

Meeting Summary for the May 28, 2014 Model-Techno-Policy Workgroup:

Discussion Items

Draft Scenarios

- Michael Kasch (HDR) – pointed out that model scenarios with WWTFs at 0 mg/L TP should also have flows at 0 cfs.
- Troy Smith (DEQ) – we not run scenarios to try and emulate the completed LBR TSS TMDL and associated 37% TSS reduction. DEQ doesn't want the success of this modeling effort to potentially depend on how accurately we reproduce TSS conditions in the TSS TMDL. Rather, we can evaluate model scenarios with TSS reductions and other changes to environmental inputs as part of sensitivity analyses (e.g. temperature, flow, nutrients...).
- Troy – Briefly walked through the model runs and results spreadsheets that had been emailed to the group on May 16. In scenarios, TP reductions lead to some reductions in periphyton, but also result in temporal/spatial shifts. Even at very low TP for point and nonpoints (e.g. 0.02 mg/L) don't meet target in segments 9 and 10; low nutrient diatoms are dominant.

Michaels Presentation on the Evaluation of Using Long-term Flow Data for AQUATOX

- Created water balance from 1987-2012, using the same methodology as was used for the AQUATOX 2012-2013 calibration.
- Depending on how one evaluates the flow (e.g. irrigation season, yearly,...) different flow percentiles can result. July to September flows for 2012 are approximately 50th percentile; 2001 July- Sept flows are approximately 92nd percentile.
- Ben Cope (EPA) – Would like this type of analysis to look at segments, not AUs. What is the relationship between flow and TP at Diversion? May need to look at 90th (or some other) flow percentile for each month.
- Matt Gregg (Brown and Caldwell) – Need to identify what constitutes a violation.
- Pete Wagner (DEQ) – What about temperature, light, etc.?
- Robbin Finch (City of Boise) – Could be a tool to provide more insight of potential violations of 1 in X years, for example. Use hypothesis testing to look at effects of sediment, temperature, weather, etc.
- Troy – likes the idea of this approach, but DEQ and group need to think about pros and cons and vet, appropriately. Michael can present to the TAC as a concept that the Model-Techno-Policy Group has just seen and is evaluating its usefulness.

To do's for June 11 Meeting

- Everyone
 - Evaluate the usefulness (pros/cons) of Michael's concept of using 26-year flows with the AQUATOX calibrated model, and provide feedback/recommendations
 - Evaluate the model results and help determine,

Next Workgroup Meeting

Wednesday, June 11

10 to 11:30 a.m.

DEQ State Office, Conference Room D

Phone: 208-373-0101 Bridge 4

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