



## Indiana's GLWQA DAP for the WLEB Advisory Committee Meeting October 25, 2017

Rieke Park Lodge, 1800 North Indiana Avenue, Auburn, Indiana

Next Meeting: TBD

### 1. Attendees (14)

Kristen Buell, Jessica D'Ambrosio, Mike Dunn, Jessica Faust, Julie Harrold, Allen Haynes, Jill Krause, Greg Lake, Janel Meyer, Doug Nusbaum, Marylou Renshaw, Josh Trenary, Kate Sanders, and Sandy Voglewede

**Attended by Conference Call (0)**

### 2. Discussion

#### a. Point contact for the Advisory Committee

- i. Jessica Faust, IDEM, [jfaust@idem.in.gov](mailto:jfaust@idem.in.gov).
- ii. Contact for distribution of shared information.

#### b. Updates

##### i. Allen County SWCD

1. USGS auto sampler (GLRI funded) being installed on the St. Marys River.
2. Adding sediment source tracking component to Black Creek Edge-of-Field USGS monitoring project.
3. Multiple fish kills in Ohio's portion of the WLEB caused by manure mismanagement.
4. Accomplishing tasks of Phosphorus-Risk Reduction Pilot project (319(h) funded).
5. Completing compilation and analysis of water quality monitoring data in the basin from 2002 to present and participated in meeting regarding the DAP.
6. Conducting InField Advantage program.
7. Participated in a meeting regarding CAFOs.

##### ii. ISDA

1. Investigating mechanisms to calculate and track dissolved nutrient load reductions.
2. [Melissa Rekeweg](#) is the Interim Director of ISDA.
3. [CEAP report](#) for the WLEB is available.

##### iii. Adams County SWCD

1. Conducted pasture walks including the use of a horse-drawn highboy cover crop seed spreader.
2. Conducting InField Advantage program.
3. Education and outreach through schools.
4. Two horse-drawn no-till drills are available for use.
5. Developed record-keeping packet to assist livestock operations and ease the burden of requirements.
6. In partnership with NRCS, constructing two emergency manure storage lagoons to ease the burden of livestock operations.
7. Participating in upcoming water quality meeting with Indiana and Ohio counties located within the St. Marys sub-basin.
8. Participating in the St. Marys River Watershed Initiative project.
9. Participating in local meetings regarding livestock operations.

- iv. Dekalb County SWCD
  1. Assisted attendees of the Auburn DAP public meeting with follow-up questions.
  2. Conducted a septic maintenance workshop.
  3. Local planning commission discussing potential requirements for livestock operations.
  4. Participating in local meeting(s) with partners discussing livestock operations.
- v. TNC
  1. Promotion of 4R program within the WLEB.
  2. Collaborating with the Agribusiness Council of Indiana regarding the 4R program.
  3. Promoting agricultural drainage infrastructure with a goal of returning one percent to its natural hydrology.
  4. Encouragement of RCPP funding through 2018 Farm Bill.
  5. Participated in Lake Erie Millennial meeting in which research needs, water quality monitoring, edge-of-field projects, and phosphorus transfer was discussed.
  6. Upcoming Soil Health Partnership annual meeting in January of 2018.
  7. Participating in Indiana Agriculture and Nutrient Alliance, formerly ANT.
- vi. IDEM
  1. Participated in small watershed planning meeting along with NRCS in Minnesota.
  2. Participated in water quality monitoring and data analysis meeting in regards to further prioritization for the DAP.
  3. Working with the monitoring entities to determine where to install additional auto-samplers and or stream-flow gages with available grant funds.
- vii. Steuben County SWCD
  1. Promoted DAP and public notice and comment period.
  2. Participating in meetings regarding water quality issues with the Steuben County Lakes Council.
  3. Conducted conservation education and outreach efforts.
- viii. Indiana Pork Producers
  1. Participating in St. Marys River Watershed Initiative project and hired an Agronomist to assist.
  2. Available to assist with livestock operations and manure management questions.
- ix. DNR
  1. Bank stabilization projects are in progress in the St. Marys River sub-basin.
  2. Outreach regarding stewardship credits as a result of the Erie-P Trading Pilot project.
- x. City of Fort Wayne Utilities
  1. Conducted an MS4 workshop.
  2. Conducting water quality data analysis and participated in meeting regarding the DAP.

**c. Addressing public comments**

- i. As the Advisory Committee agreed to not have a stenographer present at the public meetings, a high level summary of public comments made at those meetings may be given in an appendix to the DAP.
- ii. As the Survey Monkey submittals echoed public comments made during the public meetings, a summary of comments submitted through Survey Monkey will be given in an appendix of the DAP.
- iii. Precipitation and its effect on water quality discussion will be developed and included within the DAP.
  1. Development of discussion will be requested of Sierra Club.

- iv. Livestock operation requirements and outreach discussion will be updated by Indiana Pork Producers.
  - 1. Define the difference between regulated and unregulated.
  - 2. Discussion as to requirements of regulated operations versus unregulated operations.
- v. IDEM will respond to commenters requesting a response-to-comments.
- vi. IDEM will verify language as Confined Feeding Operation rule with staff.
- vii. IDEM will address concerns as to effective inspections and enforcement of livestock operations.

**d. Refinement of Priority Areas**

- i. Further analysis of water quality data within the basin will be completed.
- ii. A water quality analysis and DAP priority areas meeting will be conducted on November 20, 2017.
- iii. An initial analysis of water quality data shows a big difference between the SR 101 and Antwerp sites on the Maumee River.
  - 1. Further investigation into the cause will need to be completed.

**e. Adaptive Management Plan**

- i. The water quality analysis and determination of priority areas will also be used to determine hypothesis and set goals.
- ii. Further discuss what additional actions can be taken to address nutrients and pursue data gaps.
- iii. Clarify what will be analyzed and evaluated to determine progress with goals.
  - 1. Use of water quality data, CSO LTCPs, tillage transect data, 4R, soil health practices, livestock operation data, septic data, nutrient management data, and social indicator surveys to determine baseline in 2020.
  - 2. Set reduction goals with a timeline in priority sub-watersheds in 2020.
  - 3. Analyze trends and include trend discussion.
- iv. Clarify expectations of change anticipated to occur by 2020.
- v. Consider additional regulatory actions in 2020 once a baseline has been established regarding efforts within the basin and their effect on water quality.

**f. Finalizing the DAP and Milestone/Action Table**

- i. Public comments have been summarized and will be addressed in the DAP or a response-to-comments will be given.
- ii. Spelling of St. Marys River sub-basin has been corrected.
- iii. WMP section has been revised.
- iv. A draft copy of the DAP and Milestone/Action Table will be shared with Indiana Pork Producers, Indiana Farm Bureau, and TNC, as well as Sierra Club for development of discussions and revisions per comments.
- v. Fort Wayne Utilities will be submitting the Milestone/Action Table with additional items.
- vi. The draft DAP and Milestone/Action Table will be revised per public comment and Advisory Committee comment.
  - 1. It will be shared with the Advisory Committee on or before December 1, 2018 for final comment.

**g. Next Steps**

- i. Finalized DAP by February 2018.
- ii. Advisory Committee meetings will be conducted quarterly beginning in 2018.
  - 1. Updates from key projects will be given.
- iii. Development of DAP into a story map.
- iv. Annual update to the Milestone/Action Table.

### 3. Accomplishments

- a. Shared current activities underway in the WLEB to reduce sediment and nutrient loss and to improve water quality.
- b. Reviewed available water quality monitoring data as well as committee members' knowledge of the WLEB watershed. Preliminarily determined the St. Marys 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 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 phosphorus 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, Indiana USGS, Ohio EPA, Ohio DNR, Ohio USGS, and the U.S. EPA to discuss these monitoring sites to optimize resources and establish a regional network. Indiana and Ohio 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. Marys at the Ohio/Indiana border. OEPA received GLRI funding for a site at Willshire, Ohio.
  - ii. On the St. Joseph at the Ohio/Indiana border. OEPA received GLRI funding for a site at Newville, Ohio.
  - 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 TNC have been sent for inclusion in the draft.
- l. Developed *Indiana's GLWQA DAP* presentation for outreach purposes.
- m. A DAP status and presentation was given to Nutrients Annex (Annex 4) subcommittee on February 8, 2017.
- n. DAP status updates were given to various environmental organizations on March 8, 2017.
- o. The DAP was public noticed for comment from August 14, 2017 until October 13, 2017.
- p. Seven public meetings in which the DAP was presented were conducted in Fort Wayne, Auburn, Decatur, and Indianapolis, Indiana during the months of August and September.
- q. An analysis of water quality monitoring data collected by Advisory Committee members in Indiana's portion of the basin from 2008 until present was performed and will be used to identify priority areas.
- r. Development of the DAP including the Milestones and Action Items table is on-going.