

The District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia have placed portions of the tidal Potomac river on their 303(d) impaired waters lists for PCB contamination. PCB concentrations in fish tissue have been measured at high enough levels that fish consumption advisories have been issued. In some cases, PCB concentrations in water have exceeded state standards. All three jurisdictions are required to complete a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) analysis that determines the sources that contribute to the PCB impairment and by what amount those sources must be reduced so that PCB levels in fish and in water meet state standards.

In 2000, a consent decree was entered into by the EPA and the U.S. District Court (Kingman Park Civic Association, et al. v. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, et al., No. 1:98CV00758 (D.D.C.)) in which the EPA agreed to a schedule for completing TMDL studies for the impairments then on the District's 303(d) impaired waters list. That schedule required that the District of Columbia PCB TMDL be completed by September 30, 2007. Maryland and Virginia were not required to complete their PCB TMDLs by this date, but the three jurisdictions informally agreed in 2004 to coordinate their TMDL development efforts and address all their tidal Potomac PCB impairments by September 30, 2007. This date was later extended to October 31, 2007.

ICPRB assisted this effort by acting as a coordinating agency for the project. LimnoTech developed the tidal Potomac and Anacostia PCB TMDL model. The EPA assisted by contributing its expertise and partial funding. The District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia all participated in development of the TMDL, and the jurisdictions plus ICPRB, LimnoTech, MWCOG, and the EPA constituted the PCB TMDL Steering Committee.

On behalf of the state of Maryland and the District of Columbia, ICPRB submitted the PCB TMDL report to the USEPA on September 28, 2007. The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is following its routine TMDL adoption process and requesting approval from the Virginia Water Control Board, at their next meeting on October 25, 2007, to submit this TMDL to EPA.

THE TIDAL POTOMAC PCB TMDL WAS APPROVED BY THE EPA ON 10-31-2007.

- [PCB TMDL Report](#) (21 MB)
- [EPA Decision Rationale](#) (1 MB)
- [PCB TMDL Model Report](#) (5 MB)
- [Response to Public Comments](#) (1MB)