indiana's efforts as a result of WQ analysis.
 3. Determining the cause of nutrient impairments between State Road 101 and Antwerp, OH monitoring locations is a priority.
 4. Consider data sets being used for analysis.
 1. How often sampling occurred.
 2. Which models are being used for analysis.
 5. Consider using a point graph regarding water quality at Antwerp, OH.
 6. Consider the resolution of IDEM fixed station data versus results within summary reports developed by Ohio USGS.
 1. IDEM's sampling and FWMC are relative to one another.
 7. Verify how monitoring results at Antwerp, OH compare to results found within St. Marys sub-basin.
- ii. [Allen County SWCD, the City of Fort Wayne, and IDEM will meet to discuss weekly sampling during the recreation season and use of the data.](#)
- iii. Monitoring to meet nutrients targets for the WLEB will be performed by USGS.
 1. USGS has adequate data, but limited funding and resources for analysis.
- iv. [Allen County SWCD may develop and share livestock survey to determine impact and significance of livestock operations within the area.](#)
 1. Previously completed in 2008.
 2. Identify potential impact in all six (6) counties within Indiana's portion of the WLEB.

3. Accomplishments

- a. Shared current activities underway in the WLEB to reduce sediment and nutrient loss and to improve water quality.
- b. Reviewed available WQ monitoring data as well as committee members' knowledge of the WLEB watershed. Preliminarily determined the St. Mary's watershed is the highest priority for both point and NPS BMPs.
- c. Established criteria for evaluating the approaches that will be set forth in the DAP to reduce phosphorus loads. For example:
 - i. Use existing programs and optimize partnerships.
 - ii. Effect the most change with least cost.
 - iii. Prioritize resources to areas with the most potential for TP and DRP reduction.
 - iv. Employ social indicators.
- d. Established a webpage on [ISDA's WLEB website.](#)

- e. Agreed on a methodology to determine “watersheds of focus” for the allocation of resources. This includes mapping critical areas from WMPs and NRCS modeled areas with the greatest phosphorus (P) export potential and overlaying them with water quality data to identify the intersections. This process is underway.
- f. Determined the most representative site for monitoring Indiana’s progress in meeting its P target loads on the Maumee is at Antwerp, Ohio. The USGS operates a stream-flow gage and an auto-sampler there and follows the recommended Annex 4 protocol collecting the necessary parameters.
- g. Completed two (2) rounds of field reconnaissance for monitoring sites.
- h. A conference call was held on September 28, 2016 with participants from IDEM, IN USGS, Ohio EPA, Ohio DNR, OH USGS, and the U.S. EPA to discuss these monitoring sites to optimize resources and establish a regional network. IN and OH submitted their GLRI applications based on the decisions of this meeting and were awarded them.
- i. Agreed on priority monitoring sites to determine phosphorus loads including the following:
 - i. On the St. Mary’s at the Ohio/Indiana border. OEPA received GLRI funding for a site at Willshire, OH.
 - ii. On the St. Joseph at the Ohio/Indiana border. OEPA received GLRI funding for a site at Newville, OH.
 - iii. At the confluence of the St. Joseph and St. Marys where the Maumee forms. IDEM received GLRI funding for an auto sampler near the Ferguson Bridge.
- j. Reviewed the collaborative Implementation Plans of Michigan and Ohio, as well as the Expectations for the DAPs by the NGOs
- k. Commenced drafting the DAP by populating the outline. Draft outline was reviewed at the October Advisory Committee meeting. Efforts by agencies and the TNC have been sent for inclusion in the draft.
- l. Developed *Indiana’s GLWQA DAP* presentation for outreach purposes.
- m. DAP status and presentation given to Nutrients Annex (Annex 4) subcommittee on February 8, 2017.
- n. DAP status updates given to various environmental organizations on March 8, 2017.
- o. Development of DAP including the Milestones and Action Items table is on-going.
- p. Maybe mention subsequent meetings & outcomes.

4. Next Steps

- a. [IDEM will revise the draft DAP and Milestone Table, as well as distribute to committee for additional review.](#)
- b. Develop public meeting presentation and outreach materials.
- c. Schedule and coordinate logistics for next meeting.