

Technical Memorandum

Significant Sediment Point Sources in the Seneca Creek Watershed

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires that Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) allocations account for all significant sources of each impairing pollutant (CFR 2009). This technical memorandum identifies the significant point sources of sediment in the Seneca Creek watershed. Detailed allocations are provided for those point sources included within the Process Water Waste Load Allocation (WLA) and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Regulated Stormwater WLA of the Seneca Creek Watershed Sediment TMDL. These allocations are designed to meet the TMDL thresholds. The State reserves the right to allocate the TMDLs among different sources in any manner protects aquatic life from sediment related impacts.

The Seneca Creek Watershed Sediment TMDL is presented in terms of an average annual load established to ensure the support of aquatic life.

WLAs have been calculated for NPDES regulated individual industrial, individual municipal, individual municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s), general industrial stormwater, and general MS4 permits in the Seneca Creek watershed. The permits can be grouped into two categories, process water and stormwater.

The process water category includes those loads generated by continuous discharge sources whose permits have Total Suspended Solids (TSS) limits. There are four process water permits in the Seneca Creek watershed, which include one industrial and three municipal discharges. The WLAs for these four process water permits are calculated based on their TSS limits (average monthly or weekly concentration values) and corresponding flow information (See Sections 2.2.2, 4.6, and Appendix B of the main report for further details). The process water permits are further divided into minor and major facilities, based on whether their design flow is greater or less than 1.0 Millions of Gallons per Day (MGD). The minor facilities are calculated as an aggregate WLA.

The stormwater category includes all NPDES regulated stormwater discharges. There are 20 NPDES Phase I and Phase II stormwater permits identified throughout the Seneca Creek watershed. These include the Montgomery County Phase I jurisdictional MS4 permit, the Phase I State Highway Administration (SHA) MS4 permit, a general Phase II jurisdictional MS4 permit, and other general Phase I and II stormwater permits. These stormwater permits are regulated based on Best Management Practices (BMPs) and do not include TSS limits. In the absence of TSS limits, the baseline loads for these NPDES regulated stormwater discharges are calculated using the nonpoint source loads from the urban land use within the watershed. The associated WLAs are calculated by applying reductions to the urban land use. These calculations are described in more detail below.

Individual WLAs have been calculated for the Montgomery County Phase I jurisdictional MS4 permit and the SHA Phase I MS4 permit. Aggregate WLAs have been calculated for: 1) the Seneca Creek Sediment TMDL

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Phase II jurisdictional MS4; and 2) the other general Phase I and II NPDES stormwater permits. Other NPDES regulated Phase I and Phase II stormwater permits include non-jurisdictional general MS4s, all industrial facilities permitted for stormwater discharges, and general construction permits. This aggregate WLA is referred to as the “Other NPDES regulated stormwater” WLA.

The computational framework chosen for the Seneca Creek watershed TMDL was the Chesapeake Bay Program Phase 5.2 (CBP P5.2) watershed model. Within this TMDL, the NPDES regulated stormwater baseline sediment loads are represented by the urban land use nonpoint source loads. These loads are calculated as the sum of the urban land use *edge-of-stream* (EOS) loads and represent a long-term average loading rate. Urban land use EOS loads are calculated as a product of the land use area, land use target loading rate, and loss from the *edge-of-field* (EOF) to the main channel (US EPA 2009). Further details regarding general nonpoint source sediment load calculations can be found in Section 2.2.1 of the main report.

In order to attain the TMDL loading cap calculated for the watershed, reductions were applied equally to the predominant controllable sediment sources, which were identified as urban land, high till crops, low till crops, hay, and pasture. Since all urban land use in the Seneca Creek watershed is considered to be representative of all regulated stormwater sources (i.e., all urban stormwater is regulated via a permit), the NPDES stormwater WLA is equivalent to the urban land use loads resultant from applying reductions to all of the predominant land uses.

Relative to the estimated sediment load reductions applied to urban land, which are necessary to achieve the TMDL, the current Montgomery County Phase I MS4 permit requires the jurisdiction to retrofit 20% of its existing impervious area where there is failing, minimal, or no stormwater management (estimated to be areas developed prior to 2002) within a permit cycle (five years) (i.e., the jurisdiction needs to install/institute stormwater management practices to treat runoff from these existing impervious areas) (MDE 2010). Theoretically extending these permitting requirements to all urban stormwater sources (i.e., not solely those sources regulated via the Montgomery County Phase I MS4 permit) would require that all impervious areas developed prior to 2002 be retrofit at this pace. Additionally, MDE estimates that future stormwater retrofits will have, on average, a 65% TSS reduction efficiency (Claytor and Schueler 1997; Baldwin et al. 2007; Baish and Caliri 2009). By default, these retrofits will also provide treatment of any urban pervious runoff within the applicable drainage area (See Sections 4.5 and 4.6 of the main report for further details).

In order to determine the individual and aggregate WLAs for the Montgomery County Phase I jurisdictional MS4, SHA MS4, Phase II jurisdictional MS4s, and “Other NPDES regulated stormwater”, Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) urban land use was applied to further refine the CBP P5.2 urban land use. This methodology associates MDP urban land use classifications with the different types of NPDES regulated stormwater Phase I and II permits (MDE 2009).

In addition to the WLA value, a Maximum Daily Load (MDL) is also presented in this document for individual major process water facilities, the aggregation of minor process water facilities, and individual, as well as aggregate, NPDES stormwater sources. The calculation of the MDL is

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explained in Appendix C of *Total Maximum Daily Load of Sediment in the Seneca Creek Watershed, Montgomery County, Maryland*.

Tables 1 and 3 provide one possible scenario for the distribution of the average annual point source loads attributed to the process water and NPDES regulated stormwater point sources, respectively, in the Seneca Creek watershed. Additionally, Tables 4 and 5 provide possible scenarios for the distribution of the annual point source loads attributed to the NPDES regulated stormwater point sources in both TMDL Segments 1 and 2 (See Sections 4.2 - 4.6 of the main report for further details). The reductions from the urban sector required to meet this TMDL would entail that at a 65% TSS reduction efficiency, approximately 96% of the urban area (impervious and pervious) within the watershed that was developed prior to 2002 would need to be retrofitted.

Table 1: Seneca Creek TMDL Allocations for Process Water Point Sources

Process Water Point Source	NPDES Permit Number	Baseline Load (ton/year)	WLA (ton/year)	MDL (ton/day)	Reduction (%)
WSSC - SENECA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT	MD0021491	912.0	912.0	7.8	0.0
WSSC - DAMASCUS WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT	MD0020982	68.4	68.4	0.6	0.0
Minor Facilities ¹	See Table 2	34.2	34.2	0.3	0.0
Total		1,014.6	1,014.6	8.6	0.0

Note: ¹ Minor facilities are those with less than 1.0 MGD design flow. These facilities are not given individual allocations. Rather, an aggregate allocation is provided for all of the minor facilities.

Table 2: Facilities included in Minor Process Water Point Source WLA

Process Water Point Source	NPDES Permit Number
CONCRETE GENERAL, INC.	MD0064955
POOLESVILLE WWTP	MD0023001

Table 3: Seneca Creek TMDL Allocations for NPDES Regulated Stormwater Point Sources

NPDES Regulated Stormwater Point Source	NPDES Permit Number	Baseline Load (ton/year)	WLA (ton/year)	MDL (ton/day)	Reduction (%)
Montgomery County Phase I MS4	MD0068314	5,753.4	3,185.3	117.9	44.6
Phase II Jurisdictional MS4	MDR055500	1,227.9	686.7	25.4	44.1
SHA Phase I MS4	MD0068276	638.4	351.7	13.0	44.9
“Other NPDES Regulated Stormwater”	N/A	1,907.4	1,064.4	39.4	44.2
Total		9,527.1	5,288.1	195.7	44.5

Table 4: Seneca Creek TMDL Segment 1 Allocations for NPDES Regulated Stormwater Point Sources

NPDES Regulated Stormwater Point Source	NPDES Permit Number	Baseline Load (ton/yr)	WLA (ton/year)	Reduction (%)
Montgomery County Phase I MS4	MD0068314	5,445.4	3,045.4	44.1
Phase II Jurisdictional MS4	MDR055500	1,227.9	686.7	44.1
SHA Phase I MS4	MD0068276	587.4	328.5	44.1
“Other NPDES Regulated Stormwater”	N/A	1,884.9	1,054.2	44.1
Total		9,145.7	5,114.9	44.1

Table 5: Seneca Creek TMDL Segment 2 Allocations for NPDES Regulated Stormwater Point Sources

NPDES Regulated Stormwater Point Source	NPDES Permit Number	Baseline Load (ton/yr)	WLA (ton/year)	Reduction (%)
Montgomery County Phase I MS4	MD0068314	307.9	139.8	54.6
Phase II Jurisdictional MS4	N/A	0.0	0.0	0.0
SHA Phase I MS4	MD0068276	51.0	23.1	54.6
“Other NPDES Regulated Stormwater”	N/A	22.5	10.2	54.6
Total		381.4	173.2	54.6

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REFERENCES

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