

Water Quality Outcomes

We tried

Possibilities

- N
- P
- Contaminants
- pH
- Conductance
- Temp
- Sediment
- Stream flow

Summary

- Focus on RL indicators in 2008 for:
 - N, P, sediment, selected contaminants, DO, pH
 - Base on CBP Nontidal network to relate to tributary strategies.
 - State 305b reports
 - Largest challenges are:
 - Some data only reported every 2 years through 305b reports
 - Inconsistencies between reporting
- 2008 and beyond
 - Develop indicators to help explain cause
 - Explore other potential reporting level indicators

Other ideas

- Include importance of hydrology but do not have an indicator for stream flow.
- Bacteria and pathogens
- Temp

Nutrients

- Recommend RL indicators for TN and TP loads
- Relate indicators to “cap loads” in the tributary strategies
- Use information from CBP Nontidal Water-Quality Network
- Have supplementary indicators for N and P concentrations to help target locations and sources

Contaminants

- Recommend as RL indicator
- Base on 305b reports/information that already has listed streams
 - States do have some differences between approaches to list streams
- Mention of “intersex” issue but can not develop indicator
- CBP toxics goal mostly focused on tidal waters (not watershed).
- Spatial scale: locally specific but limited basin wide coverage.

Dissolved oxygen

- Recommend as an RL indicator
- Use information from state 305b reports to identify streams that are impaired due to DO
 - Streams, lakes, impoundments
 - Usually 5 mg/L
 - Some issues of consistency
- Only reported every 2 years

pH

- Recommend as RL indicator
- Streams are as “impaired” due to pH <6.5
- Water-quality issue related mostly to acid-mine drainage
 - Issue does not apply to entire watershed but pH collected everywhere
- Only reported every 2 years

Temperature

- Do not recommend RL indicator
- Too many issues with developing a listing and interpretation

Sediment

- Recommend RL indicator
- Load indicator for tributary strategies
 - Base on results from CBP NT network
- Provides linkage to habitat and living res. but do not have a standard.
 - Listing based on invert. (not sed. Conc)
 - Have habitat assessment
 - MBSS data and VA fresh-water habitat monitoring