

Great Lakes Water Resources Regional Committee Meeting
Erie County Conservation District
November 14, 2006

Committee Members in Attendance:

Nick Mobilia	Craig Kern
Bill Gough	Matthew Wolford
Tom Fuhrman	David Wright
Dave Skellie	Nancy Slater

Others in Attendance:

Rick Kreider	Mark Gorman
Brian Zeppenfeld	Doug Ebert

DEP Staff Members in Attendance:

Bill Gast	Lori Mohr
Dave Jostenski	

Administrative Items

Nick Mobilia called the meeting to order. There was no quorum.

DEP Summary of Activities

The draft registration and reporting regulations were presented to the Environmental Quality Board on September 19, 2006, and they will be published in the December 2, 2006 PA Bulletin.

Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) data has been completed in the Great Lakes, Susquehanna, and Potomac River Basins with DMR data nearly complete in the Delaware. Additional discharge information is being collected for non-DMR files from DEP mining offices statewide. The Susquehanna River Basin Commission is continuing to collect DMR data in the Ohio River Basin. Discharges will be used within the USGS Screening Tool in conjunction with withdrawal information and USGS derived low flow statistics.

The USGS has been continuing to work with DEP and the DRBC in applying projection methodologies to develop demand projections for all sectors in conjunction with the data from water withdrawal registrations and reports. The initial runs of this GIS-based process have been completed. DEP staff is developing water use factors that will be incorporated in further WUAT runs. Completion of complete draft WUAT output is scheduled for October 2006. Work continues on the development of the Yield Analysis Tool. It is expected to be available by the end of October.

CWPA Subcommittee– The CWPA Subcommittee met on Aug. 3 to continue the discussions on the guidelines for development of Critical Area Resource Plans (CARPs). The Subcommittee agreed to send the next version out to the Statewide Committee for discussion and eventual distribution to the Regional Committees.

P&I Subcommittee- DEP staff is currently working with the subcommittee to develop draft text for the marketing document. The subcommittee has held several conference calls over the summer and hopes to have a draft of the document to present to the Statewide committee early in 2007. In addition, the subcommittee has commented on the draft regional atlas specifications drafted by DEP.

Regional Priorities Facilitated Session

Committee members break out into groups to go over different components. Brian Zeppenfeld will distribute the results from these break-out sessions.

Pilot Water Availability Screening

DEP has initiated a process by which DEP staff, in partnership with USGS and the river basin commissions, and input from committees, will perform a series of “pilot” water availability screenings utilizing the USGS budget screening tool and results of the WUAT projection runs. The purpose of these pilot screenings, performed at two “tiers” of detail to simulate statewide application, will be to test the developed methodologies, perform data verification and to better determine the level of effort to perform the screening on a statewide basis. Discussions are underway in developing a scope of work that will lead to an arrangement between DEP, USGS and the river basin commissions to perform the work during the next few months.

Implementation of statewide screening will take place subsequent to completion of all tools, processes, and the completion and review of the pilot.

Meeting was adjourned.