

## Lynch and Reed Creek TMDL 2<sup>nd</sup> TAC Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2021 1:00 pm

### GotoWebinar

**Attendees:** Lucy Smith (VDEQ), Katie Shoemaker (Wetland Studies and Solutions Inc.), James MoneyMaker (VDEQ), Michael Armbrister (West Piedmont Planning District Commission), Robert Brent (James Madison University), Kevin Dawson (Department of Forestry), George Devlin (VDEQ), Kelly Hazlegrove (VDEQ), Rodney Newlin (Department of Forestry), Amy Pemberton (SERCAP), Matt Poirot (Department of Forestry), Leah Potts (Wetland Studies and Solutions Inc.), Jen Rogers (VDEQ), Jessica Sterling (Dominion Energy), Robbie Talbert (Department of Forestry), Sonya Wolen (Dan River Basin Association)

Lucy presented an overview of DEQ's water quality improvement process, impairments on Lynch and Reed Creek, and the stressor identification process results.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> QA session: Any questions or observations regarding the stressor identification?**

What are the landuse types? Is it more agricultural or forest?

- This will be covered more in a few slides but the majority of land use is forest with some pasture and barren areas. Lynch Creek also has some urban area.

Observations: S. Wolen observed sediment issues in creeks near Lynch and Reed Creek after heavy rain

Katie Shoemaker presented the GWLF modeling approach and discussed how subwatersheds are delineated to make the model more accurate. She then presented the land use categories making up the Lynch and Reed Creek watersheds.

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> QA session: Info on barren area in Lynch Creek? Change in prevalence or practices of logging in watersheds? Other Information?**

Matt Poirot: VDOF monitors every site in Virginia where they have notification. People are required to give notification when logging. Part of monitoring is to determine if water quality is protected using the silviculture practices. Last year took action on 135 operations in Virginia. 2019 they had an implementation rate of 95% and had active sedimentation of 0% on 240 sites. Actively engaged in making sure sites do not contribute to sedimentation in streams.

Kevin Dawson: In this area, timber harvesting seems to cycle. All jobs get looked at by our team. After harvesting, more water will run off but the goal is to limit sediment running off. Will go back to look at sites if there are complaints after sites are closed. He has been pleased with the results in the area.

Katie: Is there an acreage where people don't have to report?

Any commercial harvesting must be reported by law; regardless of area

Katie: BMPs are good but not perfect so typically include some load for Construction permit. Is there something similar we can include for forestry practices

Currently working on a research study; conducted by Virginia Tech, to quantify loading from BMPs. Ongoing study but you may be able to get some rudimentary measurements.

Kevin Dawson: Concerned about the amount of water running off that contributes to streambank erosion with higher precipitation.

S. Wolen: Are you using any drone footage of these areas?

DEQ has not used drone footage in these areas. The land used data is from about 2015 and much higher quality than was typically used.

Katie went on to discuss the hydrologic calibration, permitted sources, BMPs, and land use sediment loadings.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> QA session: Prevalence of construction outside of VSMP Construction permits? Method to include construction sites in final TMDL? Other sediment sources to consider?**

James Moneymaker: BMPs are intended to leave in because for some practices, if they take them out they will not be eligible for funding again.

Will stream exclusion practices be in longer than lifespan? DCR incentives maintenance of these practices.

No comments on the construction stormwater permits- Look for long term comprehensive plans for Hurt and Altavista.

CREP forest buffer- don't usually take out, lifespan is based on CREP contract and can be renewed again. Rental payment to the land owner.

Katie presented the modeling techniques used to develop the pollutant target and the reduction goals resulting from that modeling.

### **Final Questions and Discussions:**

Kevin Dawson: Follow up on the barren piece of land in Lynch Creek; Land was bought in 2007 to build a shop on the property. Sediment pond was installed for this purpose. Once they started removing stumps it changes to a land clearing operation and is handled under Campbell county jurisdiction. Found another piece of land with shop so never developed land. May have tried to convert the area to agriculture and were stockpiling round bales. Kevin will ask the landowners about the property.

Lucy presented next steps for the project.

