Protecting Oregon's Water Quality

House Energy and Environment Committee

30 April 2019 DEQ Water Quality Division



Today's briefing

- DEQ WQ Programs Overview
- Clean Water Act Framework
 - Establishing WQ Standards
 - Monitoring and Assessment
 - Clean Water Plans (TMDLs)
- Partnerships





Roles and Responsibilities

Department of Environmental Quality



- Implement federal Clean Water Act and state WQ laws (Standards; monitoring; permitting; TMDLs)
- Provide technical and scientific analysis support for identifying WQ status and improvement opportunities
- Monitoring, evaluation, compliance and enforcement

Department of Agriculture



- Implementation of Agriculture WQ program
- Develop Area Plan
 Biennial reviews with
 Local Advisory
 Committees
- Monitoring, evaluation, compliance and enforcement

Department of Forestry



- Implementation of Forest Protection Act
- Adopt best management practices to maintain water quality standards on state and private forestlands
- Monitoring, evaluation, compliance and enforcement

Watershed Enhancement Board



Invest in priorities identified by natural resource plans and

 Convene interagency monitoring efforts and invest in monitoring

assessments

 Fund projects and initiatives that support "uplift"

Local Governments



- Stewardship of water resources through local programs, partnerships and community regulations
- Funding of local water quality protection and watershed restoration projects and operations
- Implementation of Federal and State water quality programs through permits, water quality management plans, etc.



Clean Water Act Framework

Set health and aquatic ecosystem standards

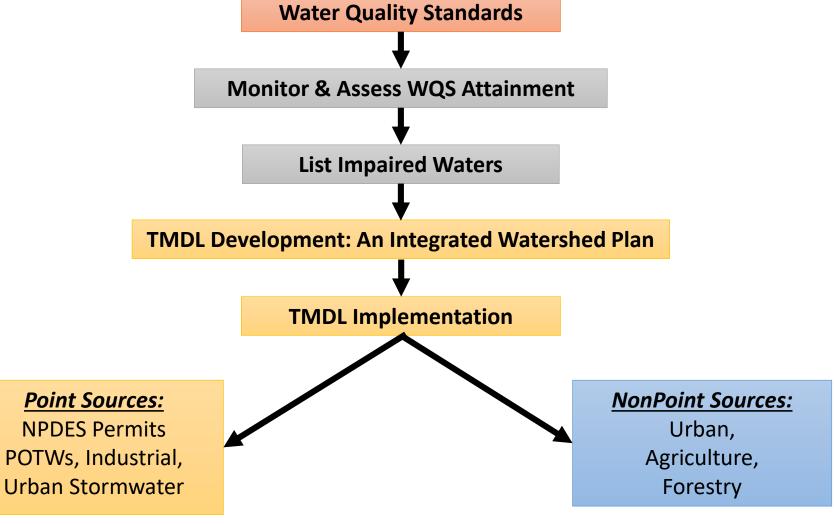
Monitor and assess water quality conditions

Work with agencies, businesses, communities, landowners, other organizations to address non-permitted sources

Issue permits and watershed plans to achieve standards



Clean Water Act Framework





DEQ Water Quality

Relationship with EPA



Oversight Funding Support NPDES permits 106 Program Grant Technical Assistance **WQ** Standards 319 Nonpoint Source Grant **ESA** consultation Impaired Waters lists Clean Water State Legal input/ TMDLs / NPS program Co-defendants Revolving Loan Fund capitalization Compliance and enforcement collaboration Contractor resources



Permitting, Certifications and Licensing

Permitting of point source facilities statewide

- Implement Federal NPDES and State WPCF Permit Programs
- Municipal and Industrial
- Stormwater runoff from cities, construction and industrial sites

401 Water Quality Certification

- Review and certify that activities authorized by federal activities meet Oregon water quality standards
- Hydroelectric or Energy Projects
- USACE Dredge/Fill activities

Onsite Septic Systems (Residential and Commercial)

- Implement the residential onsite septic program in 10 counties
- Issue individual permits statewide for large onsite septic systems
- License onsite septic system installers and pumpers







Standards

Establish standards to protect beneficial uses of surface waters; identify implementation pathways



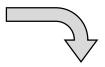




Standards



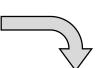
Recommended
Pollutant Criteria
Example: Copper
(to protect aquatic life and salmon)





Oregon considerations

- Water chemistry
- Species presence
- Implementation

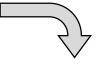






Rulemaking

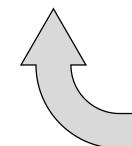
- Advisory Committee
- Public Comment
- EQC Adoption





EPA Approval

- Endangered Species Act
 - 90 days ?

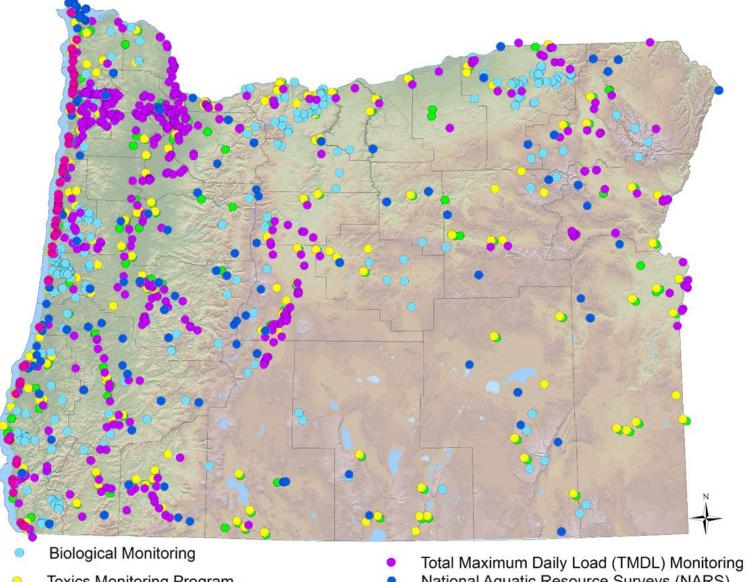


Revise & Update

Monitoring:

Collecting and Analyzing water samples to support WQ programs, human health and the environment





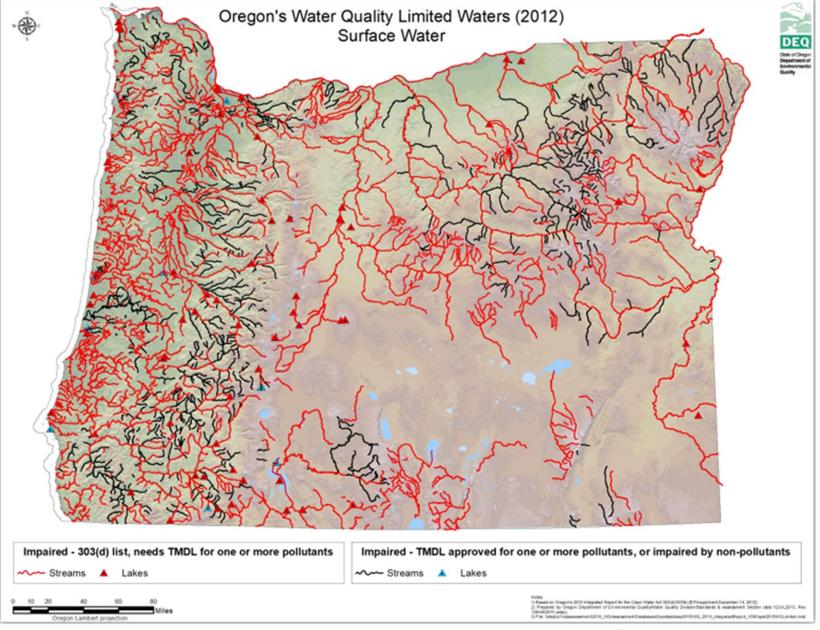
- Toxics Monitoring Program
- Ambient Water Quality Monitoring Network
- National Aquatic Resource Surveys (NARS)
- **Beach Monitoring**

Created by: Lesley Merrick ODEQ 1/12/17



Assessment

- Report on overall condition of Oregon's waters
- Identify water quality impaired/limited waters





Clean Water Plans

Develop TMDLs, water quality management plans and strategies to achieve water quality standards through regulatory and non-regulatory means, including partnerships with ODA and ODF



Clean Water Plans

Federal Clean Water Act Requirements:

- Prepare TMDLs to attain water quality standards
- Include allocations to point sources and nonpoint sources, margin of safety, and reserve capacity
- Address critical conditions for stream flow, pollutants, loading and seasonal variability
- Implementation plan that provides "Reasonable Assurance" that the TMDL will be implemented and ultimately meet WQ standards
- EPA must review and approve



Clean Water Plans: Development Process

- 1. Identify water quality concerns
- 2. Determine overall pollutant reductions required to meet standards
- 3. Identify pollution sources and conditions contributing to water quality concerns (point sources; nonpoint sources; background sources)
- 4. Link sources and conditions to waterbody
- 5. Allocate pollutant load reductions that will result in water quality standard attainment



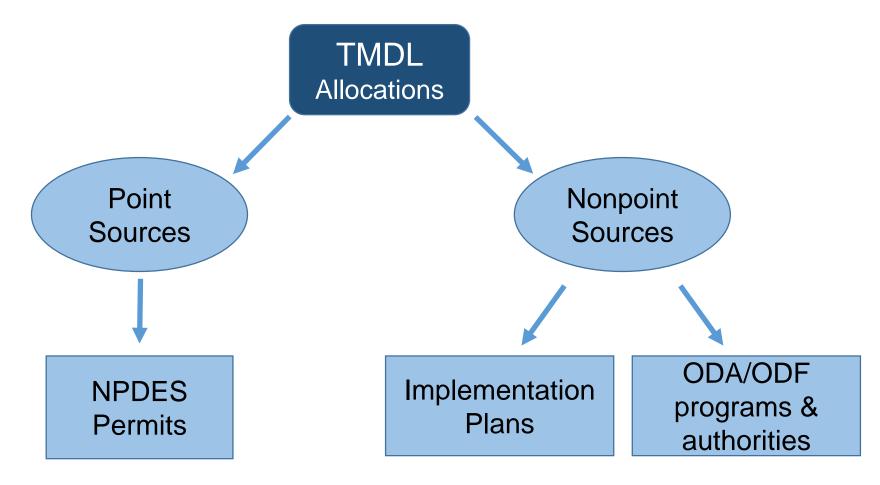
Water Quality Management Plan: TMDL Implementation Framework

DEQ's Water Quality Management Plan:

- Identifies entities responsible for TMDL implementation;
- Identifies and quantifies expected results for various management strategies to achieve allocations
- Includes implementation timelines:
 - measurable milestones,
 - interim water quality targets,
 - schedule for water quality standards attainment
- Includes a performance monitoring plan

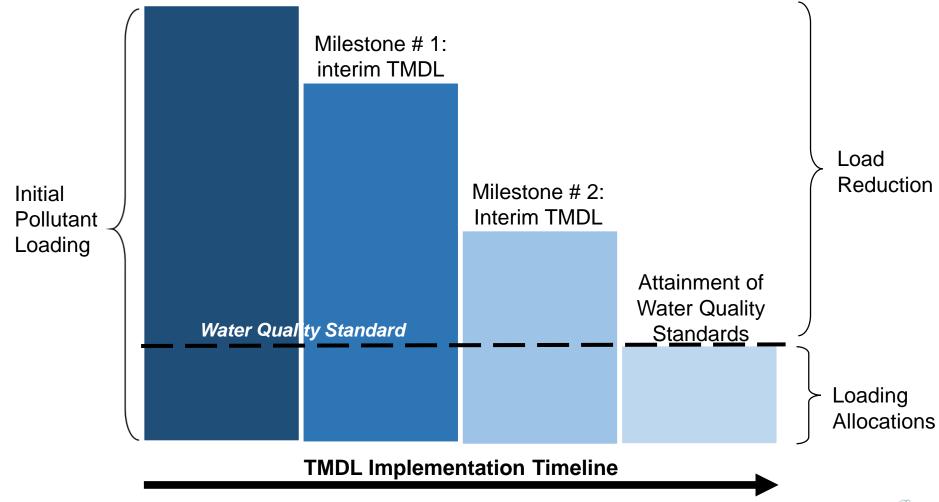


Clean Water Plans: Implementation Framework



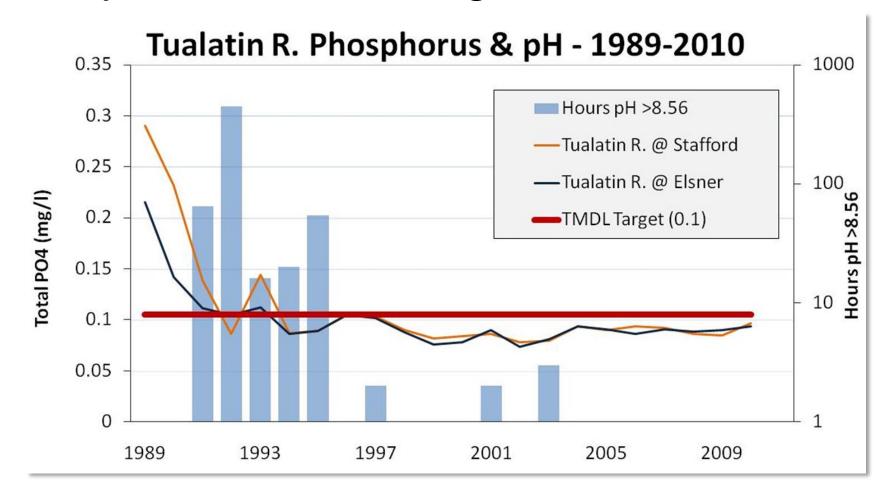
Clean Water Plans:

Adaptive Management and WQ Improvement



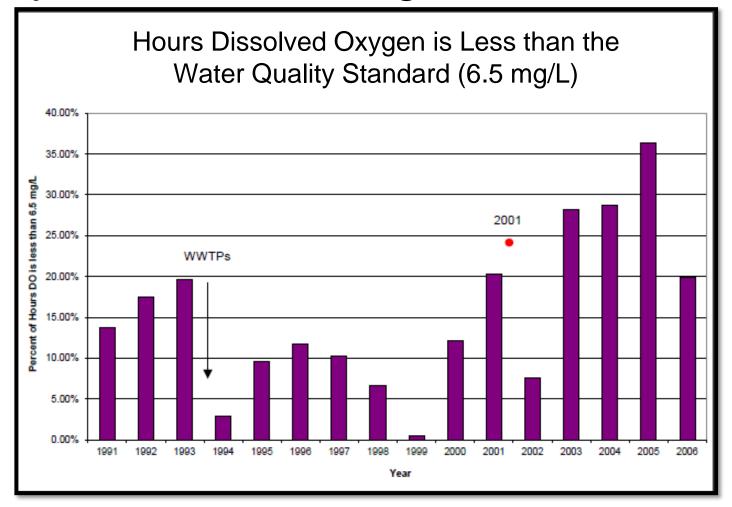
Clean Water Plans:

A pathway towards meeting standards



Clean Water Plans:

A pathway towards meeting standards



Clean Water Plans: Many partners **USA-USFS** ODFW Lincoln County ODF-PRIVATE Legend **ODFW Designated Management Agencies** ODOT City of Yachats OPRD Lincoln County OR-DSL Miles ODA

ODF-PRIVATE

USA-USFS

0.25

0.5

Around the Watershed

State NR Agencies

Ag and Rural Lands Non-federal Forests Fisheries and Habitat needs

Education/Outreach

Soil and Water Conservation Dist. Ag Extension Watershed Councils

Funding Conservation

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board NRCS USDA Farm Service Agency

Point Source Permittees

Urban and Rural NPS Management

Local Governments

Federal Land Management

Bureau of Land Management
US Forest Service
Corps of Engineers

Private Landowners

Private Land Management



Questions?

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