**IWG Topical Sub-Workgroup Proposal**

**Topic**

Development of a tracking and reporting framework for implementation and progress on the State Water Plan (SWP)

**Background**

This topical sub-workgroup is proposed as the result of discussions of the SWP Implementation Workgroup.

Section 5.2.3.5 of the SWP recommends developing a method to monitor and report on the implementation of the Plan’s recommendations to ensure compliance with the requirements of the statute. The statutory requirements include the 17 requirements of Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) Section 22a-352(b), and the annual reporting requirements of CGS Section 22a-352(i). Such methodology can also serve to highlight the priority recommendations and progress toward the overall goals of the SWP, and guide considerations for updating the Plan.

The SWP is a broad, over-arching document that includes hundreds of recommendations. It is only feasible to implement a few of those recommendations at a time. In addition, not all of the actions that will move the SWP goals forward will be undertaken by the WPC Agencies, its workgroups, or the many dedicated participants in the process thus far. Many other water-related entities across the state can affect progress toward the goals, including environmental groups, lake associations, water utilities, Soil & Water Conservation Districts, the Long Island Sound Study… just to name a few. It would be helpful to identify and report on those additional efforts as well. The proposed tracking and reporting framework should account, to the extent possible, for the motivation behind each such effort, whether it is a direct outcome of the plan itself, of statutory or regulatory obligations, or a choice by one of the other entities.

**Purpose**

This topical sub-workgroup will develop a framework and methodology for tracking and annual reporting on SWP Implementation. It will not be responsible for the actual tracking and reporting but will make recommendations on who would be. It also will recommend how to solicit broad input on progress on SWP implementation, even if the actions taken are not by the WPC agencies, workgroups, or directly associated entities.

**Scope**

While the WPC is ultimately responsible for tracking and implementation of the SWP, assistance is needed to set up a workable, transparent and useful system. Discussions will cover topics such as:

* which recommendations to track (all, active ones, priority ones…);
* what parameters need to be tracked;
* progress vs. completeness;
* who will have access to the tracking system for editing (vs. viewing);
* how it will be made available to the public;
* how to solicit broader input on items that go towards progress, etc.

This sub-workgroup is not intended to carry out the tracking and reporting, but instead to develop a methodology and framework for the tracking that can be submitted to the WPC for consideration.

**Workgroup membership**

The workgroup is open to all who have an interest in the subject matter but at minimum, should include the four WPC Agencies. People with experience developing metrics, report cards, or dashboards will be needed!

**Existing Resources**

Connecticut General Statutes §22a-352(b): Annual reporting requirements and list of 17 statutory requirements;

OPM annual reports to the legislature under CGS §22a-25-33o(d) (now superseded by CGS §22a-352(b)(i) requirements);

Compiled list of all recommendations in the SWP;

2018 priority recommendations from WPC agencies and WPCAG;

Draft tracking tables from informal DEEP/DPH discussions; and

WUCC Table 12-1: Prioritization and Implementation of Non-Capital Improvement Recommendations

Need a brainstorming session:

1. What is the purpose of tracking?
   1. To be able to report on SWP progress to Legislature
   2. Demonstrate progress on tasks set out in the plan
   3. Identify priorities and keep focus
   4. Maintain momentum of group effort
2. What are we going to track?
   1. What things? How many items?
   2. How do we keep it as simple as possible?
   3. What are the metrics?
   4. Who is the lead for each of these?
3. What sort of platform do we need and who would actually do the tracking?
4. Are there policy concerns that the WPC would need to make decisions on?
   1. Internal vs. external contributors
   2. Host / cost of system?
   3. Are there confidential data that would need to go into it, and if so, how do we protect that?