

VTrans Water Quality Initiatives

PRESENTED TO THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

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Integrating Stormwater Across the Agency

Staffing across the Agency focused on stormwater includes 4 primary environmental units that work on policy, procedure and rule making and also take projects and asset management from planning stage through design development, permitting, construction, implementation and into ongoing operation and maintenance:



- Policy Planning and Intermodal Development Division
 - Environmental Policy Planner – legislation, policy, procedure
- Project Delivery Bureau – Highway Division
 - Stormwater Management Engineer – scoping, design development, permitting
- Construction Management Bureau – Highway Division
 - Construction Environmental Engineer – monitor construction for compliance
- Maintenance Bureau – Highway Division
 - Stormwater Technicians – policy, procedure, best management practices, research, scoping, design development, mainly post construction maintenance and compliance with other Federal NPDES Clean Water Act Programs (MS4, MSGP, TMDL)

Numerous positions throughout the Agency support the stormwater staff and/or are involved in stormwater design, permitting, ongoing compliance, operation, maintenance and asset management.

How is VTrans implementing Act 64



- Act 64 of 2015 – “Vermont’s Clean Water Act” – a broad suite of programs and regulations addressing: agricultural practices, stormwater runoff from roads and non-road developed lands, and natural infrastructure (river corridors, wetlands and forest management).
- As part of its Phase I Implementation Plan developed in response to the Lake Champlain Phosphorus TMDL, the Vermont ANR, in December 2016, issued the Transportation Separate Storm Sewer System (TS4) general permit to VTrans. The permit was effective November 27, 2017.

Major Elements of the TS4 Permit

- Municipal Separate Storm sewer System (MS4)
 - Public Education & Participation, Training & Education
 - Asset Mapping, Inventory, and management
 - Spill Prevention and Stormwater Pollution Source Control
- Multi-Sector Industrial General Permit (MSGP)
 - Covers discharges of stormwater from industrial facilities which conduct activities that have the potential to impact the quality of Vermont's waters
 - Regulated VTrans facilities - 9 State Airports and 3 State Gravel Pits
- State Operational Stormwater Discharges
 - Discharges of regulated stormwater runoff from the construction, expansion, and redevelopment of impervious surfaces greater than 1 acre
- Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements
 - Establishes reduction targets for specific pollutants (e.g. stormwater flow, phosphorus, E. coli, etc.) to attain water quality standards
 - Stormwater-impaired and Phosphorus



Flow Restoration Planning (FRP) and Phosphorus Control Planning (PCP) under TMDL



FRP Implementation

- Focus on 303(d) listed waterways impaired for stormwater
 - Allen, Bartlett, Centennial, Indian, Moon, Munroe, Potash, Rugg, Stevens, and Sunderland Brooks
 - VTrans FRP has been developed and is now starting to be implemented
 - Allen Brook construction completed
 - Completing final design of Rugg and Stevens Brooks
 - Complete implementation no later than December 5, 2032

PCP ImplementationDevelopment a

- Lake Champlain TMDL schedule as outlined in the TS4 permit
 - April 2020 – submitted generalized statewide PCP
 - October 2020 – submitted 1st 4-year implementation plan
 - October 2024 – submit 2nd 4-year implementation plan
 - October 2028 – submit 3rd 4-year implementation plan
 - October 2032 – submit 4th 4-year implementation plan
 - No later then June 17, 2036 – complete implementation of PCP

VTrans' Clean Water and Stormwater Regulatory Compliance Investments for the State Highway System and VTrans non-road developed lands are anticipated to be covered by the Transportation Bill and Federal Funds where eligible. *See estimated costs below through SFY36 (the compliance date for the LC TMDL) which include Project Development, Construction, O&M and FTE for implementing the Agency's obligations under the TS4.*

