

Comment Response Document
Regarding the Total Maximum Daily Load of Sediment in the Non-Tidal Patuxent River Lower Watershed, Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George’s and Saint Mary’s Counties, Maryland

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has conducted a public comment period of the proposed Sediment TMDL for the Non-Tidal Patuxent River Lower Watershed. The comment period was from March 14, 2018 to April 12, 2018. MDE received one set of written comments.

Below is a list of the commenters, their affiliations, the date comments were submitted, and the number referenced to the comments. In the pages that follow, comments are summarized along with MDE’s responses.

List of Commenters

Author	Affiliation	Date	Comment Number
Ms. Jillian Adair	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 3	March 26, 2018	1-5

Comments and Responses

1. The commenter references page 23, 4th paragraph stating “The report states that the degradation of the biological communities in the Patuxent River Lower watershed is strongly associated with poor...”. The commenter asks is it associated with “poor” or “marginal to poor” as is referenced throughout the document. Please correct if needed.

Response: The text has been updated to indicate which specific parameters are associated with “poor” and which are associated with “poor to marginal”.

2. The commenter references Appendix B page B6 stating a daily time series of 20 tons/day, a TMDL reduction of 65%, and a total watershed maximum daily load (MDL) of 12.5 tons/day is described in the paragraph text. Please correct.

Response: This correction has been made.

3. The commenter references page 34, municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permit implementation plans, asking when did MDE publish the final determination to issue stormwater permits to Charles County?

Response: MDE published the final determination to issue stormwater permits to Charles County in December 2014. This information has been added to the document.

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4. Referencing the point source technical memorandum, the commenter asks are the general mineral mining permits without explicit total suspended solid (TSS) limits permitted for stormwater discharges? Please explain.

Response: The permits require a Stormwater Prevention Plan. A decision was made between TMDL and permitting to include them in the stormwater WLA.

5. Referencing the point source technical memorandum, the commenter asks why did the MDL for “other National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Regulated Stormwater” change from 3.6 to 3.8 after finalization of permit 13-IM-5500 for small MS4s?

Response: This was a typographical error and has been corrected.