

ICPRB Work Plan

Communications and Education

Focus:

- Inform and educate the public, using electronic and print media tools, on Potomac basin water quality and resources issues and the efforts of ICPRB and the basin states to address them;
- Foster active stewardship in the use and protection of the basin's waters through outreach and education programs for teachers, students, watershed groups, homeowners, and other stakeholders.

Desired outcomes

- All stakeholders in a healthy Potomac watershed are informed and actively involved in its protection and, where necessary, restoration.

Work Plan

FY2015

- Complete development of new website, which will integrate many facets of our public outreach efforts, making them more effective and simpler to produce.
 - Clearer access to information about Potomac watershed issues and about [ICPRB activities](#)
 - Start implementation of a Potomac Guide (for recreation and river use information)
 - Addition of video articles
 - Expand inventory of [maps](#)
- [Expand teacher and stakeholder workshops](#) and align them with Chesapeake Bay education initiatives as much as possible.
- Provide [BMP assistance](#) for green schools
- Explore potential for organizing on-the-river events targeted toward specific objectives or specific groups

- Continue to pursue grants and partnerships that will help fund education/outreach programs

FY 2016 - 2020

- [Teacher workshops](#) evolve to turnkey operation in selected school districts (teachers giving workshops rather than ICPRB staff)
- Self-sustaining BMPs for schools program
- Expanded recreational use section on website
- Website is ICPRB's primary education and information tool, recognized as a major site for information related to recreational use, current water use issues, and history

Water Quality Improvement

Focus:

- Conduct studies and write reports to assist resource decision-making by our [member jurisdictions](#) and to stimulate federal and state actions to improve water quality.

Desired outcomes:

- Organized, accessible data and information
- Stakeholder confidence in [watershed model](#)
- Scientifically rigorous analytical tools and water quality assessments
- Strategies to resolve known water quality impairments
- Basin-wide comprehensive plan for water resources

Work Plan

FY2015

- Providing leadership to Potomac basin water quality management
- Water quality and stream biology [data management](#) for the Chesapeake Bay Program
- Assistance in development of the [Phase 6 Watershed Model](#)
- Assist in [TMDL](#) development
 - DC Potomac tributary TMDL development
 - Literature survey on BMP reduction efficiencies for pathogens and indicator bacteria
 - Accotink Creek TMDL
 - Additional analyses supporting TMDLs as requested by states or EPA
- Modeling impervious surface impacts on flow

FY2016-2020

- Data management
- WQ and watershed model testing and refinement

- TMDL development
- Ecosystem indicator development and testing
- Trend analysis

Water Resources

Focus:

- Study water resources problems and assist state, federal and local agencies' programs in the Potomac basin aimed toward their solution
- Coordinate the use of water supply resources for the metro Washington area during [drought](#);
- Assess the [future reliability of water supply](#) for the metro Washington area
- Promote activities for [source water protection](#)

Desired Outcomes Water Resources

- A [comprehensive plan](#) for the sustainable use of water resources in the Potomac basin
- Public recognition of the benefits of reducing stormwater runoff

Desired Outcomes Source Water Protection

- Coordination of source water protection
- Drinking water systems protected from [toxic spills](#)
- [Protection of drinking water source areas](#) by restoring and protecting water quality

Desired Outcomes Drinking Water

- Adequate future drinking water resources for the basin
- Washington Metropolitan Area water supply needs met during times of [drought](#)
- [Regional cooperation](#) on Potomac river water use

WorkPlan

FY 2015

- 1) Continue development of a Potomac Basin [Comprehensive Water Resources Plan](#)
- 2) Support the [Potomac Drinking Water Source Protection Partnership](#)
 - Provide staff support to Partnership and coordinate regional source water protection efforts

- Maintain [emergency spill alert](#) capability and respond to alerts as they occur

3) CO-OP Management & Operations

- [CO-OP Operations](#), including annual [drought exercise](#), monthly [Water Supply Outlooks](#), and operations in the event of low flows
- Evaluate the suitability of Travilah quarry as a raw water storage facility
- Begin evaluation of future water supply alternatives
- Complete 5-year [Demand Study](#)
- Continue development of consumptive use database
- Enhanced PRRISM model

4) Integration of Water Quality And Safe Drinking Water Programs

- Conduct Spill drill
- Support to Adams County WRAC
- Participate in [ICWP and ACWA](#)

FY2016-2020

- Complete Comprehensive Water Resources Plan
- Continue annual CO-OP operations
- Continue improving CO-OP operational and planning tools

Aquatic Life

Focus:

- Conduct studies that assist management actions to achieve ecologically healthy aquatic communities

Desired Outcomes

- Viable [Atlantic sturgeon](#) population in the Potomac
- Increased knowledge of key biological populations in the Potomac mainstem
- Enhanced assessments of aquatic ecosystem health
- Robust [American shad](#) population in the Potomac

FY 2015 – FY2020

- Develop quantitative measures/indicators of biological reference conditions to provide assessment endpoints or baselines
 - [James River](#) balanced phytoplankton
 - [Chessie BIBI](#) measure of stream health
- Continue Atlantic sturgeon restoration
 - States are the lead parties. ICPRB will support their efforts
 - Will use existing resources
 - See first Outcome above
- Assistance to Potomac jurisdictions' monitoring strategies
 - Continue monitoring selected locations in the mainstem, non tidal, Potomac River
 - Annual reports with data analysis and comparison with state assessments
 - Requires consultation with state agencies to identify opportunities to provide assistance
 - See second and third Outcomes above
- Support the Chesapeake Bay Program Sustainable Fisheries
 - Work through CBP Goal Implementation Teams to confirm CBP commitment to BIBI as tool for assessing watershed health and clarify ICPRB role

- See second and third Outcomes above, plus new Chesapeake Bay related outcome (refer to 2014 Agreement)
- Continue [shad restoration](#) efforts
 - Discuss with MD DNR and USFWS to see if they are interested in ICPRB participation in their existing shad stocking programs
 - Possibly relate to new Chesapeake Bay Goals and Outcomes
 - Work toward opening a recreational harvest in the District of Columbia and a directed commercial fishery in the upper tidal Potomac
- Continue enhanced assessments of aquatic ecosystem health
 - Write a “State of the Potomac” ecological conditions report. This will be an integration of state 305(b) reports plus our BIBI analysis and our three mainstem sites. In addition to current status, report should identify threats and “at risk” areas and species. This could be an Aquatic Life component to the basinwide Comprehensive Plan. Repeat every 5 years.