ACWA – Second Survey on Potential Measures for Nutrient Reduction Progress Tracker

Introduction

An ACWA-Administered Tracker of Nutrient Reductions

Over the past several years, EPA has developed tools to measure progress, on a state-by-state basis, on reducing nutrient pollution. However, according to many states these efforts do not reflect all of the actions states are taking to address nutrient loadings to state waters. The goal of this project is to develop an ACWA-administered tool to track nutrient reductions in every state in the U.S. by identifying a comprehensive set of measures of progress. We created this second survey to collect responses from states on measures gleaned from state responses to the first survey (where we received input on a list of ~100 potential measures). Your responses will help us form small subset of measures that are easily trackable for most states, have value in understanding where state reduction efforts lie, and can be tracked on a regular basis with little effort on the part of state program managers. In the "Comments/suggestions" boxes, we encourage you to suggest alternative units of measurement (e.g., % of stream miles, acres of practice x, etc.) that would allow you to report on the measure, or provide any other feedback or ideas on the potential measure. At the end of the survey, please provide any additional comments/suggestions.

We encourage you to take the time to have staff from different programs respond to sections about which they are most knowledgeable. It may also be important to reach out to state departments of agriculture and public water supply programs for their input. Each respondent must enter responses from separate computers but can exit and re-enter the survey at any time. We recognize and appreciate that you may have already contributed to the first survey. This survey is significantly shorter and includes some refined and different measures. We very much appreciate your time on this important effort. We also request that you please submit your responses by June 1, 2016. Thank you!

1. What state do you represent?

2. What is your name and in which water program do you work?
Name:
Program area:

CWA Measures of Progress

1. Percent of stream/river miles for which NNC for TP and/or TN/TIN have been adopted.
      Are these data available in your state?
      If not, are these data capturable in your state?
      What level of priority would you place on this measure?

      Yes/No or High/Med/Low

      Comments/suggestions:

2. Percent of lake/impoundment acres for which NNC for TP and/or TN/TIN have been adopted.
      Are these data available in your state?
      If not, are these data capturable in your state?
      What level of priority would you place on this measure?

      Yes/No or High/Med/Low

      Comments/suggestions:

3. Percent of stream/river miles for which nutrient-related criteria have been adopted (such as narrative criteria, bio-indicators, chlorophyll-a, secchi disk depth, etc.).
>
> Are these data available in your state?
> If not, are these data capturable in your state?
> What level of priority would you place on this measure?
>
> Yes/No or High/Med/Low
>
> Comments/suggestions:

4. Percent of lake/impoundment acres for which nutrient-related criteria have been adopted (such as narrative criteria, bio-indicators, chlorophyll-a, secchi disk depth, etc.).
>
> Are these data available in your state?
> If not, are these data capturable in your state?
> What level of priority would you place on this measure?
>
>
> Yes/No or High/Med/Low
>
> Comments/suggestions:

5. Percent of stream/river miles assessed for nutrients in state.
>
> Are these data available in your state?
> If not, are these data capturable in your state?
> What level of priority would you place on this measure?
>
> Yes/No or High/Med/Low
>
> Comments/suggestions:

6. Percent of lakes/impoundment acres assessed for nutrients in state.
>
> Are these data available in your state?
> If not, are these data capturable in your state?
> What level of priority would you place on this measure?
>
> Yes/No or High/Med/Low
>
> Comments/suggestions:

7. Percent of stream/river miles impaired due to nutrient-related causes (e.g. hypoxia, algal blooms, fish kills, etc.).
>
> Are these data available in your state?
> If not, are these data capturable in your state?
> What level of priority would you place on this measure?
>
> Yes/No or High/Med/Low
>
> Comments/suggestions:

8. Percent of lakes/impoundment acres impaired due to nutrient-related causes (e.g. hypoxia, algal blooms, fish kills, etc.).

        Are these data available in your state?

        If not, are these data capturable in your state?

        What level of priority would you place on this measure?

        Yes/No or High/Med/Low

        Comments/suggestions:

9. Linear extent (mi) of streams/rivers impaired due to nutrient-related causes (e.g. hypoxia, algal blooms, fish kills, etc.).

        Are these data available in your state?

        If not, are these data capturable in your state?

        What level of priority would you place on this measure?

        Yes/No or High/Med/Low

        Comments/suggestions:

10. Areal extent (ac) of lakes/impoundments impaired due to nutrient-related causes (e.g. hypoxia, algal blooms, fish kills, etc.).

        Are these data available in your state?

        If not, are these data capturable in your state?

        What level of priority would you place on this measure?

        Yes/No or High/Med/Low

        Comments/suggestions:

11. Linear extent (mi) of streams/rivers with nutrient-related TMDLs.

        Are these data available in your state?

        If not, are these data capturable in your state?

        What level of priority would you place on this measure?

        Yes/No or High/Med/Low

        Comments/suggestions:

12. Areal extent (ac) of lakes/impoundments with nutrient-related TMDLs.

        Are these data available in your state?

        If not, are these data capturable in your state?

        What level of priority would you place on this measure?

        Yes/No or High/Med/Low

        Comments/suggestions:

13. How many waters in your state were delisted in the last calendar year under 303(d) due to a finding of no impairment for nutrients, i.e. moving from Category 5 to Category 1?
>
> Are these data available in your state?
> If not, are these data capturable in your state?
> What level of priority would you place on this measure?
>
> Yes/No or High/Med/Low
>
> Comments/suggestions:

14. To establish a baseline, how many waters in your state were delisted prior to the last calendar year under 303(d) due to a finding of no impairment for nutrients, i.e. moving from Category 5 to Category 1?
>
> Are these data available in your state?
> If not, are these data capturable in your state?
> What level of priority would you place on this measure?
>
> Yes/No or High/Med/Low
>
> Comments/suggestions:

Outcome-based Measures of Progress

1. Demonstrated changes in nutrient loads/water quality in state waterbodies (For example: lower levels of TN/TIN and TP in waters, decrease in harmful algal blooms, increase in health of aquatic life, stabilization of dissolved oxygen, etc.)
>
> Are these data available in your state?
> If not, are these data capturable in your state?
> What level of priority would you place on this measure?
>
> Yes/No or High/Med/Low
>
> Comments/suggestions:

Measures on Point Sources of Nutrients

1. Does your state have a state-wide system for assisting facilities with optimization for nutrient reduction?
>
> What level of priority would you place on this measure?
>
> High/Med/Low
>
> Comments/suggestions:

2. How many major wastewater treatment facilities (municipal and industrial) are in your state?
>
> Are these data available in your state?
> If not, are these data capturable in your state?What level of priority would you place on this measure?
>
> Yes/No, or High/Med/Low
>
> Comments/suggestions:

3. Percent of major facility flow known or expected to be nutrient sources (i.e. *Nutrient Majors*) with monitoring for TP and/or TN/TIN.

Are these data available in your state?
If not, are these data capturable in your state?
What level of priority would you place on this measure?

Yes/No or High/Med/Low

Comments/suggestions:

4. Percent of Nutrient Majors with limits for TP and/or TN/TIN.

Are these data available in your state?
If not, are these data capturable in your state?
What level of priority would you place on this measure?

Yes/No or High/Med/Low

Comments/suggestions:

5. Percent of Nutrient Majors with WQBELs for TP and/or TN/TIN.

Are these data available in your state?
If not, are these data capturable in your state?
What level of priority would you place on this measure?

Yes/No or High/Med/Low

Comments/suggestions:

6. Average lbs of TP/TN-TIN per million gallons of discharge from all wastewater treatment facilities in previous calendar year.

Are these data available in your state?
If not, are these data capturable in your state?
What level of priority would you place on this measure?

Yes/No or High/Med/Low

Specifically, for what size facilities does your state have this data?

Comments/suggestions:

7. Total lbs of TP/TN-TIN per million gallons of discharge from all wastewater treatment facilities in previous calendar year.

Are these data available in your state?
If not, are these data capturable in your state?
What level of priority would you place on this measure?

Yes/No, or High/Med/Low

Specifically, for what size facilities does your state have this data?

Comments/suggestions:

8. Number of wastewater treatment facilities built/upgraded to reduce nutrients in the previous calendar year.
    Are these data available in your state?
    If not, are these data capturable in your state?
    What level of priority would you place on this measure?

    Yes/No, or High/Med/Low

    Comments/suggestions:

9. To establish a baseline, what is the number of wastewater treatment facilities built/upgraded to reduce nutrients prior to the previous calendar year.
    Are these data available in your state?
    If not, are these data capturable in your state?
    What level of priority would you place on this measure?

    Yes/No, or High/Med/Low

    Comments/suggestions:

Measures on Nonpoint Sources of Nutrients

1. Does your state have a formal relationship (e.g., data sharing agreement, MOU, etc.) with your state NRCS office? If yes, how would you rate your partnership? (DISCLAIMER: Do not actually answer the question asked. Rather, give us feedback on whether this is a good question for tracking progress.)
    What level of priority would you place on this measure?

    High/Med/Low

    Comments/suggestions

2. Acres of BMPs installed per 319 Grants Reporting and Tracking System and estimated lbs of TP and/or TN/TIN load reduced in the last calendar year.
    What level of priority would you place on this measure?

    Yes/No or High/Med/Low

    Comments/suggestions:

3. Acres of __all__ BMPs installed, both public and private.
    Are these data available in your state?
    If not, are these data capturable in your state?
    What level of priority would you place on this measure?

    High/Med/Low

    Comments/suggestions:

4. Estimated lbs of TP and/or TN/TIN load reduced from <u>all</u> acres of BMPs installed, both public and private.
        Are these data available in your state?
        If not, are these data capturable in your state?
        What level of priority would you place on this measure?

        High/Med/Low

        Comments/suggestions:

Measures of Other Actions

1. Are there fertilizer restrictions or additional nutrient management planning programs in place in your state (either state-wide or county/municipal)?
        What level of priority would you place on this measure?

        High/Medium/Low

        Comments/suggestions:

2. Does your state have a nutrient reduction strategy?
        What level of priority would you place on this measure?

        High/Medium/Low

        Comments/suggestions"

3. Are there local nutrient reduction strategies in your state (e.g. municipal, county, etc.)?
        What level of priority would you place on this measure?

        High/Medium/Low

        Comments/suggestions:

Measures Relating to Drinking Water

1. Number and percent of public water systems violating nitrate MCL (likely not possible for private systems/wells).
        Are these data available in your state?
        If not, are these data capturable in your state?
        What level of priority would you place on this measure?

        Yes/No or High/Med/Low

        Comments/suggestions:

2. Number and percent of public water systems actively operating to meet the nitrate MCL (e.g., via treatment or blending).
> Are these data available in your state?
> If not, are these data capturable in your state?
> What level of priority would you place on this measure?
>
> Yes/No or High/Med/Low
>
> Comments/suggestions:

Measures of Cost/Investment

1. Estimation of money spent by your state (including combinations of state, local, and federal funds used) in implementing BMPs for nutrient load reduction within the past calendar year.
> Are these data available in your state?
> If not, are these data capturable in your state?
> What level of priority would you place on this measure?
>
> Yes/No or High/Med/Low
>
> Comments/suggestions:

2. Amount of money spent on wastewater treatment facilities construction/upgrades to reduce nutrients in previous calendar year.
> Are these data available in your state?
> If not, are these data capturable in your state?
> What level of priority would you place on this measure?
>
> Yes/No, or High/Med/Low
>
> Comments/suggestions

Monitoring

1. Are baseline and continued (long-term) nutrient monitoring available for assessing trends (statewide, regionally, and in key waterbodies)?
> What level of priority would you place on this measure?
>
> High/Med/Low
>
> Comments/suggestions:

2. Are nutrient and biological monitoring available for all applicable water types in your state (e.g. rivers, lakes, estuaries, etc.)?
> What level of priority would you place on this measure?
>
> High/Med/Low
>
> Comments/suggestions:

Final Comments

Please provide any other ideas you may have for measures of progress on nutrient reduction. Also, if you feel that there are measures from the first survey not included in the second survey that deserve attention, please indicate that here as well: