



**Edited Phase I MS4 Existing Permit to Maryland State Highway Administration (Permit No. 11-DP-3313 MD0068276 to Include Nutrient Trading:**

**Restoration Plans and Total Maximum Daily Loads**

In compliance with §402(p)(3)(B)(iii) of the CWA, MS4 permits must require stormwater controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the MEP. By regulation at 40 CFR §122.44, BMPs and programs implemented pursuant to this permit must be consistent with applicable WLAs developed under EPA approved TMDLs.

In pursuit of these goals, SHA shall coordinate watershed assessments with surrounding jurisdictions and annually report on restoration plans, opportunities for public participation, and TMDL compliance status to MDE. As required below, watershed assessments and restoration plans shall include a thorough discussion of water quality analysis findings based on coordination with surrounding jurisdictions, TMDL documents and other resources when available, identification of water quality improvement opportunities, and a schedule for BMP and programmatic implementation to meet stormwater WLAs included in EPA approved TMDLs. SHA shall address both specific WLAs and target loads when SHA is part of larger aggregate loads. A list of EPA approved TMDLs for SHA in the permit area is included in Attachment B of the permit.

1. **Watershed Assessments**

- a. SHA shall coordinate watershed assessments with surrounding jurisdictions, which shall include, but not be limited to, the evaluation of available State and county watershed assessments, SHA data, visual watershed inspections targeting SHA rights-of-way and facilities, and approved stormwater WLAs to:
  - i. Determine current water quality conditions;
  - ii. Include the results of visual inspections targeting SHA rights-of-way and facilities conducted in areas identified as priority for restoration;
  - iii. Identify and rank water quality problems for restoration associated with SHA rights-of-way and facilities;
  - iv. Use the watershed assessments established under section a. above to achieve water quality goals by identifying all structural and nonstructural water quality improvement projects to be implemented; and

- v. Specify pollutant load reduction benchmarks and deadlines that demonstrate progress toward meeting all applicable stormwater WLAs.

2. Restoration Plans

- a. Within one year of permit issuance, SHA shall submit an impervious surface area assessment consistent with the methods described in the MDE document “Accounting for Stormwater Wasteload Allocations and Impervious Acres Treated, Guidance for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Stormwater Permits” (MDE, August 2014 or subsequent versions). Upon approval by MDE, this impervious surface area assessment shall serve as the baseline for the restoration efforts required in this permit.

By the end of this permit term, SHA shall commence and complete the implementation of restoration efforts for twenty percent of SHA’s impervious surface area consistent with the methodology described in the MDE document cited in PART IV.E.2.a. that has not already been restored to the MEP. Equivalent acres restored of impervious surfaces, through new retrofits or the retrofit of pre-2002 structural BMPs, shall be based upon the treatment of the WQv criteria and associated list of practices defined in the *2000 Maryland Stormwater Design Manual*. For alternate BMPs, the basis for calculation of equivalent impervious acres restored is based upon the pollutant loads from forested cover.

- b. Within one year of permit issuance, a coordinated TMDL implementation plan shall be submitted to MDE for approval that addresses all EPA approved stormwater WLAs (prior to the effective date of the permit) and requirements of Part VI.A., Chesapeake Bay Restoration by 2025 for SHA’s storm sewer system. Both specific WLAs and aggregate WLAs which SHA is a part of shall be addressed in the TMDL implementation plans. Any subsequent stormwater WLAs for SHA’s storm sewer system shall be addressed by the coordinated TMDL implementation plan within one year of EPA approval. Upon approval by MDE, this implementation plan will be enforceable under this permit. As part of the coordinated TMDL implementation plan, SHA shall:
  - i. Include the final date for meeting applicable WLAs and a detailed schedule for implementing all structural and nonstructural water quality improvement projects, enhanced stormwater management programs, and alternative stormwater control initiatives necessary for meeting applicable WLAs;
  - ii. Provide detailed cost estimates for individual projects, programs, controls, and plan implementation;
  - iii. Evaluate and track the implementation of the coordinated

- implementation plan through monitoring or modeling to document the progress toward meeting established benchmarks, deadlines, and stormwater WLAs; and
- iv. Develop an ongoing, iterative process that continuously implements structural and nonstructural restoration projects, program enhancements, new and additional programs, and alternative BMPs where EPA approved TMDL stormwater WLAs are not being met according to the benchmarks and deadlines established as part of the SHA’s watershed assessments.

### 3. Nutrient Trading

The Maryland State Highway Administration may acquire total nitrogen (TN), total phosphorus (TP), and total suspended solids (TSS) credits, in accordance with the requirements of the Maryland Water Quality Trading and Offset Program, COMAR 26.08.11, to meet its 20 percent impervious surface area restoration requirement in this permit. The basis for an equivalent impervious acre restored through trading is the difference in pollutant loads between urban and forest stormwater runoff according to MDE’s “Accounting for Stormwater Wasteload Allocations and Impervious Acres Treated, Guidance for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Stormwater Permits” (MDE, 2014, or the most recent version). On an annual basis, until reissuance of this permit, the permittee shall report to the Department:

- a. The cumulative impervious acres restored achieved through the installation of BMPs during the permit compliance period;
- b. The equivalent impervious acres restored achieved through credit acquisition during the permit compliance period; and
- c. Documentation required to verify credits acquired and to be used for impervious surface restoration during the permit compliance period.

### 4. Public Participation

SHA shall provide opportunity to the public regarding the development of its coordinated TMDL implementation plan by allowing for public participation, soliciting input, and incorporating any relevant ideas and program improvements that can aid in achieving TMDLs and water quality standards according to the actions below. SHA shall provide:

- a. Notice in a regional newspaper and on SHA’s website outlining how the public may obtain information on the development of the coordinated TMDL implementation plan and opportunities for comment;
- b. Procedures for providing copies of the coordinated TMDL implementation plan to interested parties upon request;

- c. A minimum 30 day comment period before finalizing the coordinated TMDL implementation plan; and
- d. A summary in each annual report of how SHA addressed or will address any material comment received from the public.

5. TMDL Compliance

SHA shall evaluate and document its progress toward meeting all applicable stormwater WLAs included in EPA approved TMDLs. An annual TMDL assessment report with tables shall be submitted to MDE. This assessment shall include complete descriptions of the analytical methodology used to evaluate the effectiveness of SHA's restoration plans and how these plans are working toward achieving compliance with EPA approved TMDLs. SHA shall further provide:

- a. Estimated net change in pollutant load reductions from all completed structural and nonstructural water quality improvement projects, enhanced stormwater management programs, and alternative stormwater control initiatives;
- b. A comparison of the net change in pollutant load reductions detailed above with the established benchmarks, deadlines, and applicable stormwater WLAs;
- c. Itemized costs for completed projects, programs, and initiatives to meet established pollutant reduction benchmarks and deadlines;
- d. Cost estimates for completing all projects, programs, and alternatives necessary for meeting applicable stormwater WLAs; and
- e. A description of a plan for implementing additional watershed restoration actions that can be enforced when benchmarks, deadlines, and applicable stormwater WLAs are not being met or when projected funding is inadequate.