



CEEJAC

Water Subcommittee Meeting
January 10, 2024

Welcome

Roll Call, Ground Rules, Agenda Overview

Please note that public comments will be accepted throughout this meeting. If you are a member of the public, please introduce yourself (Name, Organization/Affiliation, Town)

Roll Call

Chair, Cierra Patrick

Economic Development Manager, City of Groton

Dr. Mark Mitchell

MD, MPH, Emeritus Professor

Maisa Tisdale

CEO, The Mary & Eliza Freeman Center

Sharon Lewis

Executive Director, CT Coalition for Environmental Justice (CCEJ)

Lori Mathieu

Public Health Branch Chief, CT Department of Public Health for
Commissioner Manisha Juthani

Ground Rules

1. Listen respectfully, without interrupting
2. Listen actively and with an ear to understanding others' views
3. Only have one conversation at a time
4. Be mindful to give others and opportunity to speak
5. Focus on the task at hand rather than the position

6. Avoid off-topic conversations
7. Criticize ideas, not individuals
8. Commit to learning, not debating
9. Avoid blame, speculation, and inflammatory language
10. Avoid assumptions about any member of the workgroup

Agenda Overview

01.

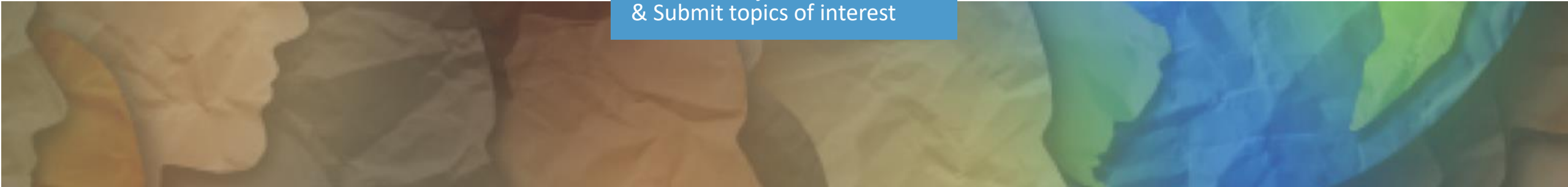
Integrated Water Resource Management
Planning Process

02.

Q&A, Discussion

03.

Invitation to join Subcommittee
& Submit topics of interest



***Integrated Water Planning
Management 2.0***

***CEEJAC Water Subcommittee
Meeting***

January 10, 2024



Rebecca Jascot

Water Quality Program

Water Planning and Management Division

WPLR

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Integrated Water Planning Management 2.0

What is it? Why is it important?

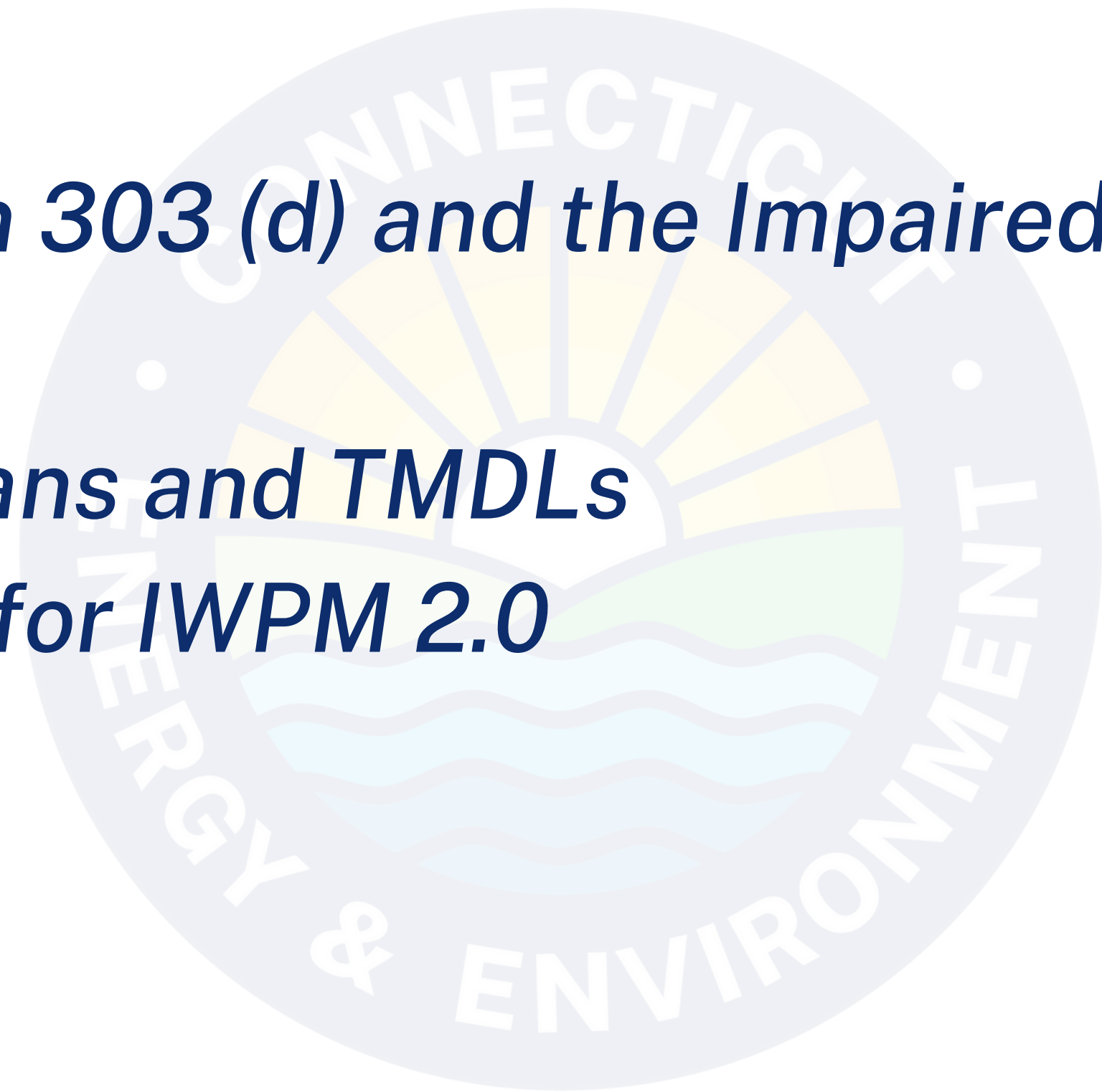
- *WQ Action Plans pave the way for WQ improvements and protection*
 - *Mechanism for “boots on the ground” implementation*
 - *Provide potential funding opportunities*
- *Opportunity for public input on water quality topics important to CT communities*
- *Provides opportunities to build partnerships*

The seal of the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection is a circular emblem. It features a central sun with rays, a green landscape with a tree, and blue wavy lines representing water. The words "CONNECTICUT" and "DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT" are written around the perimeter of the seal.

A Planning process to define CT's Water Quality Action Plan priorities over a 10-year period.

IWPM 2.0 Presentation Overview

- ***Clean Water Act Section 303 (d) and the Impaired Waters List***
- ***Water Quality Action Plans and TMDLs***
- ***Focus Topics and Goals for IWPM 2.0***
- ***Next Steps***
- ***Wrap up / Questions***



Clean Water Act Section 303 (d) Structure

Required by law for States, Authorized Tribes and Territories:

- *Evaluate the health of waters based on “all existing and readily available information”*



- ***Establish priorities for TMDL and WQ Action Plan development (IWPM)***

- *Develop schedule of WQ Action Plans to be developed within 10 years*
- *Request and Respond to public comments on their draft 303(d) list*
- *Submit the final 303(d) to EPA on April 1st of each even year for review and approval (IWQR)*

Clean Water Act Section 303 (d) Overview

How are waters placed on the 303 (d) list?

Impaired Waters List

Monitoring

Collect data and evaluate waterbody condition

Assessment

Assess Water Quality Criteria and Standards for Designated Use support

Listing

List waterbodies not meeting Water Quality Standards and submit to EPA every 2 years

3 Types of Plans under 303 (d)

- **TMDL**

- *The maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards*

- *Establishes load allocations to restore water quality*
- *Can serve as a protection plan when standards have been met*

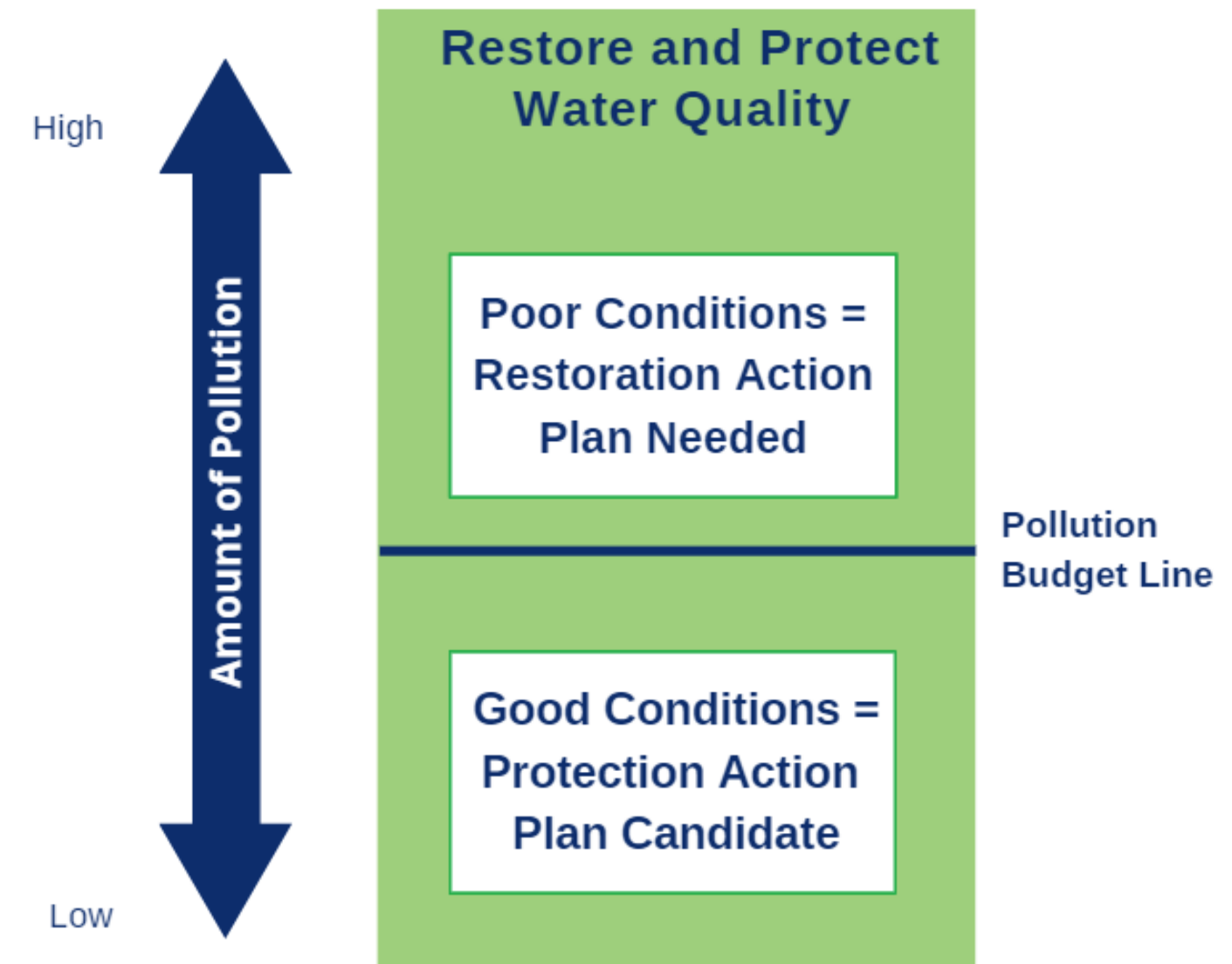
- **Alternative Plans**

- *Direct to implementation*
 - *Remedial Action Plan*
 - *Permitting*

- **Protection Plans**

- *Water quality standards are being met in current conditions*

Water Quality Pollution Budget



What is a TMDL?

This calculation is completed for each waterbody/pollutant combination

$$TMDL = \Sigma WLA + \Sigma LA + MOS$$

ΣWLA : Sum of waste load allocations (point sources, i.e. “end of pipe”)

ΣLA : Sum of load allocations (nonpoint sources and natural background)

MOS: Margin of Safety

- Takes into account lack of knowledge concerning the relationship between effluent limitations and water quality (CWA §303(d)(1)(C), 40 C.F.R. §130.7(c)(1))
- Can be explicit (e.g., 10%) or implicit (conservative assumptions in modeling, etc.)

TMDL = Point Sources(LA) + Nonpoint Sources (WLA) + Background + Margin of Safety

Clean Water Act Section 303 (d) Overview

Required Action Plans for Restoration and Protection 303 (d)

- Data**
- Standards and Criteria**
- Monitoring**
- Natural Resource Information**

- Remediation**
- Permitting**
- Non-point Source Programs**
- Watershed Based Plans**

Data and Goals

Implementation



Clean Water Act Section 303 (d) Overview



***For more information visit the
[IWQR webpage](#)***

IWQR Document

- ***CALM or the Connecticut Consolidated Assessment and Listing Methodology.***
- ***Restoration and Protection Strategies***
- ***303 (d) list waterbodies not meeting WQS***

IWPM Planning Process

- Required by law ~ Clean Water Act Section 303 (d)
- *IWPM is a Long term planning process over a 10 year period*
 - *IWPM 1 (2012-2022)*
 - *IWPM 2 (2022-2032)*
- *CT Methodology to identify priorities:*
 - *Internal feedback*
 - *Public feedback*



IWPM 2.0 Planning Process

- ***Internal Outreach CT DEEP Environmental Justice Division / CEEJAC Water Subcommittee / Public Meetings***
 - ***WQ priority topic suggestions (recreation i.e, swimming, shellfishing, nutrients, fish and aquatic wildlife)***
 - ***Waterbody specific suggestions***
 - ***Watershed specific suggestions***

IWPM 2.0 ~ Planning Recommendations

Refine Priorities for Water Quality Action Plan Development

- Refine existing priorities
- Work with active partners
- Plan development to address both restoration and protection

IWPM 2.0

Water Quality Action Plans for
Restoration and Protection

Water Quality Unit Recommendations

Stormwater and Non-Point Source



- Continue focus on Stormwater
- Considering development of a statewide IC TMDL
- Evaluation of process to set WQ based TSS loads
- Improve communication through an interactive Dashboard and web mapping application

Environmental Justice

- Switch to using new CT EJ tool to help identify EJ areas for plan development
- Planning to incorporate outreach to Tribal Partners



Swimming and Shellfishing



- Continue bacteria plan development (emphasis on EJ areas)
- Goal is to complete bacteria TMDLs eventually for all waters in the state over time.



Nutrients

- Continue Lake and Embayment TMDL Development



Fish and Wildlife Health

- Select waters with ALUS impairments for plan development
- Evaluate data to identify potential stressors



Climate Change

- Continue to add language in WQAP and communicate the impacts of a changing climate
- Continue to evaluate Climate Change scenarios for modeling efforts



IWPM 2 ~Suggestions for Enhancement

Environmental Justice will be incorporated and implemented in Water Quality Action Plans as the following topics are addressed

- **Stormwater and Non-Point Source**
- **Nutrients**
- **Swimming and Shellfishing**
- **Fish and Wildlife Health**
- **Climate Change**

How and where will WQ Action Plan development be the most meaningful and impactful?

IWPM 2.0
Water Quality Action Plans for Restoration and Protection

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Stormwater and Non-Point Source

IWPM 1

- Watershed Response Plan for IC
 - Expanded implementation of IC based stormwater controls
 - Provided a basis for MS4 provisions
 - Developed 169 factsheets for municipalities
- Supported WQ based permitting for stormwater and inclusion of stormwater requirements into TMDLs and other plans

IWPM 2

- Continue focus on Stormwater
- Include an evaluation process to possibly set WQ based TSS loads
- Improve communication
 - Update Town Factsheets (digital format)
 - Dashboard and interactive map
- Continue work from IWPM 1 to better integrate 303(d) & NPS planning and permitting efforts
- Continue to work with DEEP Stormwater Permitting Unit



Nutrients

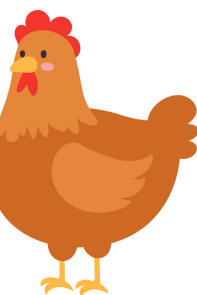


IWPM 1

- Developing a translator for narrative standards for lakes and embayments
- Developed statewide Lake TMDL approach
 - Bantam Lake
- Developed an approach to produce TMDLs that addressed coastal embayments.
 - Pawcatuck & Little Narragansett Bay, Mystic, Norwalk, Saugatuck and Southport and Niantic)

IWPM 2

- No change in concept
- Lakes in process: Roseland Lake, Lakes Zoar and Lillinonah, West Thompson Lake. Other lakes to be considered in future
- Complete TMDLs for embayments where work is ongoing. Other embayments to be considered in the future



Swimming and Shellfishing

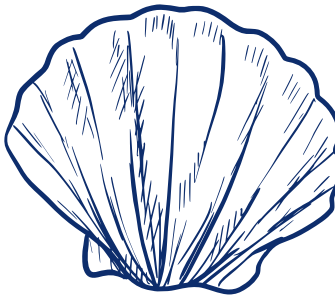
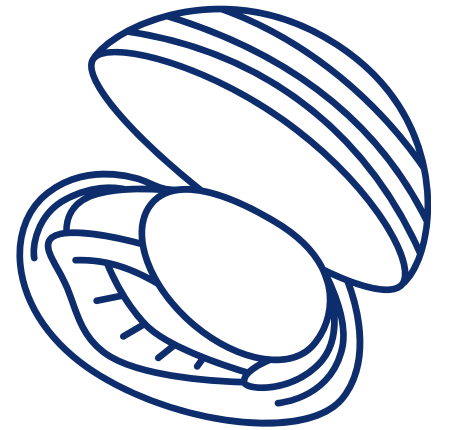
IWPM 1

- *Bacteria TMDLs for Shellfishing and Recreation*
- *Developed all waters approach*



IWPM 2

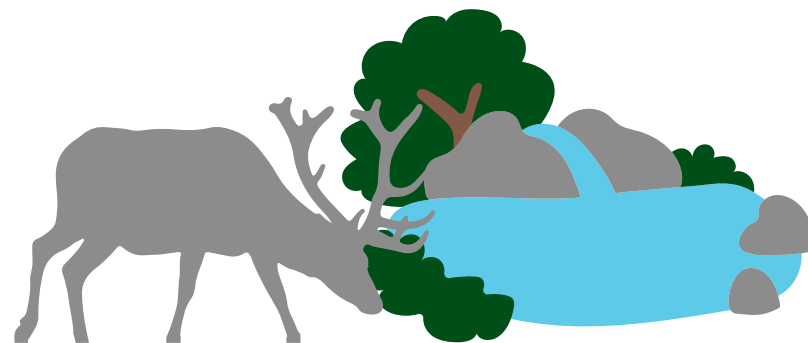
- *No change in concept*
- *New waters to be identified for plan development*
 - *Based on EJ & urban waters considerations, impairment status, etc.*
 - *Is there a coastal waterbody in your community that we should prioritize for swimming or shellfishing?*
- *Goal is to complete bacteria TMDLs eventually for all waters in the state over time.*



Habitat for Fish and Wildlife Health

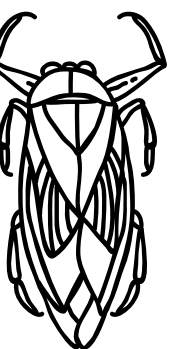
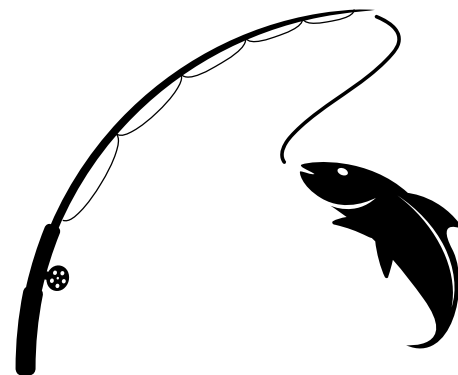
IWPM 1

- Updating TMDL for Bradley Airport streams
- Site clean up approaches in collaboration with Remediation Program
 - (Stratford Army Engine Plant, Exide (Mill River), International Paper site, GE Bridgeport)



IWPM 2

- Select waters with ALUS impairments for plan development
 - EJ areas of interest / concern?
 - Other sites in your community impacted by industrial activity?
 - Other clean up sites?
- Evaluate data to identify potential stressors
- Permitting and Remediation Program Support



Climate Change

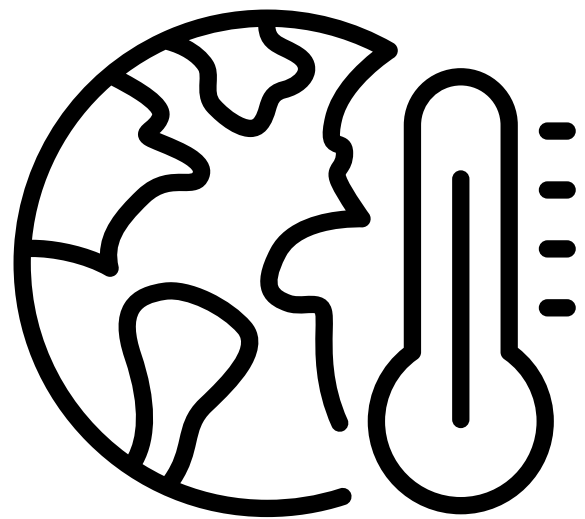


IWPM 1

- Added language to TMDLs regarding Climate Change impacts
- Built Climate Change scenarios into models for Water Quality Action Plan development

IWPM 2

- Continue to add language in Action Plans and communicate the impacts of a changing climate
- Continue to evaluate Climate Change scenarios for modeling efforts
- Align with CT Environmental Justice tool for planning considerations

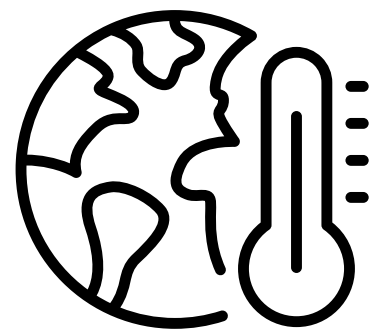


Environmental Justice



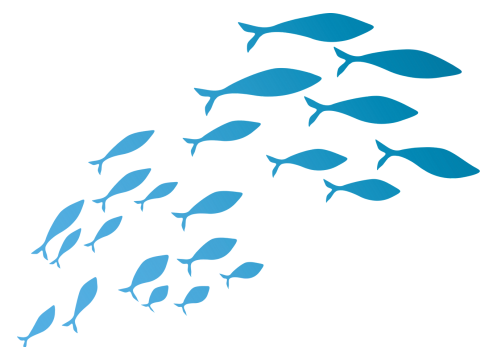
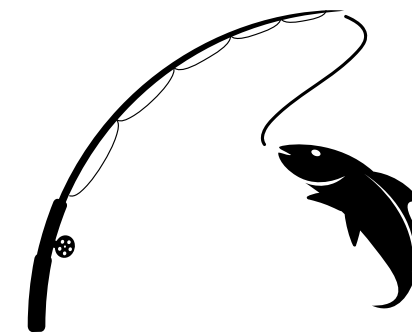
IWPM 1

- Considered federal EJ info when selecting waters for plan development added the EJ indicator into the RPS tool.
- Incorporated EJ office recommendations into WQAP



IWPM 2

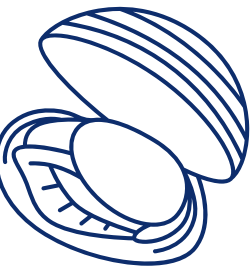
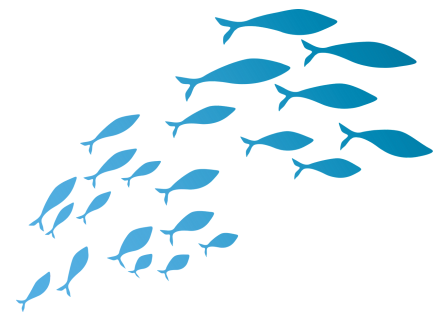
- Use the new CT EJ Screening tool
- Incorporate EJ Division recommendations
- Planning outreach with Tribal Partners
- Shellfishing and swimming plan development
 - Based on EJ & urban waters considerations, impairment status, etc.
 - Complete bacteria TMDLs eventually for all waters in the state over time.
- Fish and Aquatic Life EJ areas of interest / concern?



IWPM 2 Takeaways

Submit Comments in Writing by 2/16/2024 to rebecca.jascot@ct.gov

- *WQ Action Plans pave the way to implementation for restoration and protection for CT surface waters*
 - *Provide potential funding opportunities through grants*
- *DEEP requesting feedback on how and where will WQAP program development be the most meaningful and impactful?*
- *DEEP requesting feedback on topic focus (i.e, swimming, shellfishing, nutrients, fish and aquatic life)*
- *Incorporate EJ Division / CEEJAC Water Subcommittee / Public recommendations for plan development*
- *Planning outreach with Tribal Partners*
- *Continue public communication and outreach*
 - *Hold public meetings, social media postings, interactive web mapping (coming soon!), presentations*
- *Build partnerships*



Next Steps

JUNE -AUGUST 2023

- Internal outreach and communication
- Update recommendations for WQ Plans based on internal comments

NOVEMBER 2023

- Prepare for public comment 1/3/2023
 - draft maps / factsheet
 - update webpage / story map
 - Notify EPA public comment period date
 - Continue Agency outreach

FEBRUARY / MARCH 2024

- Close comment period 2/16/2023
- Internal review of public comment changes
- Work with managers to finalize list of waters for development

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2023

- Bureau outreach and communication with EJ Office
- Develop outreach materials for public meeting
 - draft presentations

DECEMBER 2023

- Continue Agency wide outreach
 - Announce public meeting / save the date
- public comment period

JANUARY 2024

- Begin Public Comment Period 1/3/2023
- Hold Public Meetings
 - Day and evening virtual meetings 1/16/2023

APRIL / MAY 2024

- Finalize list / materials
- Submit final list to EPA (4/1/2024)
- Publish final list in 2024 IWQR



IWPM 2 Planning Wrap Up

Questions?

- *Suggestions for specific locations for plan development*
- *Other Focus Topics?*
- *Questions?*

Thank you!



***Rebecca Jascot
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Water Planning and Management Division
WPLR
rebecca.jascot@ct.gov***

A globe of the Earth is the central focus, constructed from crumpled paper. The oceans are represented by blue crumpled paper, and the continents are shown in shades of green and yellow. The globe is set against a background of various shades of brown and tan crumpled paper, creating a textured, layered effect.

THANKS

Contact us at: DEEP.CEEJAC@ct.gov

Join the DEEP Equity & EJ Office Hours every third Wednesday
from 12-1pm on Zoom: <https://ctdeep.zoom.us/j/88627382456>