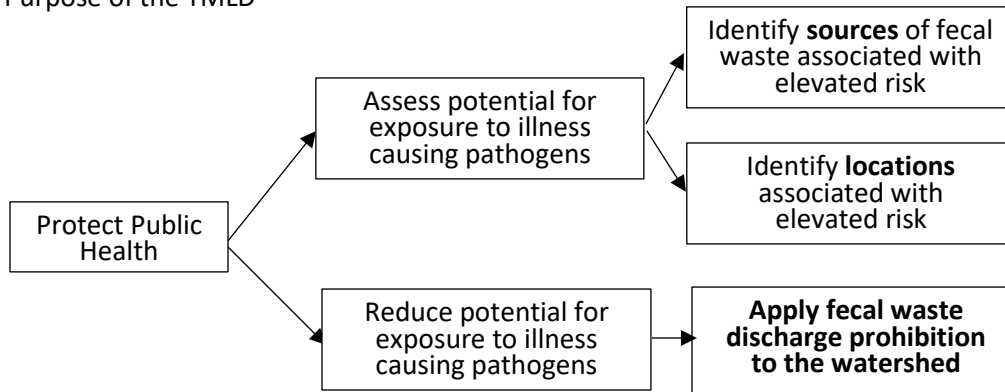


Russian River Watershed Pathogen TMDL Public Workshop. Presented on 13 June 2019 by Alydda Mangelsdorf (Environmental Program Manager) and Charles Reed (Supervising Water Control Engineer) of the Regional Water Quality Board.

Purpose of the TMDL



Attendee note: it is currently prohibited to discharge untreated (raw) fecal waster into the river. It appears that this plan will extend such prohibition to the watershed as well.

1. A Land Cover Study was conducted to:
 - a. Determine if there is an association between types of land cover and fecal indicator bacteria.
 - b. Extrapolate our water quality findings to areas with similar land cover.
 - c. Relevant Result: There is a human fecal waste source signature associated with all cover types, except for forestland during the wet season.
2. An Onsite Water Treatment Study (OWTS) (*no methodology or definitions provided*):
 - a. Confirmed a relationship between the OWTS and fecal indicator bacterial downstream.
 - b. Identified an association between neighborhoods with a high density of bacteria.
3. A recreational Study (*no methodology or definitions provided*):
 - a. Identified a relationship between **locations** with high recreational use and elevated fecal indicator bacteria.
 - b. Identified a relationship between times of high recreational use and elevated fecal indicator bacteria.
4. Homeless Encampments: Direct observations of fecal waste discharge associated with homeless encampments.

(attendee note: slide with the locations of fecal bacteria monitoring locations along the Russian River is illegible; oral reference was made to 43 monitoring sites)

5. Freshwater objective for e.coli:
 - a. A geometric mean of 100 cfu (colony forming units/100 mL, calculated on a rolling 6 week basis (*testing locations and number of data points within a 6 week basis not provided*)).

- b. No more than 10% of the samples can exceed 320 cfu/100 mL in a calendar month.
6. Locations of Impaired-Polluted HUC-12 (*presenting Russian River only*):
 - a. Exceeded Statewide Objective:
 - i. Porter Creek
 - ii. Dutch Bill Creek
 - iii. Willow Creek
 - b. Based on Public Health Advisories and Exceedance of National Criteria:
 - i. Oat Valley
 - ii. Brooks Creek
7. Discharges of waste containing fecal waster material from humans or domestic animals to waters of the state within the Russian River are prohibited. Specifically, no discharge is allowed from (*List is truncated for relevance*):
 - a. Large OWTS
 - b. Small OWTS
 - c. Recreational water use and users (program to be developed)
 - d. Homeless encampments (program to be developed)
8. The Regional Water Quality Board has identified areas for remediation by location (*slide presented but not provided; may be on the Water Board's website; you should be able to put your address into a database on the website to see if your property is on the list*).
9. Setbacks will be required:
 - a. 200 ft for feeder areas
 - b. 600 ft for river locations

(*Small property lots may present challenges for compliance*)
10. Schedule for final completion of corrective action:
 - a. 15 years for replacement of individual OWTS
 - b. 20 years for OWTS participating in community planning efforts.
11. Property owners along identified areas will be asked to perform an assessment of their OWTS. This will be in the form of a written request with a response deadline to be provided in the letter.
12. New requirements:
 - a. Existing seepage pits: prohibited without treatment components.
 - b. Replacement for cesspools -may be authorized as replacement OWTS if other options are infeasible, must have supplemental treatment components.
 - c. New seepage pits-Prohibited.
13. At this time, the property owner will be responsible for the cost of an assessment of and remediation for failing or overloaded OWTS.
14. There may be low-interest loans, no-interest loans, or grants may available for qualified homeowners but at this time there doesn't seem to be anything formally in place to address this potential need.
15. Schedule for final completion of corrective action:
 - a. 15 years for replacement of OWTS
 - b. 20 years for OWTS participating in community planning efforts.
16. A beta feasibility study will be conducted in Monte Rio to provide suggestions for optimal remediation (individual remediation, neighborhood/community remediation, townbased

remediation, etc). The cost of this study is \$500,000 and should be available next year (*I believe this is on the agenda for the next MAC meeting*). Once complete, other communities can use the results as a template for performing assessments of their needs; this will most likely involve a community specific feasibility study and it was not clear where funding would come from.

17. This plan is expected to be in effect sometime in 2020.