

Water Division Goals for 2009-11 Biennium

Objective 2: Implement the Clean Water Act.

Aquatic Invasive Species

AI 1 Watercraft Inspection. Heighten awareness and change boater behavior to contain and prevent the spread of AIS.	
Division PM 1	Advance watercraft inspection network to inspect 45,000 boats and increase hours spent on source waters. Achieve 90+% boater awareness of the law and prevention practices. Reduce the rate of new introductions (track and report trends).
AI 2 Enhance monitoring to track status of invasive species of concern.	
Division PM 1	Monitor over 500 waters per year and entered data into SWIMS (include no detects). Revise monitoring strategy and evolve SWIMS to track and report established and new infestations.
AI 3 Aquatic Invasive Species Grants. Strengthen partnerships for prevention and control through incentives.	
PM 1	Allocate the ~\$4.3 million annual appropriation of AIS Control grants. Provide timely technical assistance, ranking for funding, project review and approvals). Continue to emphasize prevention and early detection/response projects (track and report).
AI 4 Evaluate large-scale EWM control project strategies.	
PM 1	Track 16 new and established infestations undergoing strategic management to evaluate effectiveness of control options and ecosystem outcomes.
AI 5 Maintain an effective program for the control of invasive species.	
PM 1	Issue all APM Permits within 10 to 15 working days and issue all large-scale permits under a department approved plan.
Division PM 2	Complete the Port of Milwaukee Off Ship Treatment Facility by April 1, 2010.

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Contaminated Sediments

CS 1 Progress is made toward the goal of restoring all contaminated sediment sites in the state by 2020, by restoring water quality and reducing fish contaminant levels at key contaminated sediment sites.	
Division PM 1	Update the statewide list of waters which are impaired or may be impaired due to contaminated sediment, prioritize the list, and set schedules for implementation, biennially.
PM 2	Pursue resources in order to conduct site evaluations at sites at priority sites by Dec. 31 st of each year.
PM 3	Oversee and complete the sediment removal project in Little Lake Butte des Morts and complete this site in 2010.
PM 4	Direct the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study for the Estabrook Park Lagoon in 2010/2011.
PM 5	Complete the HARP sediment remediation project in 2009.
PM 6	Initiate site assessments and remedial design and implementation, for three new sites per year statewide, as resources allow.
PM 7	Complete Kinnickinic River remediation project by December 30, 2009.
PM 8	Document progress at each site annually and produce follow-up reports after site completion every 5 years.

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Great Lakes

GL 1 The Great Lakes are monitored for tributary phosphorus levels, Cladophora, and near shore nutrients.	
PM 1	Lake Michigan Tributary Phosphorus Load Monitoring. Sample the Menominee, Fox, Manitowoc, Sheboygan and Milwaukee Rivers on a flow weighed basis annually.
Division PM 2	Cladophora and Nearshore Nutrient Monitoring. Conduct nearshore surveys and other monitoring as planned by Lake Michigan Monitoring Sub-team. Complete 2009-2010 monitoring report by September 2011. Report on I&E, management, and monitoring conducted as Wisconsin's part of the National Monitoring Network activities by December 31, 2011.
PM 3	Lake Superior Bay and tributary water quality monitoring. Sample the St Louis River estuary, Chequamegon Bay and Bayfield peninsula near shore areas during the ice free season for water quality.
PM 4	Develop (through contract) the Lake Superior Near Shore Monitoring Plan to identify and monitor key indicators of near shore ecosystem status and trends. Continue process of identifying key indicators and stressors.
GL 2 Contaminants in fish and wildlife populations are reduced through contaminated sediment site remediation projects in the Great Lakes.	
PM 1	Document progress in a summary report for the Great Lakes system, including incremental body burden reductions, completed remediation, acres remediated, quantities of contaminants (PCBs) removed from the system, by June 30, 2011.
PM 2	Evaluate the St Louis River Sediment Assessment results to identify potential hot spots requiring further investigation and/or remediation by July 1, 2009.
GL 3 Cladophora growth decreases in the near shore waters by reducing the phosphorus loadings via Great Lakes tributaries.	
PM 1	Develop an implementation plan by June 2011 to reduce tributary loadings of phosphorus by 10% or percent reduction determined to be necessary to decrease Cladophora growth.
GL 4 Area of Concern (AOC) Beneficial Use Impairment delisting for Wisconsin's 5 AOCs.	
PM 1	Evaluate data or other available information and report on the status of meeting current delisting targets for each of the Great Lakes AOC's where they have been established, Complete report by June 2010.

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Great Lakes (continued)

GL 5 Waterfowl production and other fish and wildlife populations increase through increased restoration and protection of wetlands.	
PM 1	Complete two Great Lake's wetland restoration or protection projects. One in the Lake Superior basin and complete the ongoing wetland restoration project in partnership with Milwaukee MSD by 6/30/2011.
PM 2	Develop a wetland project site priority list for wetland restoration or protection efforts by 12/31/2010.
GL 6 The number of Great Lakes beach closure dates decreases.	
PM 1	Prepare an annual report on beach monitoring activities, data summary and year-to-year comparison of Great Lakes beach closings.

Lakes

LK 1 An effective partnership is maintained for protection and restoration of WI Lakes.	
PM 1	Engage people, politics and partnerships for lake protection through conducting approximately four regional or issue-based workshops annually and the annual Lakes Convention.
PM 2	Assist the creation of 4 new lake organizations; provide direct organizational, technical and capacity-building assistance to 65 lake organizations or local government; publish four issues of Lake Tides; and hold a training session on lake organization governance annually.
PM 3	Enhance citizen-based lake monitoring network by adding and implementing new protocols e.g. color, blue green algae, and lake levels; conducting an annual staff/trainer refresher course; providing refresher training/audit for all volunteers every five years; conducting a field QA/QC on 10% of the volunteers per year and; training every new secchi volunteer in AIS monitoring.

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Lakes (continued)

LK 2 Lakes are managed for healthy ecosystems and quality recreation using a community- and science-based approach.	
PM 1	Initiate Discovery Lakes for whole-lake research and demonstration projects, large-scale adaptive lake management projects and for projects to restore impaired lakes (Eagle Lake, Legend Lake, Eagle Chain of Lakes ongoing; and initiate at least one additional lake in each region).
PM 2	Conduct annual training for partners and staff to access and use SWIMS, a web-based surface water information system; develop capability to capture APM permit information through SWIMS; develop rules to apply new Lake Assessment Methodology to the data to generate lake assessment reports and; create public portal for downloading monitoring data.
LK 3 Lake staff and financial resources are wisely invested.	
Division PM 1	Revise NR 190 Lake Management Planning Grants and develop corresponding guidance to implement new Lake Assessment Methodology and TMDL implementation strategy. Complete a prototype for online lake and AIS grant reporting.

Mississippi River

MR 1 Environmental features along the river are restored through planning, implementation and monitoring.	
PM 1	Plan and implement UMR habitat restoration projects, including those under the EMP Habitat Enhancement and Rehabilitation Program (HREP), Navigation & Ecosystem Sustainability Program (NESP), and other projects as funding constraints allow. Likely projects will include Pool 8 Islands - Phase III stages 3-6, Harper's Slough, and Capoli Slough.
Division PM 2	Perform and report on focused research and monitoring to identify resource problems and develop recommended solutions to those problems. This work will continue to include long-term project performance assessment of 16 existing habitat restoration projects under the EMP, as well as other ecosystem restoration projects such as those under the USACOE O&M program or water level management actions.
PM 3	In collaboration with state and federal partners, develop the following products: a Reach Objectives report that includes project performance criteria and indicators of ecosystem condition, an Institutional Arrangements framework for the UMR and a system to rank ecosystem projects.

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Mississippi River (continued)

MR 2	Establish reduction parameters for pollutants of concern and what reduction levels are needed to decrease Gulf Hypoxia.
PM 1	Develop site-specific criteria to achieve the SAV target for the turbidity/sediment impaired reach of the Miss. River (Pool 2 to Lake Pepin) by December 2009.
PM 2	Perform water quality trend monitoring for nutrients, sediment, and in field parameters at three lock and dam sites and other select sites that are based on resource problem assessment.
PM 3	Prepare Water Quality Certifications for federally-sponsored dredging projects within 30-days of receiving the plans and specifications and final 404(b)(1) evaluations.
PM 4	By 12/31/2010, complete EMAP reports on fish and vegetation bioindicators for potential use in CWA and habitat restoration assessments on the UMR.
PM 5	Coordinate with the Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee, the Upper Mississippi River Basin Association, and the Water Quality Task Force to create cross-state uniformity in regulations for fish, wildlife, and water quality. Continue work with EPA and UMR states to develop uniform designated uses.
MR 3	Information from Long Term Resource Monitoring Program in UMR, Pool 8 is monitored and analyzed to determine long term health of the Mississippi River.
PM 1	Monitor and report on water quality, fisheries and aquatic vegetation according to established (EMP) Long Term Resource Monitoring Program protocols. Contribute to the annual summaries of water quality, fisheries and aquatic vegetation data by June of the following year. This information will be used to evaluate CWA designated uses and associated water quality criteria to protect those uses, to assess overall river ecosystem status and health, and to help guide future habitat projects.

Watershed Policy & Management

WM 1	Implement a resource-based watershed planning program which meets clean water act requirements and supports existing related watershed programs including impaired waters listing, water quality assessments and water quality reporting to Congress.
PM 1	Conduct watershed planning for three watersheds per basin each year; this work involves updating watershed narratives and recommendations in WATERS as well as updating waterbody assessment status, recommendations, and narratives.

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Runoff Management

RM 1 Water quality is protected by ensuring that agricultural discharge permits are issued in a timely basis and include limitations and special conditions that control and limit the amount of pollutants that are discharged by confined animal feeding operations (CAFOs), and permit noncompliance is evaluated and responded to.	
PM 1	Maintain the statewide permit backlog for CAFOs at less than 15%. There are approximately 150 new and existing farm operations that are governed by CAFO discharge permits.
PM 2	Inspect each WPDES-permitted CAFO at least once every five years to assure permit compliance. Identify and act on violations of permits, including paperwork violations, in accordance with the Enforcement Strategy. Regions will enter this information in SWAMP.
PM 3	Complete at least three full-checklist CAFO inspections / year / FTE, and enter the results into Event Tracker. <i>The checklist needs to be identified.</i>
PM 4 Division	Develop a general permit for small, medium, and large CAFOs by Dec. 30, 2009; evaluate the effectiveness of the CAFO General Permit and submit a summary report with recommendations to Division Management by June 30, 2011 with lessons learned.
RM 2 Water quality is protected by ensuring that impacts such as fish kills, surface water pollution, and well contamination from agricultural discharges from non-permitted livestock operations are minimized, resolved, and ultimately prevented.	
PM 1	Resolve 100% of previously issued NOIs and NODs.
RM 3 Water quality is protected by improving statewide compliance with stormwater permitting requirements.	
PM 1	Perform compliance inspections of at least 100 industrial facilities annually, including 1 full facility audit / quarter / FTE. Document in database. Full facility audit needs to be defined
PM 2	Perform compliance inspections of at least 300 construction sites annually. Document in database.
PM 3	Each region meets with 1 municipality / quarter / FTE for a full compliance check. Full compliance check needs to be defined.
PM 4	Reissue storm water permits by the expiration date.
PM 5	Create a Manual Code to address DNR property compliance with NR 216. Conduct five pre-application meetings per year with DNR property managers to ensure compliance with stormwater rules. Meet with the Bureau of Lands and other programs as needed twice a year to review the process.

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Runoff Management (continued)

RM 4	Water quality is protected by implementing best management practices designed to achieve performance standards and prohibitions that limit nonpoint source water pollution.
PM 1	Complete 5 new county cooperative agreements for NR 151 implementation, statewide, per year.
PM 2	100% of the county LWRM plans presented to the LWCB include adequate NR 151 implementation strategies.
PM 3	Resolve 100% of previously issued NR 151 notices.
PM 4	Commit 100% of the available funds by project type (TRM, Urban NPS, NOD, s. 319).
PM 5	Monitor grantees activities toward completion of 100% of funded projects by type.
PM 6	With UWEX Basin Educators, support interagency and county coordination for the agricultural performance standards by implementing workplans of the agricultural performance standards I&E committee that are developed each spring. Report on the progress of the elements of the workplan.
PM 7	With UWEX Basin Educators, communicate and promote the importance of implementing the non-agricultural performance standards to key municipal audiences by developing and implementing annual workplans of the UWEX/DNR stormwater education team. Report on the progress of the elements of the workplan.

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Shorelands & Shallows

SS1	Science-based decision-making for shorelands and shallows is supported.
PM 1	Develop a Shorelands and Shallows assessment tool by March 31, 2010. Conduct a study to evaluate effectiveness of the tool by December 31, 2010. Modify tool based on study results by June 30, 2011.
SS 2	Common values and a sense of stewardship on shorelands and shallows are built by working with partners.
PM 1	Provide assistance and leadership to implement shoreland restoration of the executive residence by December 31, 2009. Use S&S assessment tool to evaluate restoration by December 31, 2010.
PM 2	Collect one shorelands and shallows success story per region annually.
SS 3	The DNR takes a leadership role in shorelands and shallows restoration and protection on its properties and through its programs.
PM 1	Review 20% of DNR grant programs annually, and make recommendations to revise grant criteria to promote good shoreland stewardship.
PM 2 Division	Review ten DNR properties - 2 in each region - annually for compliance with NR 115 standards. Work with land managers at two DNR properties annually to restore shorelands and improve NR 115 compliance.

Water Conservation

WC 1	Water conservation becomes an integral part of the statewide Watershed Management Programs.
PM 1 Division	Complete recommendations for an implementation strategy for a water conservation program by 6/30/2010.

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Wetlands

WL1 Advance public understanding and connection to Wisconsin wetlands. ("Reversing the Loss" Goal #3)	
PM 1	Develop and implement a wetland communication plan for Reversing the Loss strategy by July 1, 2009, and meet with six entities by December 31, 2009 requesting their support and commitment to helping implement the strategy goals.
PM 2	Develop methods to evaluate Wetland Identification Toolkit by December 31, 2009, and conduct evaluation by December 31, 2010.
WL 2 Avoid and minimize wetland loss and degradation. ("Reversing the Loss" Goal #4)	
PM 1	Improve the public's understanding of the wetland regulatory process by updating Water Quality Certification application forms and developing sample alternatives analyses for common project types by December 31, 2009.
PM 2 Division	Evaluate Wisconsin's wetland mitigation program by July 1, 2010 to address audit report recommendations and changes in federal mitigation guidelines, with a focus on the watershed approach, effectiveness of wetland mitigation and banks.
WL 3 Restore lost wetlands and improve wetland health and functions. ("Reversing the Loss" Goal #5)	
PM 1	Revise policy and procedures in conjunction with federal partners and other conservation interests by December 31, 2010. This will include completing the MOA and NR 353 evaluation process for federal wetland conservation projects, and identifying and implementing recommendations to improve/streamline the permit process for NRCS and FWS.
WL 4 Report and track the status of Wisconsin wetland resources. ("Reversing the Loss" Goal #6)	
PM 1	Update wetland inventory maps for 3 counties annually by completing in digital format and posting on the Surface Water Data Viewer.
PM 2	Develop and use new tools for wetland monitoring and assessment, and track wetland gains and losses annually (i.e. potentially restorable wetlands with wildlife tool, water quality tool, flood storage, wetland function within the watershed).

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Water Quality Standards

WQ 1 Water quality and human health are better protected by developing and implementing new and revised water quality standards using sound scientific principles and considering input from the general public and stakeholder groups.	
PM 1	Implement non-Rule change components of the Assessment Methodology Report as identified by the <i>Implementation Team</i> to be appointed by Division Administrator.
PM 2 Division	Promulgate nutrient water quality standards & develop implementation administrative rules by December 31, 2009.
PM 3	Revise Administrative Rules as identified by the <i>Assessment Methodology Implementation Team</i> to be appointed by the Division Administrator.

Monitoring

WQ 3 Water quality is protected by implementing the Watershed Bureau's responsibilities within the Water Division Monitoring Strategy.	
PM 1 Division	Develop a specific monitoring plan to support the TMDL effort by conducting the necessary monitoring for specific waters that are identified as candidates for total maximum daily load studies, by Dec. 31 of each year.
PM 2	Conduct monitoring and prepare comprehensive reports to support use designation recommendations for 5 waters per Region per year.
PM 3 Division	Prepare an annual report on the implementation success of the Water Division Monitoring Strategy. Submit report to Water Division Administrator by January 1st of each year.
PM4	Complete Tier 1 (baseline) monitoring as required in annual workplan: Field season '09: 1. Natural Community Reference Sites; 2. Rivers; 3. Lakes; 4. Wetlands; 5. Long-term trends, and; 6. Annual Random Watershed Sites. Data is entered in SWIMS and reviewed for completeness (stations, data quality, and applicable final reports).
PM 5	Complete monitoring, SWIMS data entry/completeness review (stations, data quality, applicable final reports), and final reports for all Tier 2 and Tier 3 projects as planned, approved, and funded.
PM 6	Continue to develop a comprehensive Citizen-Based Stream Monitoring program. Link: http://watermonitoring.uwex.edu

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Monitoring (continued)

PM 7	Develop and implement a standardized safety training program for all Watershed monitoring staff; require completion by all FTE and LTE monitoring staff by May 1, 2010; require completion by all monitoring staff hired after May 1, 2010 before participating in field monitoring assessments, as appropriate.
PM 8	Develop standardized written monitoring field procedures, quality assurance/quality control requirements, standard operating procedures, and a training plan for Watershed staff by February 1, 2010; require completion of training by all FTE and LTE monitoring staff by May 1, 2010; require completion by all monitoring staff hired after May 1, 2010 before participating in field monitoring assessments, as appropriate.
PM 9	Each year, final reports for Tier I baseline monitoring are linked in SWIMS and new findings are incorporated into the WATERS system in a timely manner.

Impaired Waters, TMDLS

WQ 3	Water quality is protected and accurate water status evaluation is assisted by maintaining a comprehensive and current Impaired Waters List as required by Section 303(d) of the Federal Clean Water Act.
PM 1	Revise Wisconsin's 303(d) List by March 1st of even-numbered years and submit to U.S. EPA for approval.
WQ 4	Water quality is protected and restoration goals are identified and established by developing Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) reports for surface waters on the state Impaired Waters List.
PM 1 Division	Develop a minimum of 80 TMDLs annually.
PM 2 Division	Prepare TMDL Implementation Plans concurrent with TMDL Development, within 2 years of federal approval of a TMDL, or as agreed by Bureau Management.
PM 3 Division	Conduct public meetings, respond to comments, and submit final Rock River Basin TMDL to US EPA by August 15, 2009* (* = Assumes US EPA holds contractors accountable to deadlines in formal Scope of Work.)

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WPDES Permits

WW 1 Water quality is protected by ensuring that permits are issued to municipalities and industries on a timely basis and include limitations and special conditions that control and limit the amount of pollutants discharged.	
PM 1 Division	Maintain backlogs for municipal and industrial point source discharge permits at less than 10%. (This does not include permits that are stalled by administrative delays caused by GLI, Hg, Thermal or other categories that USEPA will not resolve, so we cannot move forward on these permits.)
PM 2	Permit Quality criteria has been established. A peer review process will be developed and implemented by June 30, 2011, where all permit drafters will participate.
PM 3	Initiate activities, including rule revision, to effectively regulate and manage the landspreading of waste materials subject to permitting under the WPDES program by June 30, 2011. Rule revisions are needed to eliminate inconsistencies across the landspreading codes (204, 113, 214, etc.) and to account for phosphorus in these codes, consistent with DATCP.
WW 2 Water quality is protected by enhancing the effectiveness of the WPDES and wastewater management program.	
PM 1	Develop and implement a training program for all staff and supervisors by June 30, 2011, to assure continuation of program integrity in response to workforce changes.
WW 3 Water quality is protected through appropriate inspections and response to permit noncompliance.	
PM 1	Implement the WPDES program inspection strategy; track all inspections and significant contacts in the SWAMP system to match with the inspection strategy and enforcement strategy.
PM 2	Respond to all (95% or more) occurrences of noncompliance with permit effluent limitations through appropriate and documented (in SWAMP) actions (e.g., NOV, NON, no action) as established in the program enforcement strategy or within 90 days of the noncompliance being identified in SWAMP. Identify and act effectively on violations of permits to improve and protect water quality and provide effective deterrence to violators and respond to limit exceedances according to the enforcement strategy.

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WPDES Permits (continued)

PM 3 Division	Evaluate SSO events and take follow-up actions, consistent with the program's enforcement strategy within 120 days of SSO occurrence. This will be critical to implementation of new rules once promulgated.
PM 4	Assure full and complete reporting of CMAR information, respond to reporting deficiencies, respond to CMAR submittals as required in NR 208 (by August 31 or each year or 60 days after submittal, whichever is later), store response information in SWAMP and follow-up on C, D, and F grades. This will be critical to implementation of new rules once promulgated.
WW 4	Water quality is protected by implementing new water quality standards and other rules for point sources.
PM 1	Complete development of sanitary sewer overflow rules by June 30, 2012, and develop guidance to implement such rules.
PM 2	Develop implementation rules for municipal and industrial point sources in coordination with the establishment of thermal water quality standards by June 30, 2011, and develop guidance to implement such rules (see related measure under Water Quality Standards).
Division PM 3	Develop implementation rules for municipal and industrial point sources in coordination with the establishment of Phosphorus criteria and develop guidance to implement such rules by June 30, 2011.
Division PM 4	Develop implementation rules for municipal and industrial point sources in coordination with the establishment of TMDL policies and procedures by June 30, 2011, and develop guidance to implement such policies and procedures. Guidance to be incorporated into permits.