

Accountability, Measuring Results and Reporting

EPA requires all watershed projects receiving Section 319 funding to provide load reduction calculations resulting from the implementation of conservation practices. The focus of this requirement addresses nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus) and sediment, however load reductions of other pollutants need to be determined if identified as causing an impact.

As a project is developed, consideration should be given to how this requirement will be met, and how the needed information will be obtained. A project application should, at a minimum, acknowledge this requirement and commit to providing this information. The actual load reduction calculations will be required on an annual basis, upon completion of the first year's implementation of practices and provided as an output of the annual report.

DNR and DSC have developed the Sediment Delivery Calculator that assists watershed project in calculating sediment load reductions. Currently the DNR provides assistance with the calculation of nitrogen and phosphorus reductions. Projects implementing urban conservation practices can seek assistance from DNR to calculate load reductions. Additional information and guidance will be provided as acceptable methodologies are developed or modified.

In addition to load reductions, tracking of successful implementation of practices is required. All practices should be reported in the appropriate units, however EPA has identified the following practices as key, and must be quantified after the first year of implementation and then updated at least annually thereafter:

- Wetlands restored (acres)
- Wetlands created (acres)
- Wetlands protected (acres)
- Streambank and shoreline protection (feet)
- Stream channel stabilization (feet)

Watershed projects must be classified in one of two categories:

- The project does not address an impaired water.
- The project addresses an impaired water [identified on the current Section 303(d) list (category 5a, 5b, or 5p of Iowa's Integrated Report) or in category 4a of Iowa's Integrated Report]

A list of Iowa's 303(d) impaired waters is available at:

<http://www.iowadnr.gov/water/watershed/impaired.html>. Any questions regarding the 303(d) impaired waters list should be directed to the following individuals:

John Olson, Impaired Waters Specialist, (515) 281-8905 email: john.olson@dnr.iowa.gov
 Steve Hopkins, NPS Program Coordinator, (515) 281-6402 email: stephen.hopkins@dnr.iowa.gov
 Kyle Ament, NPS Project Officer (515) 242-6196 email: kyle.ament@dnr.iowa.gov
 Rachel Glaza, NPS Project Officer (515) 281-8158 email: rachel.glaza@dnr.iowa.gov

*All applicants are encouraged to contact one of the above individuals regarding the impaired waters list prior to submitting the application.