

Minutes
Quarterly Teleconference for Florida Phase I MS4 NPDES Coordinators
Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Next quarterly teleconference for Phase I NPDES Coordinators:

- February 13, 2019
- Submit agenda items at least 2 weeks prior of the teleconference to Robin.Babin@dep.state.fl.us.
- Sign up in GovDelivery for teleconference notifications.
https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEP/subscriber/new?topic_id=FLDEP_439

NPDES Stormwater Contacts:

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Steve Cioccia	Phase I MS4 Coordinator	850-245-8568
Jonathan Turner	Phase I MS4 Coordinator	850-245-8482
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Hector Rivera	Phase II MS4 Coordinator	850-245-8667
Jason Maron	Phase II MS4 Coordinator	850-245-7568
NPDES Notices Center		850-245-7522
		(toll-free) 866-336-6312

NOTES

SURVEILLANCE FEES: Michelle Bull

Annual Surveillance fee invoices will be sent via email to the Responsible Authority and Financial Officer in early December. The e-mail is generic from the on-line portal and you may need to check your spam/clutter folder. Please notify your MS4 coordinator if there are any updates to contacts or if you have questions.

E-REPORTING UPDATE: Jon Turner

The EPA E-Reporting rule was promulgated in the Federal Registrar in October 2015 for revisions to 40 CFR 127, and requires all permit applications and program reports (e.g. annual reports) to be submitted electronically by the permittees. Phase II of the rule includes most NPDES permits such as MS4 permits, and is set to be implemented by Dec 21, 2020.

EPA recently released the "Implementation Technical Paper No. 9 - Data Entry Guidance for Stormwater Information" which provides more detail on formatting and submission of data elements required. (<https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-10/documents/npdesreporting-implementationtechnicalpaper9.pdf>). The department is working with IT personnel on modifications to existing state databases and processes to implement the rule requirements.

We will create and provide outreach materials to help the transition process to electronic submittal go as smoothly as possible.

BMAP/TMDL INITIATIVE: Sara Davis

This is the second year that DEP will provide a Statewide Report on Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs), Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), and Minimum Flows and Levels (MFLs), also called the “STAR”

- Due to the Legislature and Governor by July 1, 2019 (and annually)
- Replaces individual Annual Reports that DEAR used to do for each BMAP
- Aligns reporting period for all BMAPs to follow the calendar year
 - **Current requests for information through December 31, 2018**
- Schedule/timeframe for annual meetings may have changed.
 - South Florida meeting in December (January at the latest)
- Reduced text compared to individual Annual Reports
 - Opportunity for stakeholders to present on specific activities at annual meeting
- Requests for updates on projects was sent out within the last few weeks.
 - For entities in multiple BMAPs, you should have received one email with projects from all BMAPs to update. All coordinators for those BMAPs were copied on the email, so please reply all.
 - **Updates due January 15, 2019**
- If adding new projects to list/table, send early so information needed for credit verification can be collected and reviewed.
- Springs BMAPs – updates only requested for projects in original 5
 - Original 5: Jackson, Wakulla, Silver, Rainbow, Wekiva
 - 13 from 2018 are currently on hold
- Lake O BMAP 5-Year Review will be developed in 2019
 - Stakeholders in this BMAP will see additional notifications of meetings and information for the Review

Phase I MS4 Quarterly Teleconference

Minutes

Page 3

Contact information:

BMAP Name	BMAP Coordinator	Coordinator Email	Coordinator Phone
Alafia River Basin	Anita Nash	Anita.Nash@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8545
Banana River Lagoon	Kevin Williams	Kevin.C.Williams@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8086
Bayou Chico	Anita Nash	Anita.Nash@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8545
Caloosahatchee Estuary Basin	Kevin Williams	Kevin.C.Williams@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8086
Central Indian River Lagoon	Breanna Crowell	Breanna.Crowell@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8521
Everglades West Coast	Kevin Williams	Kevin.C.Williams@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8086
Hillsborough River Basin	Anita Nash	Anita.Nash@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8545
Jackson Blue Spring and Merritts Mill Pond Basin	Terry Hansen	Terry.Hansen@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8561
Lake Harney, Lake Monroe, Middle St. Johns River, and Smith Canal	Moira Homann	Moira.Homann@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8460
Lake Jesup	Moira Homann	Moira.Homann@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8460
Lake Okeechobee Basin	Sara Davis	Sara.C.Davis@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8825
Long Branch	Moira Homann	Moira.Homann@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8460
Lower St. Johns River (LSJR) Tributaries I & II	Anita Nash	Anita.Nash@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8545
Lower St. Johns River (LSJR) Mainstem	Tiffany Busby	tlbusby@wildwoodconsulting.net	904-797-2721
Manatee River Basin	Anita Nash	Anita.Nash@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8545
North Indian River Lagoon	David Huggins	David.Huggins@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8683
Orange Creek & Orange Creek Phase 1	Mary Paulic	Mary.Paulic@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8560
Rainbow Springs and Rainbow Run	Mary Paulic	Mary.Paulic@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8560
Santa Fe River Basin	Terry Hansen	Terry.Hansen@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8561
Silver Springs Group and Silver River	Mary Paulic	Mary.Paulic@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8560
St. Lucie River and Estuary Basin	Breanna Crowell	Breanna.Crowell@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8521
Upper Ocklawaha River Basin	Mary Paulic	Mary.Paulic@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8560
Upper Wakulla River and Wakulla Springs	Moira Homann	Moira.Homann@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8460
Wekiva River, Rock Springs Run, and Little Wekiva Canal	Moira Homann	Moira.Homann@dep.state.fl.us	850-245-8460

BACTERIA SOURCE ID MONITORING: Anita Nash

DEP assesses approximately 6,600 waterbodies or segments of waterbodies to compare water quality lab results to state standards to determine if they are impaired. Of those, over 600 have fecal bacteria problems which likely indicate pathogens in our waterbodies that we use to swim, fish, boat, drink, and shellfish.

Working to restore impaired waters requires more than reviewing water quality data annually.

Steps for investigating bacteria impairments (not all inclusive):

1. Investigate further.
 - a. Determine appropriate response to high-risk and low-risk indicator bacteria (Enterococci and *E. coli*) results. Fecal indicator bacteria (FIB) measurements do not distinguish between high risk and low risk sources of bacteria; however, the greater the FIB levels, the greater the risk of being exposed to pathogens. Natural sources such as wildlife generally have lower potential for human illnesses.
 - b. Likened use of FIB to someone running a fever. They are not well, but you do not know the cause, you take them to the doctor. Continuously testing for a fever does nothing to reduce the fever. Similarly, if bacteria levels are persistently above the criteria, further investigation to identify, locate, and eliminate the causes of anthropogenic sources is warranted; additional sampling with no action does not address the impairment.
2. Review data as soon as it is provided by the lab and **act** if the results indicate a problem.
3. Additional monitoring, specifically **source specific monitoring** throughout the contributing area to find the cause of the bacteria impairment.
 - a. Source specific parameters (esp. indicators of raw/untreated human sewage):
 - Acetaminophen (Tylenol)
 - Ibuprofen
 - Naproxen
 - Hydrocodone
 - qPCR DNA Marker HF-183 – human waste
4. If results show untreated sewage in your stormwater:
 - a. Narrow down the location of the origin. Coordinate outside of your department and jurisdiction to investigate the source.
 - Visual inspections – cheapest, but not all sources are visible above ground.
 - Additional Source specific monitoring into the contributing watershed and MS4 above and below ground.
 - Sewage sniffing dogs – great for public relations/community awareness
 - Closed circuit TV (CCTV) in the stormwater system – usually necessary.
 - Dye traces.
 - Smoke tests.

5. Long-term strategies to ensure watersheds are managed properly (not all inclusive):
 - a. Continuously review FIB data from your regular monitoring stations as it comes in from the lab. Have an action plan to respond ASAP.
 - b. intensive source ID monitoring (source specific analytes) and investigations,
 - c. Projects (stormwater treatment projects are not great for addressing pathogens):
 - focused sanitary sewer conveyance inspections and upgrades,
 - septic system inspections,
 - septic to sewer conversions,
 - d. agricultural best management practices,
 - e. beach surveys.
6. Develop a bacteria or pathogen restoration plan for waterbodies. Have a "blueprint" to eliminate releases of pollutants, specifically pathogen laden waste, to waterbodies so they attain water quality standards and designated uses. Restoration plans are broad and developed with local stakeholders, rely on local input and require local commitments.

Keys to restoring bacteria-impaired waters (from the Toolkit):

- Focus on identifying and reducing health risks.
- Gather, evaluate, and interpret relevant data.
- Build collaborative relationships among key stakeholders, especially local wastewater and stormwater utilities and local government leaders.
- Conduct mapping and field studies, such as Walk the Watershed (WTW) exercises, to uncover potential pathogen sources in the watershed.
- Prioritize hot spots based on water quality data and risk of human contact.
- Monitor and investigate problems.
- Ensure that entities with appropriate authority timely act to locate and eliminate sources.
- Track and catalog identified sources.
- Select effective restoration strategies.
- Prioritize and increase source control measures and infrastructure operation, maintenance, and replacement practices to minimize future problems.
- Pursue local revenue generation opportunities and state and federal financial assistance to build or refurbish local infrastructure.
- Ask DEP for help.

Tools to guide you:

- **Reducing Pathogens Story Map:**
<https://fddep.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=d14dbc72a19e4655888a24e3692fe3d4>
- **Restoring Bacteria-Impaired Waters: A Toolkit to Help Local Stakeholders Identify and Eliminate Potential Pathogen Problems:**
https://floridadep.gov/sites/default/files/Restoring_Bacteria-Impaired_Waters_Toolkit_082018.pdf
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