

Kalamazoo River Mainstem 3 Corridor WMP
Revisions summary for the December 21, 2006 version
As per MDEQ Review Comments

MDEQ comment: Watershed maps are not sufficiently detailed: tributaries should be depicted on the map and labeled.

K&A reviewed publicly available GIS layers and added available tributary lines and names. K&A labeled tributaries whenever possible. Two additional close-up maps (Figures 2b and 2c) were produced and added to the WMP.

MDEQ comment: A brief discussion is needed on specific pollutants and their sources. This information could be placed in table format.

K&A has added Table 5b which presents pollutants and their sources.

MDEQ comment: It is recommended that sources of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and mercury be discussed in more detail.

K&A has added additional information regarding PCBs and mercury in section 3.7 River Quality Indicators.

MDEQ comment: Explain the Total Maximum Daily Load process

K&A has added a paragraph explaining the TMDL process under “Designated Use Attainment Status” in section 3.7 River Quality Indicators.

MDEQ comment: Include a reference to Table 6 under the discussion of designated uses in Chapter 4.

K&A has included a line referencing Table 6 at the end of section 4.1.1. Michigan Designated Uses.

MDEQ comment: Additional information regarding which designated uses are being met, which are threatened, and which are not being met.

K&A has added a line referencing the future Kalamazoo River Watershed Management Plan for additional information on designated uses.

MDEQ comment: Include specific water quality monitoring parameters, which will be used to evaluate changes in water quality over time.

K&A has added monitoring parameters for Kalamazoo County Surface Water Quality Monitoring Program and for MDEQ TMDL monitoring, under section 4.6 Methods of Evaluating Progress.

MDEQ comment: 73 actions are listed in Table 6, WMP may be more effective and user-friendly if some of these actions were combined.

The Steering Committee has revised Tables 6 and 7 and reduced the number of actions from 73 to 20.

MDEQ comment: Some actions could be eliminated as actions, but instead utilized as evaluation mechanisms (see Actions 11 and 12).

The Steering Committee has revised Tables 6 and 7.

K&A has added a small paragraph presenting several actions in section 4.6 Methods of Evaluating Progress.

MDEQ comment: Other actions seem vague, consider eliminating these (see Actions 17, 22, and 71).

The Steering Committee has revised Tables 6 and 7. The list has been reduced to 20 actions.

The WMP is generalized; so that individuals have some flexibility given their limited resources.

MDEQ comment: Communities stated that actions were “not applicable,” when these tasks clearly should be applicable.

The Steering Committee has revised Tables 6 and 7. MDEQ did not define which cases.

MDEQ comment: MDEQ staff needs more information to make a determination as to which jurisdictions should be able to commit to certain actions, tables need further refinement by the steering committee.

The Steering Committee has revised Tables 6 and 7 and reduced to number of actions from 73 to 20. The Steering Committee collectively agreed to this format with MDEQ participation.

MDEQ comment: Evaluation methods need refinement, often lack specificity. For example, Action 33 (Implement BMPs at road/stream crossings) has the following evaluation method: “Road crossings ranked through existing surveys.” It is unclear what surveys the WMP is referencing. Quantifiable measures might include number of road/stream crossings stabilized, or pounds of sediment and phosphorus prevented from reaching surface waters.

The Steering Committee has revised Tables 6 and 7.

MDEQ comment: Action 38 (Maintain naturalized stream flows): evaluation method is “Feet of naturalized stream.” It is unclear how naturalized stream is defined, and how this will be measured.

This action has been removed from Tables 6 and 7 by the Steering Committee, and therefore comment was not addressed.

MDEQ comment: For several action items, evaluation method listed as “Strategies used” is unclear. Please edit evaluation methods in Table 6 to insure that evaluation will be straightforward and consistent among permittees.

The table revised by the Steering Committee no longer includes “Strategies used” as an evaluation method. Steering committee members have agreed upon Table 6 edits.

MDEQ comment: Procedures for revising the WMP need to be incorporated into the document. The WMP states that Operational Guidelines for the Steering Committee will be developed in the

future to address a variety of issues, including updates and revisions of the plan. Please include these Operational Guidelines in the next version of the WMP.

- The Steering Committee discussions will continue on this matter and a supplement to the WMP will be submitted as appropriate.

MDEQ comment: In order to assure that a watershed management plan adequately portrays the concerns and visions of stakeholders, public involvement is critical during the planning phase. The Kalamazoo River Mainstem 3 WMP does not currently meet the public input criteria specified in the Public Participation Process. The WMP states that the steering committee intends to hold public meetings and solicit public input. It is expected that public comment will be incorporated into the revised WMP.

K&A has provided very limited revisions to Chapter 5 – Public Participation Process: the public meeting held on October, 26, 2006 has been referenced.

K&A has provided press releases, a public website, and a skeleton PowerPoint for public presentation that have been distributed in various venues by Steering Committee members.

MDEQ additional comments on enclosed copies of pages from the WMP:

K&A has corrected minor errors.