

Summary of February 5, 2013 meeting in Tallahassee

Based on stakeholder input at the February 5, 2013 meeting in Tallahassee, preliminary stakeholder groups were identified that would work with the FDEP to resolve the issues identified in Chapter 7 of the November 5, 2013 draft report "Nutrient TMDLs North Escambia Bay WBID 548AA, Judges Bayou WBID 493B, Bayou Chico WBID 846C, Bayou Chico WBID 846, Dissolved Oxygen TMDL Judges Bayou WBID 493A." Summaries of all activities and findings of each group will be communicated to all stakeholders.

Based on notes from the meeting the following activities were identified:

- a. DEP would summarize meeting, make initial group assignments for each issue, and provide this information to stakeholders for review and comment. (Completed)
- b. Chips Kirschenfeld (Escambia County) would provide the final spreadsheet of chla and water quality sampling of the bay based on Phase 2 of the PCB contaminated sediments study.
- c. Chips Kirschenfeld would provide a summary of the Phase 2 Study and proposal sent to legislature.
- d. Chips Kirschenfeld would provide the results from water sampling and sediment analyses from the NPDES monitoring of major stormwater outfalls to the bay. (Completed)
- e. Chris Johnson (Alabama) would provide the Alabama trend site water quality data and trend analyses they have performed.
- f. Don Parmer [Emerald Coast Utility Authority (ECUA)] would provide reports on updates and application of the MODFLOW model in Escambia County.
- g. Andy Thuman (consultant for Escambia Bay TMDL Coalition), will check to see if there were additional biological data sets not previously provided for the bay based on sampling by Skip Livingston.

1. Evaluate the synergistic impacts of the BMAP for Fecal Coliform in the Bayou Chico watershed:

There is an adopted BMAP for Fecal Coliform in the Bayou Chico watershed (August 2011). Within the BMAP there are numerous projects that, in addition to reducing fecal coliform, will either reduce nutrients (removing septic tanks from areas adjacent to the water), improve the flushing characteristics of the bayou (removing constrictions between the upper and lower areas of the bayou), or remove contaminated sediments. It is the Department's intent to work with the BMAP partners and determine the level of credit for nutrient reductions that can be assigned to those projects that have potential to improve overall water quality in Bayou Chico and its tributaries. If it is determined that the level of nutrient reductions from implementing projects in the Fecal BMAP will achieve the required reductions of the nutrient TMDL, the FDEP will not require additional projects to restore the nutrient conditions in Bayou Chico. Additionally, the feasibility of reducing nutrient loadings in other basins using the BMPs identified in the Bayou Chico Fecal BMAP should be investigated.

Lead FDEP: Douglas Gilbert TMDL, Steve Cioccia BMAP

Partners:

City of Pensacola (?),
Escambia County (Chips Kirschenfeld),

Escambia County Health Department (?),
Santa Rosa County (?),
Santa Rosa County Health Department (?),
Emerald Coast Utility Authority [ECUA (?)],
FDEP NW District (?),
FDOT (?),
NFWFMD (?),
University of West Florida Center for Environmental Diagnostics and Bioremediation [UWF-
CEDB (?)],
USEPA (?),
US Navy (?),
FDACS (?),
Santa Rosa County Health Department (?),
Others (?)

Task 1.A.

The FDEP will contact the stakeholders listed in the Bayou Chico Fecal BMAP to identify those that are interested in working with the FDEP to resolve the issues identified above.

Task 1.B.

Identify projects in the Fecal BMAP for Bayou Chico eligible for nutrient credits and work with team members to establish nutrient credits.

Categories

Stormwater Management Programs
Education and Outreach Efforts
Regulations, Ordinances, and Guidelines
Special Studies, Planning, Monitoring, and Assessment
Restoration and Water Quality Improvement
Wastewater Infrastructure Management
Marinas, Boatyards, and Mooring Activity

Projects

Escambia County Wide

Main Street WWTF to Reuse
Sewer Expansion
SS Overflow Response
Inflow and Infiltration
Grease Traps

MS4 efforts

Pet Waste
FDOT Drainage Connection
OSTDs
Marinas etc

Task 1.C.

Identify priority basins within the city/counties where the same BMPs would have potential to reduce nutrients in North Escambia Bay.

Status:

FDEP has contacted the following and is waiting on responses:

City of Pensacola, Al Garza
Escambia County, Chips Kirschenfeld
FDEP NW District, Brad Hartshorn
Santa Rosa County, Michael Schmidt

FDEP to contact:

ECUA, (?)
FDOT (?)
NFWFMD (?),
UWF-CEDB (?),
USEPA (?),
US Navy (?),
FDACS (?),
Escambia County Health Department (?),
Santa Rosa County Health Department (?), and
Others (?)

2. Further Assess the Ground Water Contamination Zone in Eastern Escambia County and Western Santa Rosa County:

Results presented in this TMDL report reveal elevated concentrations of inorganic nutrients associated with activities at the Sterling Fibers sprayfield and an area delineated as a Ground Water Contamination Zone along the eastern side of Upper Escambia Bay. The contamination zone covers a large area along the eastern side of Upper Escambia Bay and may contribute to the baseflow and interflow that gives rise to a number of streams along the upper bay (not just in Judges Bayou). There are currently insufficient data to assess these other streams. The FDEP proposes to establish a group of interested stakeholders to evaluate the potential for the contaminated ground water to be causing or contributing to nutrient impairment in either the freshwater streams or to Upper Escambia Bay/Judges Bayou. The complete set of monitoring well data from the western side of Santa Rosa County should be evaluated. As a first step, the data should be reviewed to determine if there is sufficient information to evaluate the potential for the inorganic nutrients in the contamination zone to be causing or contributing to the impairments in Escambia Bay and/or Judges Bayou. If there are insufficient data to make this determination, then a Plan of Study will be developed that will identify the data gaps and develop a schedule to gather the missing information.

Lead FDEP: Douglas Gilbert TMDL, Steve Cioccia BMAP, Rick Hicks/Brian Katz Ground Water

Partners:

City of Pensacola (?),
Escambia County (Chips Kirschenfeld),
Santa Rosa County (?),
DEP NW District (?),
Northwest Florida Water Management District (NFWFMD) (?),
Georgia Pacific (Andy Thuman),
Taminco (Reba Heath),
Emerald Coast Utilities Authority (ECUA) (Don Palmer).

Task 2.A.

The FDEP will contact the stakeholder groups listed above to identify those groups that are interested in working with the DEP to resolve the issues identified under 2 above.

Task 2.B.

The FDEP Ground Water and Springs Protection Section will take the lead on assembling the data that will be shared with the group.

Task 2.C.

The FDEP Ground Water and Springs Protection Section will take the lead on determining the best approach to resolving the issues identified under 2 above.

Status:

FDEP has contacted the following and is waiting on responses:

City of Pensacola, Al Garza,
Escambia County, Chips Kirschenfeld
FDEP NW District, Brad Hartshorn
Santa Rosa County, Michael Schmidt

FDEP to contact:

NWFWMD, Angela Chelette

3. Allocations for the WLA stormwater and LA components of the TMDL:

A flow adjusted trend analysis by the FDEP Status and Trends staff for the period January 1999 through June 2011 indicate that TN and CChla have a significant increasing trend at both the state line and Molino, while TP has remained unchanged at the state line, but decreased at Molino. There is a need to assess water quality data at USGS gage sites (or other long-term flow sites) within Alabama, to determine if nutrient load reductions are occurring within Alabama.

FDEP will work within the BMAP process to establish the most equitable and cost effective manner to allocate any nutrient reductions required.

Lead FDEP: Douglas Gilbert TMDL, Steve Cioccia BMAP, Gail Sloan Watershed Monitoring

Partners:

Alabama (Chris Johnson),
City of Pensacola (?),
Escambia County (?),
Santa Rosa County (?),
Northwest Florida Water Management District (NWFWMD) (?),
Georgia Pacific (Andy Thuman),
Emerald Coast Utilities Authority (ECUA) (Don Palmer),
FDEP NW District (?)

Status:

FDEP has contacted the following and is waiting on responses:

City of Pensacola, Al Garza
Escambia County, Chips Kirschenfeld,

FDEP NW District, Brad Hartshorn
Santa Rosa County, Michael Schmidt

FDEP to contact:
NFWFMD Angela Chelette

4. Data and Model Issues to be Addressed:

The Department will work cooperatively with the stakeholders to resolve the issues identified below. This effort shall be re-addressed no later than three years from the effective date of this TMDL, taking into account the additional data collected and the refinements in the models.

It is the position of the FDEP that any model used must be able to reproduce the magnitude and spatial and temporal patterns of CChla within the impaired area of the bay.

The EPA and FDEP are available to provide support with refinements of LSPC/EFDC/WASP. The FDEP does not currently have the in-house experience to take the lead in making revisions to the ECOMSED/RCA set of tools and post processing of the results. If the decision is made to use the ECOMSED/RCA set of models, then a commitment must be made by the stakeholder group(s) to fully fund the effort. FDEP will allocate technical resources if this option is selected.

4.A. There is a need to review the parameterization of the model(s) selected to determine if values used are within acceptable ranges.

Lead FDEP: Douglas Gilbert TMDL, Wayne Magley TMDL

Partners:
Alabama (Chris Johnson),
EPA (??),
NFWFMD (?),
Georgia Pacific (Andy Thuman)

Status:

FDEP has contacted the following and is waiting on responses:

FDEP to contact:
NFWFMD Angela Chelette
EPA Tim Wool. Jim Hagy

4.B. There is a need to review existing water quality data for the Escambia, Blackwater, and Yellow Rivers to determine if additional studies should be conducted to refine/update the information on the particulate vs. dissolved and the organic vs. inorganic nutrient fractions.

Lead: FDEP: Douglas Gilbert TMDL, Steve Cioccia BMAP

Partners:
Alabama (Chris Johnson),
EPA (??),
NFWFMD (?),

Georgia Pacific (Andy Thuman),
EPA (?),
UWF (?)

Status:

FDEP has contacted the following and is waiting on responses:

Need to contact
NFWFMD Angela Chelette
EPA Tim Wool. Jim Hagy, Athens (?)
UWF (?)

4.C. There is a need to review existing urban and other stormwater data to determine if additional studies should be conducted to refine/update the characterization of urban or other landuse based stormwater within the LSPC watershed model.

Lead FDEP: Douglas Gilbert TMDL, Steve Cioccia BMAP

Partners:
Alabama (Chris Johnson),
City of Pensacola (?), Escambia County (?),
Santa Rosa County (?),
NFWFMD (?),
Georgia Pacific (Andy Thuman),
FDEP NW District (?),
UWF (?),
EPA Gulf Breeze,
EPA Region 4 (?),
EPA Athens (?),
FDEP Nonpoint Source Program (?),
FDEP NPDES Stormwater Program (MS4) (?).

Status:

FDEP has contacted the following and is waiting on responses:

City of Pensacola, Al Garza
Escambia County, Chips Kirschenfeld,
FDEP NW District, Brad Hartshorn
Santa Rosa County, Michael Schmidt

Need to contact
NFWFMD Angela Chelette
EPA Tim Wool. Jim Hagy, Athens?
UWF-CEDB, Dr. Jane M. Caffrey
FDEP NPDES Stormwater Permitting (MS4), Al Hubbard
FDEP Nonpoint Source Management Program, Lee Marchman

4D. There is a need to evaluate the appropriate chlorophyll and biological end points.

Lead FDEP: Douglas Gilbert TMDL, Steve Cioccia BMAP

Partners:

Alabama (Chris Johnson),
Gulf Power (Mike Markey),
Georgia Pacific (Andy Thuman),
EPA (??)

Status:

FDEP has contacted the following and is waiting on responses:

Need to contact

EPA Tim Wool, Jim Hagy, Mike Lewis
FDEP Bureau of Assessment and Restoration Support (BARS), Daryll Joyner

4F. There is a need to evaluate the potential for other sources of nutrients to the Bay, such as ground water contamination and contributions from wetlands which have not been accounted for in the current model.

See 2 above for groundwater

Lead FDEP: Douglas Gilbert TMDL, Steve Cioccia BMAP

Partners:

City of Pensacola (?),
Escambia County (?),
Santa Rosa County (?),
NFWFMD (?),
FDEP NW District (?),
Georgia Pacific (Andy Thuman),
EPA (??),
UWF-CEDB (?)

Status:

FDEP has contacted the following and is waiting on responses:

City of Pensacola, Al Garza
Escambia County, Chips Kirschenfeld,
FDEP NW District, Brad Hartshorn
Santa Rosa County, Michael Schmidt

Need to contact

NFWFMD: Angela Chelette
FDEP: Steve Wolf
EPA: Tim Wool, Jim Hagy, Mike Lewis
UWF-CEDB: Jane Caffrey