|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **EPA’s 9 Element Watershed Based Plan Checklist** | | | | | |
| **Watershed Based Plan Title:** | | **Waterbody ID, Hydrologic Unit Code:** | | | |
| **\_ Draft Review, version number: or \_\_ Final Version** | | **Reviewer:** | **Review Date:** | | |
| **Counties:** | | **Project Name/Number:** | | | |
| **A TMDL for This Watershed is** (“X” as applicable):  a) Approved: ( )  In Draft: ( )  b) No TMDL Has Been Developed to Date: ( ) | | **Comments:**   1. ( ) Accept 2. ( ) Accept with Comments 3. ( ) Needs Revision | | | |
| **Element A: Causes and Sources of Pollution** | | | | | |
| Criteria | Brief Description | | | Reference Document | Page(s) |
| 1. Water body use designations, water quality criteria or standards, and impaired uses for waters in the project area, including HUC information are described. |  | | |  |  |
| 2. Specific causes and sources of 303(d) impairments, are listed by waterbody segment (ID), length, and area impaired. |  | | |  |  |
| 3. If a TMDL exists, specific causes and sources of the impairments are described using the waterbody segments (ID), length, and area impaired. |  | | |  |  |
| 4. Specific **NPS** sources of impairments are mapped or identified by area, category/subcategory, facility type, etc. |  | | |  |  |
| 5. Any point sources are identified and their potential impacts are listed. |  | | |  |  |
| 6. Causes of impairment are broken down by source and quantified by load, percentage, priority, or other method to identify the extent of the source treated (such as x number of animal feeding operations within segment y). |  | | |  |  |
| 7. Maps are used to identify specific, critical/targeted areas within the watershed, and to estimate the areas and/or length of their extent. |  | | |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Element B: Expected Load Reductions** | | | |
| Criteria | Brief Description | Reference Document | Page(s) | |
| 1. The watershed-based plan includes load reductions needed to meet water quality criteria or standards [for the 303(d) list or TMDL] in impaired streams and achieve the environmental goal. \*This is a requirement of the WBP\* |  |  |  | |
| 2. The source of the load reduction information (TMDL, modeling, monitoring) is identified to *estimate* pollutant load reductions (assumptions and limitations should be stated). |  |  |  | |
| 3. The plan provides *estimates* of potential load reductions for each pollutants cause/source, or groups of similar sources that need to be managed. |  |  |  | |
| **Element C: Proposed Management Measures** | | | |
| Criteria | Brief Description | Reference Document | Page(s) | |
| 1. BMPs needed to address each cause and source of pollution are listed, described, prioritized, and mapped to meet load reductions that will achieve water quality criteria or standards for the impairment. |  |  |  | |
| 2. Specific BMPs are identified and rationalized as the appropriate and acceptable BMPs for the impairment in the critical/targeted areas. |  |  |  | |
| 3. Expected load reductions are identified within the critical/targeted areas. |  |  |  | |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Element D: Technical, Financial, and Regulatory Assistance Needs** | | | |
| Criteria | Brief Description | Reference Document | Page(s) |
| 1. The entity (SWCD, county, city, watershed group, etc.) responsible for managing the watershed-based plan funds is listed. |  |  |  |
| 2. Cost estimates reflect all planning and implementation costs. |  |  |  |
| 3. Cost estimates are provided for each type of BMP. |  |  |  |
| 4. Information is provided on how the cost estimate was determined. |  |  |  |
| 5. All attainable funding and technical sources are identified for federal, state, local, and private contributions, including all sources of match. |  |  |  |
| 6. Funding is strategically allotted - BMP funding available from other sources (NRCS and SWCP) is not duplicated by § 319 funding. |  |  |  |
| **Element E: Information and Education** | | | |
| Criteria | Brief Description | Reference Document | Page(s) |
| 1. An overall strategy for the information, education, and participation component is described and will engage stakeholders (federal, state, local, private). |  |  |  |
| 2. Education/outreach materials will be utilized. Examples include public meetings, watershed events, multimedia campaigns, news articles, signage in high visibility areas, etc. |  |  |  |
| 3. The watershed-based plan includes an evaluation process to determine its effectiveness (i.e. surveys). |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Element F: Implementation Schedule** | | | |
| Criteria | Brief Description | Reference Document | Page(s) |
| 1. Implementation schedule (by season, quarter, etc.) includes expected accomplishments and the interim milestones listed in Element G. |  |  |  |
| **Element G: Measurable Milestones and Project Outcomes** | | | |
| Criteria | Brief Description | Reference Document | Page(s) |
| 1. A schedule is provided of reasonable and attainable interim milestones, benchmarks, phases, or steps for implementing each group of management measures. |  |  |  |
| 2. A logical sequence of timelines for achieving the milestones, benchmarks, phases, or steps is listed. |  |  |  |
| **Element H: Evaluation Criteria** | | | |
| Criteria | Brief Description | Reference Document | Page(s) |
| 1. The watershed-based plan defines quantitative measures of water quality (pollution reduction, such as increased fish diversity, increased DO, reduced E. coli levels, number of beach closings, etc.). |  |  |  |
| 2. The watershed-based plan uses the water quality measures utilized in *Element H.1.* to estimate the improved conditions at future points in time. For instance, the plan could use five year increments: “in 5 years, phosphorus levels will be at *X* and *E. coli* levels will be at *Y*; in 10 years… in 15 years…” |  |  |  |
| 3. The plan shows an overall trend with the goal of achieving water quality criteria or standards in the affected waterbody. |  |  |  |
| 4. The watershed-based plan identifies when the overall strategy needs to be re-evaluated and how that will be done if anticipated goals are not met. |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Element I: Monitoring** | | | |
| Criteria | Brief Description | Reference Document | Page(s) |
| 1. The monitoring plan effectively measures progress towards meeting the water quality criteria or standards. |  |  |  |
| a. The watershed-based plan includes indicators/parameters monitored. |  |  |  |
| b. The entity performing sampling is identified. |  |  |  |
| c. Scheme: pre/post BMP installation sampling or upstream/downstream sampling is planned to determine BMP effectiveness. |  |  |  |
| d. The watershed-based plan includes an appropriate number of monitoring stations. |  |  |  |
| e. The watershed-based plan lists adequate sampling frequency and time of year. |  |  |  |
| 2. Monitoring will demonstrate the effectiveness of implementing management measures over time. |  |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Comments** |
| List any places where the ***watershed-based*** plan satisfied or failed to satisfy the review criteria. Reference any elements where information is needed to satisfy the review criteria. Add additional comments to consider for future revisions. |
|  |