

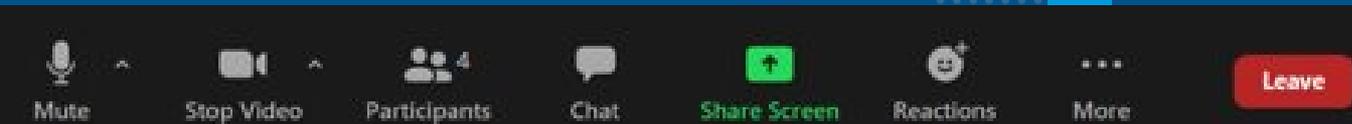
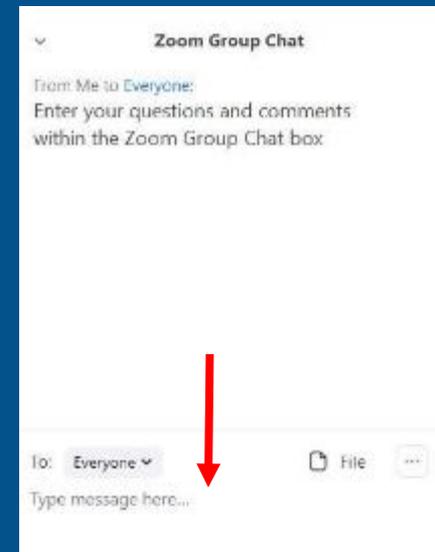
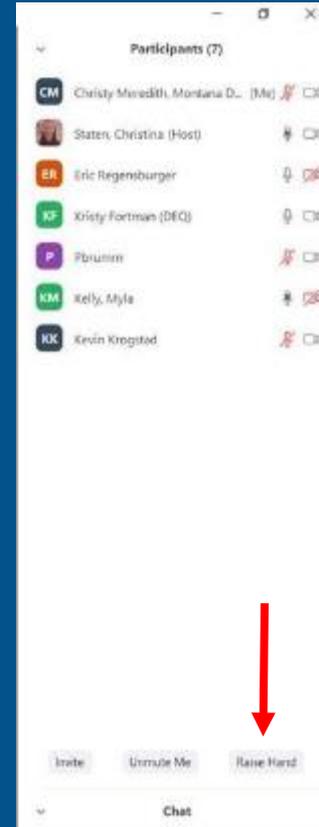
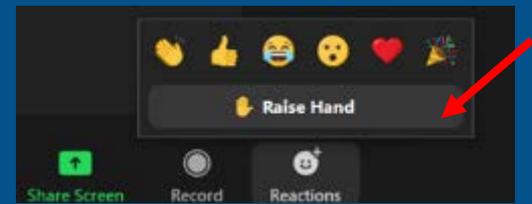


Nutrient Work Group Technical Subcommittee Session Two

June 21, 2021

Welcome!

- Please keep your microphone muted until called on
- Only TSC Members may participate during discussions
- *6 unmutes your phone
- State your name and affiliation before providing your comment
- Enter questions in the chat box at any time
- Turning off your video feed provides better bandwidth
- Please sign-in to the chat box with name and affiliation



Agenda

Meeting Goal:

- Proposed flowchart changes based on TSC feedback
- Open discussion on any further committee feedback on AMP flowchart or details document
- Finalize AMP definition
- Use of Teams as collaborative tool – tutorial
- Public comment



Introductions

DEQ Staff

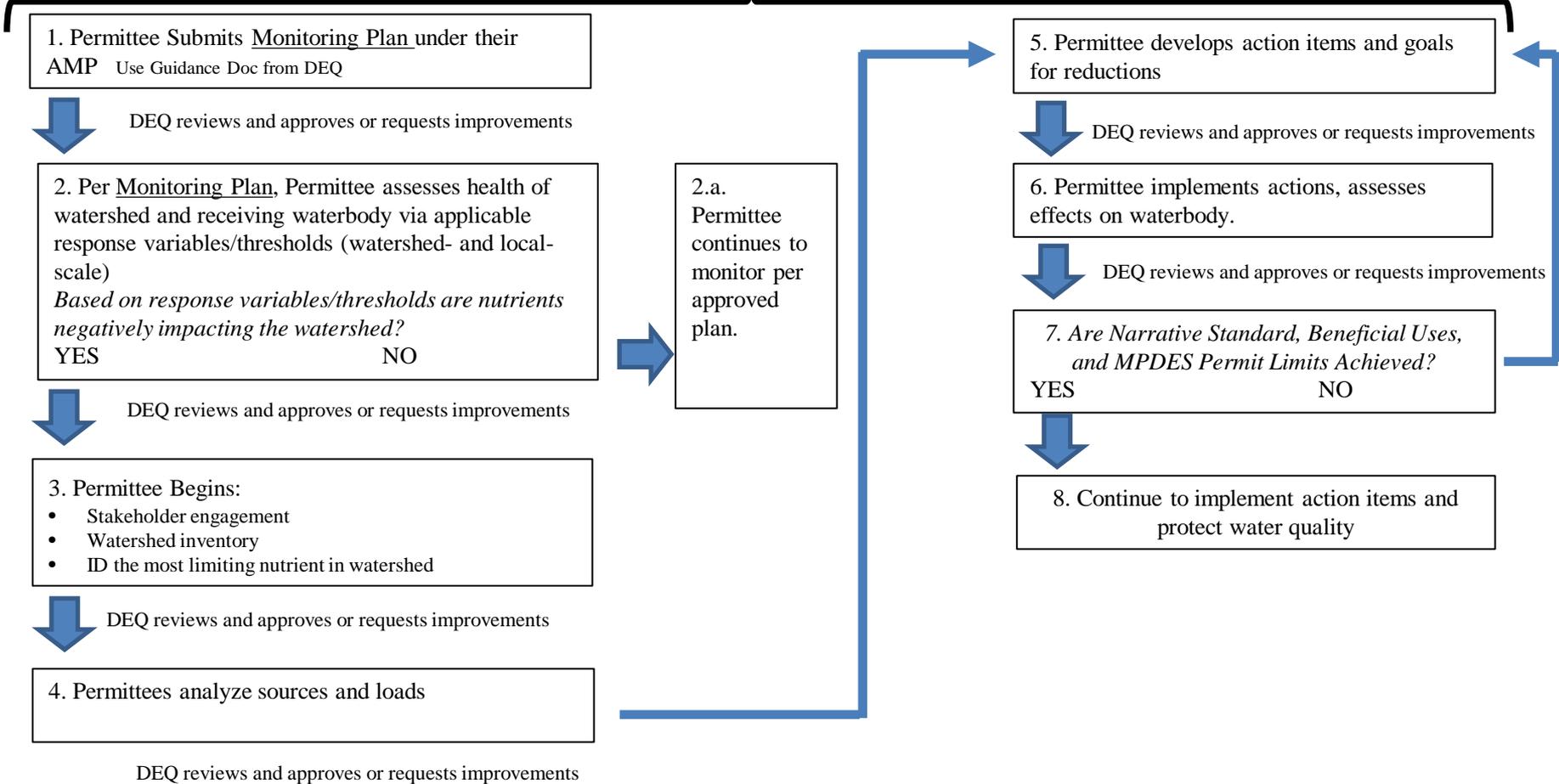
- Michael Suplee, Water Quality Science Specialist
- Rainie DeVaney, Discharge Permitting Section Supervisor
- Amy Steinmetz, Water Quality Division Administrator
- Jon Kenning, Water Protection Bureau Chief
- Galen Steffens, Water Quality Planning Bureau Chief
- Myla Kelly, WQ Standards & Modeling Section Supervisor
- Kristy Fortman, Watershed Protection Section Supervisor
- Darrin Kron, WQ Monitoring & Assessment Section Supervisor

Introductions

Nutrient Work Group Technical Subcommittee Members

Interest Group	Representative	Substitute
Point Source Discharger: Large Municipal Systems (>1 MGD)	Dave Clark	
Point Source Discharger: Middle-Sized Mechanical Systems (<1 MGD)	Vacant	
Point Source Discharger: Small Municipal Systems with Lagoons	Rika Lashley	
Point Source Discharger: Non-POTW	Shane Lacasse	
Municipalities	Amanda McInnis	
Mining	Matt Wolfe	
Farming-Oriented Agriculture	John Youngberg	
Livestock-Oriented Agriculture	Vacant	
Conservation Organization - Local	Vacant	
Conservation Organization – Regional	Sarah Zuzulock	
Conservation Organization – Statewide		
Environmental Advocacy Organization	Guy Alsentzer or Sarah Zuzulock	
Water or Fishing-Based Recreation	Guy Alsentzer or Sarah Zuzulock	
Federal Land Management Agencies	Andy Efta	
Federal Regulatory Agencies	Tina Laidlaw or Erik Makus	
State Land Management Agencies	Jeff Schmalenberg	
Water Quality Districts / County Planning Departments	Pete Schade	
Soil & Water Conservation Districts – West of the CD	Vacant	
Soil & Water Conservation Districts – East of the CD	Dan Rostad	
Wastewater Engineering Firms	Coralynn Revis	
Timber Industry	Julia Altemus	

Adaptive Management Program



AMP Details Document

Draft Definition

Draft Definition: Adaptive Management Program means a watershed-scale system ~~to~~ that addresses nutrients from point and nonpoint sources ~~that~~ by: (a) prioritizesing phosphorus reduction ~~unless unfitting for the watershed if site specific conditions~~ allow, (b) allowsing for nutrient sources to be addressed incrementally over time by incorporating flexible decision-making which can be adjusted as management actions and other factors become better understood, (c) reasonably evaluatesing all factors impacting a waterbody while considering the relative cost of treatment options, their feasibility and their expected water quality improvement, (d) documentsing specific nutrient reduction ~~expectations~~ requirements, and (e) setsing as its ~~long-term~~ goal the protection and achievement of beneficial uses of the waterbody.

AMP Flowchart Details

To Whom the Adaptive Management Program Applies

All watersheds that include point sources discharges of nutrients must have an Adaptive Management Plan (AMP) under the program. One AMP can include multiple permittees in a watershed. The analysis and conclusions of the AMP will drive facility specific actions for permittees to reduce nutrient contributions. The program may prioritize statewide watersheds based on today's available data, **watersheds where nutrient loading is causing beneficial use impairments and/or watersheds with large numbers of point sources of nutrients.** This will be updated periodically as new data are collected & evaluated.

AMP Details Document

Details on Each Box in the Flow Chart

This flow chart describes how a point source permittee develops a monitoring plan, watershed inventory and how that information will be applied in an AMP. Each step requires documentation that must be DEQ reviewed and approved (see flowchart).

AMP Flowchart Details

Box 1

Permittee submits monitoring plan under their Adaptive Management Plan

The plan lays out monitoring and analysis of response variables upstream- and downstream of facility and at the watershed scale. **Monitoring**, locations, frequency, **parameters** etc. must be defined. **The Monitoring** Plan may incorporate existing related watershed information from DEQ's Monitoring & Assessment and TMDL programs, or others. (*Details on response variables will be addressed at later NWG meetings.*) Source identification and quantification (watershed inventory) may be initiated.

AMP Flowchart Details

Box 2

Per monitoring plan, permittee **begins to collect data to** assess health of watershed and receiving waterbody via applicable response variables/thresholds

Findings from the Monitoring Plan should answer the question “*Based on response variables/thresholds are nutrients negatively impacting the watershed?*” Permittees in impacted watersheds will be required to move to Box 3 in flowchart; those in unimpacted watersheds may be required to conduct nutrient monitoring and continue to protect existing water quality. The monitoring plan must also include details to demonstrate water quality improvements through time.

AMP Flowchart Details

Box 3

Permittee begins stakeholder engagement, watershed inventory, identifying the most commonly limiting nutrient

Find partners in the watershed to improve water quality. The permittee may need to formalize commitment from partners through contracts or memorandums of agreement. Describe the watershed by including a comprehensive source identification, stream flows, existing water quality data.

AMP Flowchart Details

Box 4

Permittees analyze sources and loads

The permittee must quantify the TN and TP loads for each source identified through the watershed inventory, for both point and non-point sources. For example, Wisconsin uses PRESTO.

AMP Flowchart Details

Box 5

Permittee develops action items and goals for reductions

Describe optimization efforts, best management practices, treatment improvements, etc. identified as opportunities to improve water quality. Each of these action items need to identify the responsible party, financial commitments, and timeframes to achieve. Estimate load reductions for each action items for all sources.

Discussion items related to Box 5:

Identifying the **nitrogen and/or** phosphorus target reduction (*future NWG meetings will address in detail*)

AMP Flowchart Details

Box 6

Permittee implements actions, assesses effects on waterbody.
Recommends adjustments, if needed.

Discussion items related to Box 6:

Allow for experimentation with different treatment processes/discharge N:P ratios and allow for instream evaluation of receiving waterbody effects.

AMP Flowchart Details

Box 7

Are narrative standards, **beneficial uses, MPDES permit limits** achieved?

Based on the established monitoring plan and response variable thresholds, determine if the watershed is meeting the narrative standards. If not, the permittee will be required to conduct additional steps, on a case-by-case basis, including **revision of the approved Monitoring Plan**, re-evaluating sources in the watershed, reanalyzing pollutant loading and source contributions, and implementation of additional actions items.

AMP Flowchart Details

Questions, comments, ideas for further discussion:

Timeframes for each step in the process needs to be addressed

Baseline data requirements

Case study examples

Water quantity concerns

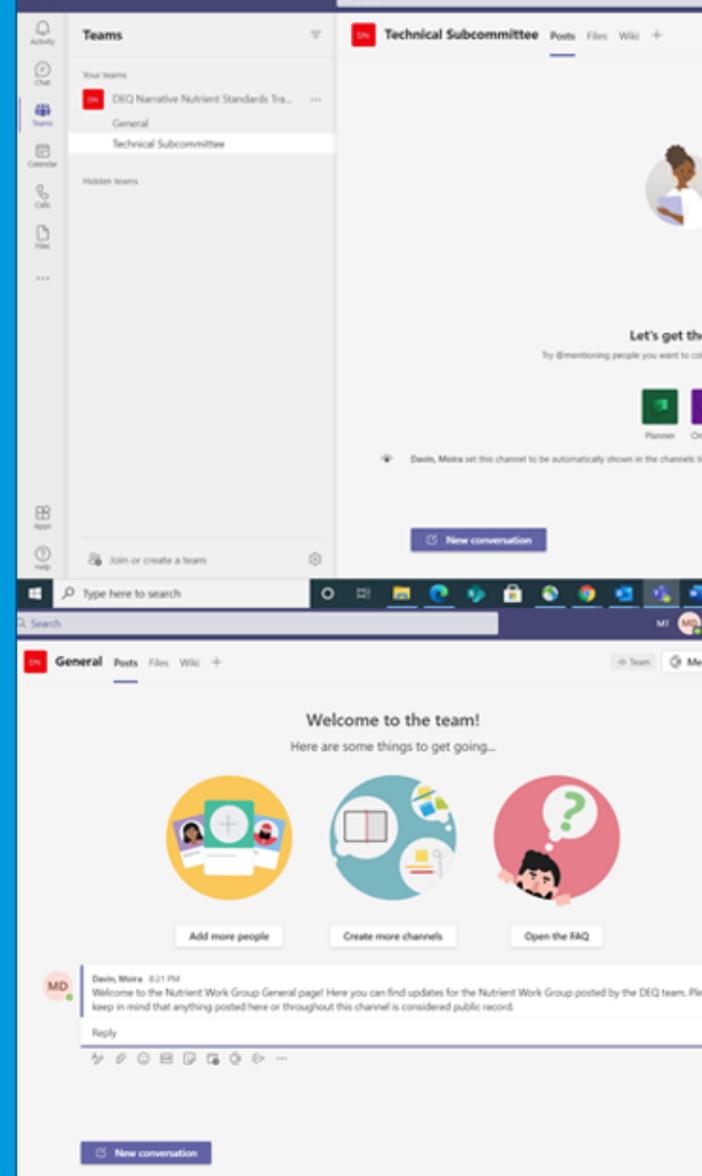
Permittees with existing Compliance issues

Action Items, Last TSC Mtng

	Action	Who
1	Distribute the flowchart and supporting materials to the TSC in a format to provide comments/track changes	Rainie DeVaney & Mike Suplee
2	Provide feedback from the TSC about the time component in the flow chart	TSC
3	Consider other measures that may trigger action (Box 7 of flowchart)	TSC
4	Clarify in the supporting documents that the narrative standards are those referenced in the Administrative Rules of the Montana of the State of Montana.	Rainie Devaney & Mike Suplee
5	Update the flowchart and supporting materials based on TSC feedback	Rainie Devaney & Mike Suplee
6	Define the overall work for the AMP by the June 23 Nutrient Work Group meeting	TSC
7	Provide information to the TSC on how to get on the agenda for a future meeting	Rainie Devaney & Mike Suplee
8	Schedule two TSC meetings between each Nutrient Work Group	Rainie Devaney & Mike Suplee

Using Teams as our collaborative tool

- Microsoft Teams will allow everyone to see documents in one place and allows for tracked group editing and feedback
- Teams is a free product and you will be sent an email invitation
- Email prompts will be sent to the committee when documents have been uploaded
- Please ensure "reviewing" mode is on to track changes





Public Comment & Close of Meeting

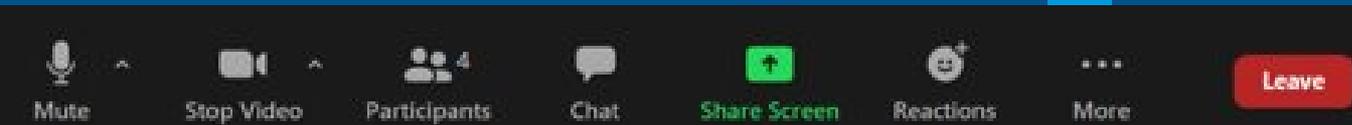
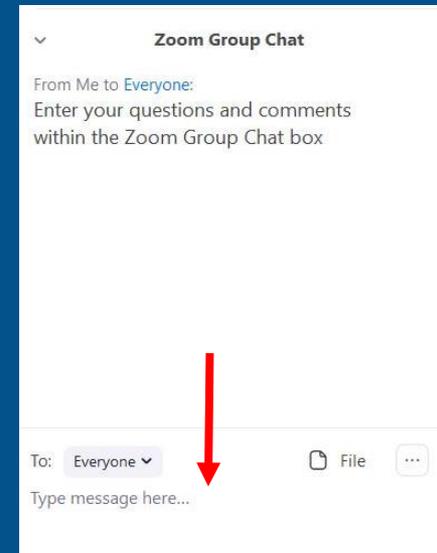
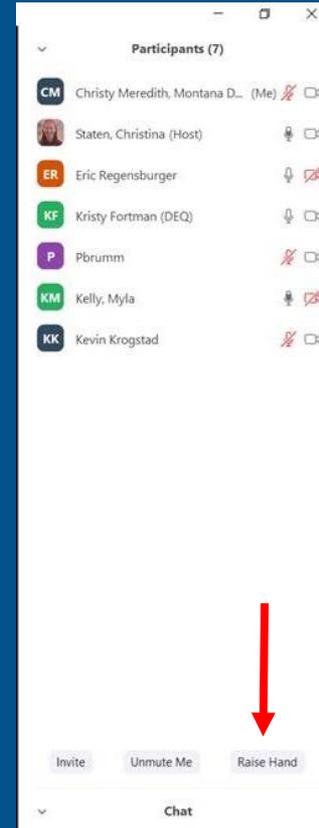
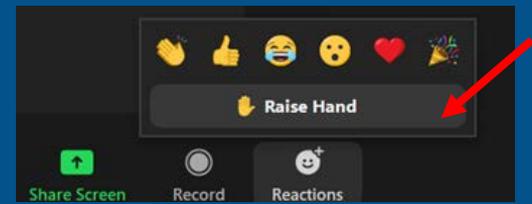
Next Meetings

- Nutrient Work Group:
 - Wednesday, June 23 from 9-11 AM
 - Operating Scale of Adaptive Management Program
- Technical Subcommittee Meeting
 - July 6, 2021
 - Watershed scale framework



Questions/ Comments

- Raise hand or type questions into the chat
- Please keep your microphone muted until called on
- If calling by phone, press*6 to unmute
- State your name and affiliation before providing your comment



Thanks for Joining Us

Contact:

Mike Suplee, MSuplee@mt.gov

Rainie Devaney, RDevaney@mt.gov



To submit comments or questions

» Submit Comments or Questions

<http://deq.mt.gov/water/resources/nutrientworkgroup>