

and the lower the upstream concentration, the greater the assimilative capacity is. Assimilative capacity may represent dilution (as in allocations for metals), or it may also incorporate the break-down of pollutants in the receiving water (as in allocations for oxygen-demanding materials).

The need for water-quality-based limits is determined by comparing the WLA for a pollutant to a measure of the effluent quality. The measure of effluent quality is called Projected Effluent Quality (PEQ). This is a statistical measure of the average and maximum effluent values for a pollutant. As with any statistical method, the more data that exists for a given pollutant, the more likely that PEQ will match the actual observed data. If there is a small data set for a given pollutant, the highest measured value is multiplied by a statistical factor to obtain a PEQ; for example if only one sample exists, the factor is 6.2, for two samples - 3.8, for three samples - 3.0. The factors continue to decline as samples sizes increase. These factors are intended to account for effluent variability, but if the pollutant concentrations are fairly constant, these factors may make PEQ appear larger than it would be shown to be if more sample results existed.

Summary of Permit Conditions

The effluent limits and monitoring requirements proposed for the following parameters are the same as in the current permit, although some monitoring frequencies may have changed: flow, temperature, dissolved oxygen, CBOD₅, total suspended solids, ammonia-nitrogen, total phosphorus, nitrite+nitrate-nitrogen, total Kjeldahl nitrogen, oil and grease, pH, free cyanide, cadmium, chromium, dissolved hexavalent chromium, copper, lead, mercury, nickel, and zinc.

The permittee is required to begin using one of the approved methods for monitoring free cyanide:
- ASTM D7237-10 and OIA-1677-09 - Flow injection followed by gas diffusion amperometry.

New monthly monitoring is proposed for dissolved orthophosphate (as P). This monitoring is required by Ohio Senate Bill 1, which was signed by the Governor on April 2, 2015. Monitoring for orthophosphate is proposed to further develop nutrient datasets for dissolved reactive phosphorus and to assist stream and watershed assessments and studies. Ohio EPA monitoring, as well as other in-stream monitoring, is taken via grab sample, orthophosphate is proposed to be collected by grab sample to maintain consistent data to support watershed and stream surveys. Monitoring will be done by grab sample, which must be filtered within 15 minutes of collection using a 0.45-micron filter. The filtered sample must be analyzed within 48 hours.

Metals monitoring at the downstream station 901 has been removed from the permit.

Annual acute toxicity monitoring is proposed for the life of the permit. This satisfies the minimum testing requirements of OAC 3754-33-07(B)(11) and will adequately characterize toxicity in the plant's effluent.

Monitoring for bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate will be removed from the permit because effluent data show that it no longer has the reasonable potential to contribute to exceedances of water quality standards.

In Part II of the permit, special conditions are included that address sanitary sewer overflow reporting; operator certification, minimum staffing and operator of record; whole effluent toxicity testing; outfall signage; pretreatment program requirements; and water quality trading.

Addressing nutrient-related impairment in the lower Great Miami River (GMR)

Ohio EPA is proposing an adaptive management approach to addressing the nutrient-related impairment in the lower GMR. Adaptive management is an iterative process that involves implementing certain controls to reduce pollutant loads, allowing time to evaluate the effectiveness of the controls and obtain additional information, and then using this new knowledge to guide the next implementation step.

Issuing new NPDES permits to the major municipal wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) is the first step in the process to eliminate impairment in the lower GMR. These permit renewals include:

For the Dayton and Montgomery County Western Regional WWTPs – A seasonal aggregate total phosphorus loading limit that applies for the period July through October. The limit was calculated using the plant's average seasonal flow for the years 2010 through 2014 and a total phosphorus concentration of 1 mg/l. The permits allow 36 months for the plants to meet the seasonal loading limit.

These two plants are the largest and most upstream discharges of the lower Great Miami River watershed and contribute to a significant increase in the total phosphorus concentrations, dissolved oxygen swings and chlorophyll-a values in the river.

For the other major WWTPs – Continued monitoring of total phosphorus in their effluent as well as upstream and downstream of their discharges. These plants also must develop a study that evaluates the technical and financial capability of their existing treatment facilities to reduce total phosphorus to 1 mg/l or lower. This study is required by Ohio Senate Bill 1, which was signed by the Governor on April 2, 2015. The study must be submitted to Ohio EPA by December 1, 2017. Ohio EPA is implementing this Ohio Senate Bill 1 requirement outside of NPDES permits. Instead, Ohio EPA will send a letter instructing all applicable facilities how to comply with the evaluation study required by Ohio Senate Bill 1.

Ohio EPA is working with Ohio Department of Natural Resources and representatives of the Joint Board of the Soil Water Conservation Districts to identify areas for concentrating efforts to reduce agricultural runoff to streams. This effort includes site selection; installing best management practices; and measuring the baseline and success of the practices.

If the river has not returned to full attainment, the next NPDES permit renewals may be informed by an Ohio EPA-approved integrated management plan prepared by the lower GMR dischargers and/or an approved TMDL prepared by Ohio EPA. If supported by these or other applicable reports, the permittees may propose using alternate reduction strategies to achieve future phosphorus reductions. The strategies could include point source-nonpoint source trading, point source-point source trading, habitat restoration offsets, physical watershed alterations and other approved nutrient management/reduction strategies.

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Procedures for Participation in the Formulation of Final Determinations

The draft action shall be issued as a final action unless the Director revises the draft after consideration of the record of a public meeting or written comments, or upon disapproval by the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Within thirty days of the date of the Public Notice, any person may request or petition for a public meeting for presentation of evidence, statements or opinions. The purpose of the public meeting is to obtain additional evidence. Statements concerning the issues raised by the party requesting the meeting are invited. Evidence may be presented by the applicant, the state, and other parties, and following presentation of such evidence other interested persons may present testimony of facts or statements of opinion.

Requests for public meetings shall be in writing and shall state the action of the Director objected to, the questions to be considered, and the reasons the action is contested. Such requests should be addressed to:

**Legal Records Section
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049**

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments upon the discharge permit. Comments should be submitted in person or by mail no later than 30 days after the date of this Public Notice. Deliver or mail all comments to:

**Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Attention: Division of Surface Water
Permits Processing Unit
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049**

The Ohio EPA permit number and Public Notice numbers should appear on each page of any submitted comments. All comments received no later than 30 days after the date of the Public Notice will be considered.

Citizens may conduct file reviews regarding specific companies or sites. Appointments are necessary to conduct file reviews, because requests to review files have increased dramatically in recent years. The first 250 pages copied are free. For requests to copy more than 250 pages, there is a five-cent charge for each page copied. Payment is required by check or money order, made payable to Treasurer State of Ohio.

For additional information about this fact sheet or the draft permit, contact Gary Stuhlfauth, 616-644-2026, Gary.Stuhlfauth@epa.ohio.gov or Maureen Ware, 937-285-6103, Maureen.Ware@epa.ohio.gov.

Information Regarding Certain Water Quality Based Effluent Limits

This draft permit may contain proposed water quality based effluent limitations for parameters that **are not** priority pollutants. (See the following link for a list of the priority pollutants: http://epa.ohio.gov/portals/35/pretreatment/Pretreatment_Program_Priority_Pollutant_Detection_Limits.pdf). In accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 6111.03(J)(3), the Director established these water quality based effluent limits after considering, to the extent consistent with the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, evidence relating to the technical feasibility and economic reasonableness of removing the polluting properties from those wastes and to evidence relating to conditions calculated to result from that action and their relation to benefits to the people of the state and to accomplishment of the purposes of this chapter. This determination was made based on data and information available at the time the permit was drafted, which included the contents of the

timely submitted National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NDPES) permit renewal application, along with any and all pertinent information available to the Director.

This public notice allows the permittee to provide to the Director for consideration during this public comment period additional site-specific pertinent and factual information with respect to the technical feasibility and economic reasonableness for achieving compliance with the proposed final effluent limitations for these parameters. The permittee shall deliver or mail this information to:

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Attention: Division of Surface Water
Permits Processing Unit
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049

Should the applicant need additional time to review, obtain or develop site-specific pertinent and factual information with respect to the technical feasibility and economic reasonableness of achieving compliance with these limitations, written notification for any additional time shall be sent to the above address no later than 30 days after the Public Notice Date on Page 1.

Should the applicant determine that compliance with the proposed water quality based effluent limitations for parameters other than the priority pollutants is technically and/or economically unattainable, the permittee may submit an application for a variance to the applicable water quality standard(s) used to develop the proposed effluent limitation in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rule 3745-33-07(D). The permittee shall submit this application to the above address no later than 30 days after the Public Notice Date.

Alternately, the applicant may propose the development of site-specific water quality standard(s) pursuant to OAC Rule 3745-1-35. The permittee shall submit written notification regarding their intent to develop site specific water quality standards for parameters that are not priority pollutants to the above address no later than 30 days after the Public Notice Date.

Location of Discharge/Receiving Water Use Classification

The LeSourdsville Regional wastewater treatment plant discharges to the Great Miami River at River Mile (RM) 45.65. Figure 1 shows the approximate location of the facility.

This segment of the Great Miami River is described by Ohio EPA River Code: 14-001, U.S. EPA River Reach #: 05080002-009, County: Butler, Ecoregion: Eastern Corn Belt Plains. The Great Miami River is designated for the following uses under Ohio's WQS (OAC 3745-1-21): Warmwater Habitat (WWH), Agricultural Water Supply (AWS), Industrial Water Supply (IWS), and Class A Primary Contact Recreation (PCR).

Use designations define the goals and expectations of a waterbody. These goals are set for aquatic life protection, recreation use and water supply use, and are defined in the Ohio WQS (OAC 3745-1-07). The use designations for individual waterbodies are listed in rules -08 through -32 of the Ohio WQS. Once the goals are set, numeric WQS are developed to protect these uses. Different uses have different water quality criteria.

Use designations for aquatic life protection include habitats for coldwater fish and macroinvertebrates, warmwater aquatic life and waters with exceptional communities of warmwater organisms. These uses all meet the goals of the federal CWA. Ohio WQS also include aquatic life use designations for waterbodies which cannot meet the CWA goals because of human-caused conditions that cannot be remedied without causing fundamental changes to land use and widespread economic impact. The dredging and clearing of some small streams to support agricultural or urban drainage is the most common of these conditions. These streams are given Modified Warmwater or Limited Resource Water designations.

Recreation uses are defined by the depth of the waterbody and the potential for wading or swimming. Uses are defined for bathing waters, swimming/canoeing (Primary Contact) and wading only (Secondary Contact - generally waters too shallow for swimming or canoeing).

Water supply uses are defined by the actual or potential use of the waterbody. Public Water Supply designations apply near existing water intakes so that waters are safe to drink with standard treatment. Most other waters are designated for agricultural and industrial water supply.

Facility Description

The LeSourdsville WWTP was originally constructed in 1977, and was most recently upgraded in 2014. The LeSourdsville WWTP facility is an advanced treatment facility with an average design flow of 15.0 million gallons per day (MGD). The treatment plant includes the following equipment and/or wet stream processes:

- Influent Pumping
- Bar Screen
- Grit Removal
- Conventional Activated Sludge
- Secondary Clarification
- Ultraviolet Disinfection
- Cascade Post Aeration

Sludge processing includes mechanical dewatering via centrifuge, and disposal by landfilling. Table 1 shows the total tons of sludge removed from LeSourdsville WWTP from 2009 through 2014, based upon discharge monitoring reports (DMR) data.

The plant provides service to Liberty Township, Fairfield Township, cities of Trenton and Monroe, and Lemon Township (Warren County). The total service population is approximately 66,661. The separate sanitary sewer system has 14 lift stations. Butler County implements an Ohio EPA approved industrial pretreatment program at

the LeSourdsville WWTP. Five categorical industrial users and four non-categorical industrial users discharge an average of 1.22 MGD to the wastewater plant.

Description of Existing Discharge

Table 2 shows the annual effluent flow rates for the LeSourdsville WWTP based upon DMR data. The flow rates have been very variable across this period.

Table 3 presents chemical specific data compiled from annual pretreatment reports as well as data collected by Ohio EPA.

Table 4 presents a summary of unaltered Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) data for outfall 1PK00011001. Data are presented for the period January 2009 through December 2013, and current permit limits are provided for comparison.

Table 5 summarizes the chemical specific data for outfall 1PK00011001 by presenting the average and maximum Projected Effluent Quality (PEQ) values.

Table 6 summarizes the results of acute whole effluent toxicity tests of the final effluent.

LeSourdsville WWTP reports SSO occurrences under station 300 in its NPDES permit. There were two overflow occurrences in 2010, six in 2011, two in 2012, four in 2013 and two in 2014.

Under the provisions of 40 CFR 122.21(j), the Director has waived the requirement for submittal of expanded effluent testing data as part of the NPDES renewal application. Ohio EPA has access to substantially identical information through the submission of annual pretreatment program reports and/or from effluent testing conducted by the Agency.

Assessment of Impact on Receiving Waters

The Great Miami River from the Mad River to Four Mile Creek has been identified as a priority impaired water on Ohio's 303(d) list. The aquatic life, recreation and human health uses are listed as impaired.

The Great Miami River was evaluated by Ohio EPA staff for aquatic life and recreational use potential during the 2009 and 2010 field seasons. This assessment included the collection of water chemistry and biological sampling at numerous sites in the mainstem Great Miami River and selected tributaries. A summary of the results from this assessment can be found in Table 7.

The complete results of the most recent water quality surveys of the Great Miami River are included in the Technical Support Documents (TSD) "*Biological and Water Quality Study of the Middle Great Miami River and Principal Tributaries, 2009*", Jan. 2013; and "*Biological and Water Quality Study of the Lower Great Miami River and Selected Tributaries, 2010*", May 2012 (Ohio EPA), which are available through this Internet link: http://epa.ohio.gov/dsw/document_index/psdindx.aspx .

The addendum to this fact sheet provides additional information on the impacts that discharges from major municipal wastewater treatment plants are having on water quality in the lower Great Miami River.

Development of Water-Quality-Based Effluent Limits

Determining appropriate effluent concentrations is a multiple-step process in which parameters are identified as likely to be discharged by a facility, evaluated with respect to Ohio water quality criteria, and examined to determine the likelihood that the existing effluent could violate the calculated limits.

Parameter Selection Effluent data for the LeSourdsville WWTP were used to determine what parameters should undergo WLA. The parameters discharged are identified by the data available to Ohio EPA - Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) data submitted by the permittee, compliance sampling data collected by Ohio EPA, and any other data submitted by the permittee, such as priority pollutant scans required by the NPDES application or by pretreatment, or other special conditions in the NPDES permit. The sources of effluent data used in this evaluation are as follows:

Self-monitoring data (DMR)	January 2008 through September 2013
Pretreatment Program Data	2008-2012
Ohio EPA (compliance, survey)	2012

The effluent data were checked for outliers and the following values were removed from the evaluation to give a more reliable projection of effluent quality: one value for cadmium of 6.21 µg/l, and one value for bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate of 149. µg/l.

This data is evaluated statistically, and PEQ values are calculated for each pollutant. Average PEQ (PEQ_{avg}) values represent the 95th percentile of monthly average data, and maximum PEQ (PEQ_{max}) values represent the 95th percentile of all data points. The average and maximum PEQ values are presented in Table 5.

The PEQ values are used according to Ohio rules to compare to applicable WQS and allowable WLA values for each pollutant evaluated. Initially, PEQ values are compared to the applicable average and maximum WQS. If both PEQ values are less than 25 percent of the applicable WQS, the pollutant does not have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to exceedances of WQS, and no WLA is done for that parameter. If either PEQ_{avg} or PEQ_{max} is greater than 25 percent of the applicable WQS, a WLA is conducted to determine whether the parameter exhibits reasonable potential and needs to have a limit or if monitoring is required. See Table 10 for a summary of the screening results.

Wasteload Allocation For those parameters that require a WLA, the results are based on the uses assigned to the receiving waterbody in OAC 3745-1. Dischargers are allocated pollutant loadings/concentrations based on the Ohio WQS (OAC 3745-1). Most pollutants are allocated by a mass-balance method because they do not degrade in the receiving water. WLAs using this method are done using the following general equation: Discharger WLA = (downstream flow x WQS) - (upstream flow x background concentration). Discharger WLAs are divided by the discharge flow so that the allocations are expressed as concentrations.

The LeSourdsville WWTP discharges to the Great Miami River within a large interactive segment (approx. RM 87 to 15) with multiple other dischargers. Wasteload allocations for conservative parameters in this interactive segment were calculated through use of the CONSWLA (CONservative Substance WasteLoad Allocation) model. The study area, showing relative positions of significant dischargers and tributaries, is depicted in Figure 2.

The applicable waterbody uses for this facility's discharge and the associated stream design flows are as follows:

Aquatic life (WWH)		
Toxics (metals, organics, etc.)	Average	Annual 7Q10
	Maximum	Annual 1Q10
Ammonia-N	Average	Summer/winter 30Q10
Agricultural Water Supply		Harmonic mean flow
Human Health (nondrinking)		Harmonic mean flow

Allocations are developed using a percentage of stream design flow as specified in Table 9, and allocations cannot exceed the Inside Mixing Zone Maximum criteria.

Ohio's water quality standard implementation rules [OAC 3745-2-05(A)(2)(d)(iv)] required a phase out of mixing zones for bioaccumulative chemicals of concern (BCCs) as of November 15, 2010. This rule applied statewide. Mercury is a BCC. The mixing zone phase-out means that all dischargers requiring mercury limits in their NPDES permit must meet water quality standards at the end-of-pipe, which are 12 ng/l (average) and 1700 ng/l (maximum) in the Ohio River basin.

The data used in the WLA are listed in Table 8 and Table 9. The wasteload allocation results to maintain all applicable criteria are presented in Table 10. The current ammonia limits were evaluated using the wasteload allocation procedures and are protective of water quality standards for ammonia toxicity.

Whole Effluent Toxicity WLA Whole effluent toxicity (WET) is the total toxic effect of an effluent on aquatic life measured directly with a toxicity test. Acute WET measures short term effects of the effluent while chronic WET measures longer term and potentially more subtle effects of the effluent.

WQS for WET are expressed in Ohio's narrative "free from" WQS rule [OAC 3745-1-04(D)]. These "free froms" are translated into toxicity units (TUs) by the associated WQS Implementation Rule (OAC 3745-2-09). WLAs can then be calculated using TUs as if they were water quality criteria.

The WLA calculations for WET are similar to those for aquatic life criteria - using the chronic toxicity unit (TU_c) and 7Q10 flow for the average and the acute toxicity unit (TU_a) and 1Q10 flow for the maximum. These values are the levels of effluent toxicity that should not cause instream toxicity during critical low-flow conditions. For LeSourdsville, the WLA values are 1.0 TU_a and 23.0 TU_c .

The chronic toxicity unit (TU_c) is defined as 100 divided by the estimate of the effluent concentration which causes a 25% reduction in growth or reproduction of test organisms (IC_{25}):

$$TU_c = 100/IC_{25}$$

This equation applies outside the mixing zone for warmwater, modified warmwater, exceptional warmwater, coldwater, and seasonal salmonid use designations except when the following equation is more restrictive (*Ceriodaphnia dubia* only):

$$TU_c = 100/\text{geometric mean of NOEC and LOEC}$$

where NOEC is No Observed Effect Concentration and LOEC is Lowest Observed Effect Concentration.

The acute toxicity unit (TU_a) is defined as 100 divided by the LC_{50} for the most sensitive test species:

$$TU_a = 100/LC_{50}$$

This equation applies outside the mixing zone for warmwater, modified warmwater, exceptional warmwater, coldwater, and seasonal salmonid use designations.

Reasonable Potential/ Effluent Limits/Hazard Management Decisions

After appropriate effluent limits are calculated, the reasonable potential of the discharger to violate the WQS must be determined. Each parameter is examined and placed in a defined "group". Parameters that do not have a WQS or do not require a WLA based on the initial screening are assigned to either group 1 or 2. For the allocated parameters, the preliminary effluent limits (PEL) based on the most restrictive average and maximum WLAs are selected from Table 10. The average PEL (PEL_{avg}) is compared to the average PEQ (PEQ_{avg}) from Table 5, and the PEL_{max} is compared to the PEQ_{max} . Based on the calculated percentage of the allocated value [$(PEQ_{avg} \div PEL_{avg}) \times 100$, or $(PEQ_{max} \div PEL_{max}) \times 100$], the parameters are assigned to group 3, 4, or 5. The groupings are listed in Table 10.

The final effluent limits are determined by evaluating the groupings in conjunction with other applicable rules and regulations. Table 12 presents the final effluent limits and monitoring requirements proposed for LeSourdsville WWTP outfall 1PK00011001 and the basis for their recommendation. The limits and monitoring requirements for outfall 001 are discussed in detail below.

Oil and Grease, pH and E. coli

Limits proposed for oil and grease, pH, and *E. coli* based on WQS (OAC 3745-1-07) and are a continuation of existing permit limits. *E. coli* sampling frequency has been reduced to 4/week due to plant staffing. Class A Primary Contact Recreation standards apply to the Great Miami River.

Total Suspended Solids, Ammonia-nitrogen, CBOD₅ and Dissolved Oxygen

The limits for total suspended solids, ammonia-nitrogen, dissolved oxygen and CBOD₅ (5-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand) that were approved for the treatment plant under the existing permit are proposed to continue. The concentration limits for these parameters are based upon plant design. The loading limits are based upon the plant design flow of 15.0 MGD. Ammonia-nitrogen limits were evaluated and are protective of water quality standards for ammonia toxicity.

Nitrate + Nitrite and Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen, Total Phosphorus

Based on best technical judgment (BTJ), monitoring is proposed to continue for the following nutrient-related parameters: total Kjeldahl nitrogen, nitrate+nitrite-N and total phosphorus. The purpose of the monitoring is to maintain a data set on the point source nutrient load discharged to the receiving water. Eight samples per month monitoring is proposed for total phosphorus, an increase from monthly monitoring in the current permit.

Monitoring for phosphorus and nitrate + nitrite at the upstream and downstream stations is proposed to continue. The purpose of the monitoring is to maintain a nutrient data set for use in future water quality studies.

Dissolved Orthophosphate

New monthly monitoring is proposed for dissolved orthophosphate (as P). This monitoring is required by Ohio Senate Bill 1, which was signed by the Governor on April 2, 2015. Monitoring for orthophosphate is proposed to further develop nutrient datasets for dissolved reactive phosphorus and to assist stream and watershed assessments and studies. Ohio EPA monitoring, as well as other in-stream monitoring, is taken via grab sample, orthophosphate is proposed to be collected by grab sample to maintain consistent data to support watershed and stream surveys. Monitoring will be done by grab sample, which must be filtered within 15 minutes of collection using a 0.45-micron filter. The filtered sample must be analyzed within 48 hours.

Barium and Selenium

The Ohio EPA risk assessment (Table 11) places barium and selenium in group 5, which recommends limits to protect water quality. Using the discretion allowed the Director under OAC 3745-33-07(A)(5), we are proposing monitoring, rather than limits, for these pollutants. The PEQ values calculated for barium and selenium (Table 5) may not be representative of the actual levels in the plant effluent as they were based on small data sets with only a single detection. The purpose of the proposed monitoring is to collect additional data on the frequency of occurrence and variability of these pollutants in the plant's effluent.

Cadmium, Total Chromium, Dissolved Hexavalent Chromium, Copper, Free Cyanide, Lead, Mercury, Nickel, Zinc and Total Filterable Residue

The Ohio EPA risk assessment (Table 11) places cadmium, total chromium, dissolved hexavalent chromium, copper, free cyanide, lead, mercury, nickel, zinc and total filterable residue in groups 2 and 3. This placement as well as the supporting data indicate that these parameters do not have the reasonable potential to contribute to WQS exceedances, and limits are not necessary to protect water quality. Monthly monitoring is proposed to document that these pollutants continue to remain at low levels.

Currently there are two approved methods for free cyanide listed in 40 CFR 136.3 that have quantification levels lower than any water quality-based effluent limits:

- ASTM D7237-10 and OIA-1677-09 - Flow injection followed by gas diffusion amperometry

These methods will allow Ohio EPA make more reliable water quality-related decisions regarding free cyanide. Because the quantification levels are lower than any water quality-based effluent limits, it will also be possible to directly evaluate compliance with free cyanide limits.

New NPDES permits no longer authorize the use of method 4500 CN-I from Standard Methods for free cyanide testing. The new permits require permittees to begin using one of these approved methods as soon as possible. If a permittee must use method 4500 CN-I during the transition to an approved method, they are instructed to report the results on their DMR and enter "Method 4500 CN-I" in the remarks section.

Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate

Current permit monitoring requirements for bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate are being removed because the effluent data show that it no longer has the reasonable potential to contribute to exceedances of water quality standards.

Additional Monitoring

Additional monitoring requirements proposed at the final effluent, influent and upstream/downstream stations are included for all facilities in Ohio and vary according to the type and size of the discharge. In addition to permit compliance, this data is used to assist in the evaluation of effluent quality and treatment plant performance and for designing plant improvements and conducting future stream studies.

No Monitoring Proposed

The following contaminants were included in Groups 2 and 3 under the risk assessment procedure (Table 11), and based on best engineering judgment and OAC 3745-33-07(A), no monitoring is proposed: aldrin, arsenic, di-n-butyl phthalate, iron, molybdenum, strontium, toluene (Group 2); and silver (Group 3).

Whole Effluent Toxicity Reasonable Potential

Based on evaluating the WET data presented in Table 6 and other pertinent data under the provisions of OAC 3745-33-07(B), the LeSourdsville wastewater plant is placed in Category 4 with respect to WET. While this indicates that the plant's effluent does not currently pose a toxicity problem, annual toxicity testing is proposed consistent with the minimum monitoring requirements at OAC 3754-33-07(B)(11). The proposed monitoring will adequately characterize toxicity in the plant's effluent. Because the dilution ratio is greater than 20:1, only acute testing is proposed.

Sludge

Limits and monitoring requirements proposed for the disposal of sewage sludge by the following management practices are based on OAC 3745-40: land application, removal to sanitary landfill or transfer to another facility with an NPDES permit. Monitoring requirements proposed for the disposal of sewage sludge by incineration are based on 40 CFR Part 503, Subpart E.

Other Requirements

Compliance Schedule

A compliance schedule is proposed for the County to submit a technical justification for either revising its local industrial user limits or retaining its existing local limits. If revisions to local limits are required, the County must also submit a pretreatment program modification request.

Sanitary Sewer Overflow Reporting

Provisions for reporting sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) are again proposed in this permit. These provisions include: the reporting of the system-wide number of SSO occurrences on monthly operating reports; telephone

notification of Ohio EPA and the local health department, and 5-day follow up written reports for certain high risk SSOs; and preparation of an annual report that is submitted to Ohio EPA and made available to the public. Many of these provisions were already required under the “Noncompliance Notification”, “Records Retention”, and “Facility Operation and Quality Control” general conditions in Part III of Ohio NPDES permits.

Operator Certification

Operator certification requirements have been included in Part II, Item A of the permit in accordance with rules adopted in December 2006. These rules require the LeSourdsville WWTP to have a Class IV wastewater treatment plant operator in charge of the sewage treatment plant operations discharging through outfall 1PK00011001.

Operator of Record

In December 2006, Ohio Administrative Code rule revisions became effective that affect the requirements for certified operators for sewage collection systems and treatment works regulated under NPDES permits. Part II, Item A of this NPDES permit is included to implement rule 3745-7-02 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC). It requires the permittee to designate one or more operator of record to oversee the technical operation of the LeSourdsville WWTP.

Outfall Signage

Part II of the permit includes requirements for the permittee to place a sign at each outfall to the LeSourdsville WWTP providing information about the discharge. Signage at outfalls is required pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code 3745-33-08(A).

Storm Water Compliance

The LeSourdsville wastewater treatment plant is covered under Ohio EPA’s industrial storm water general permit, permit number 1GR00627*ED. The general permit expires on December 31, 2016.

Water Quality Trading

The permittee is a voluntary participant in the Great Miami River Watershed Water Quality Credit Trading Program that is managed through The Miami Conservancy District (MCD). A special condition is included in Part II, Item X of the permit regarding the permittee’s participation in the MCD trading program and the conditions under which it can utilize water quality credits once nutrient limits are included in this NPDES permit.

Figure 1. Location of LeSourdsville Water Reclamation Facility

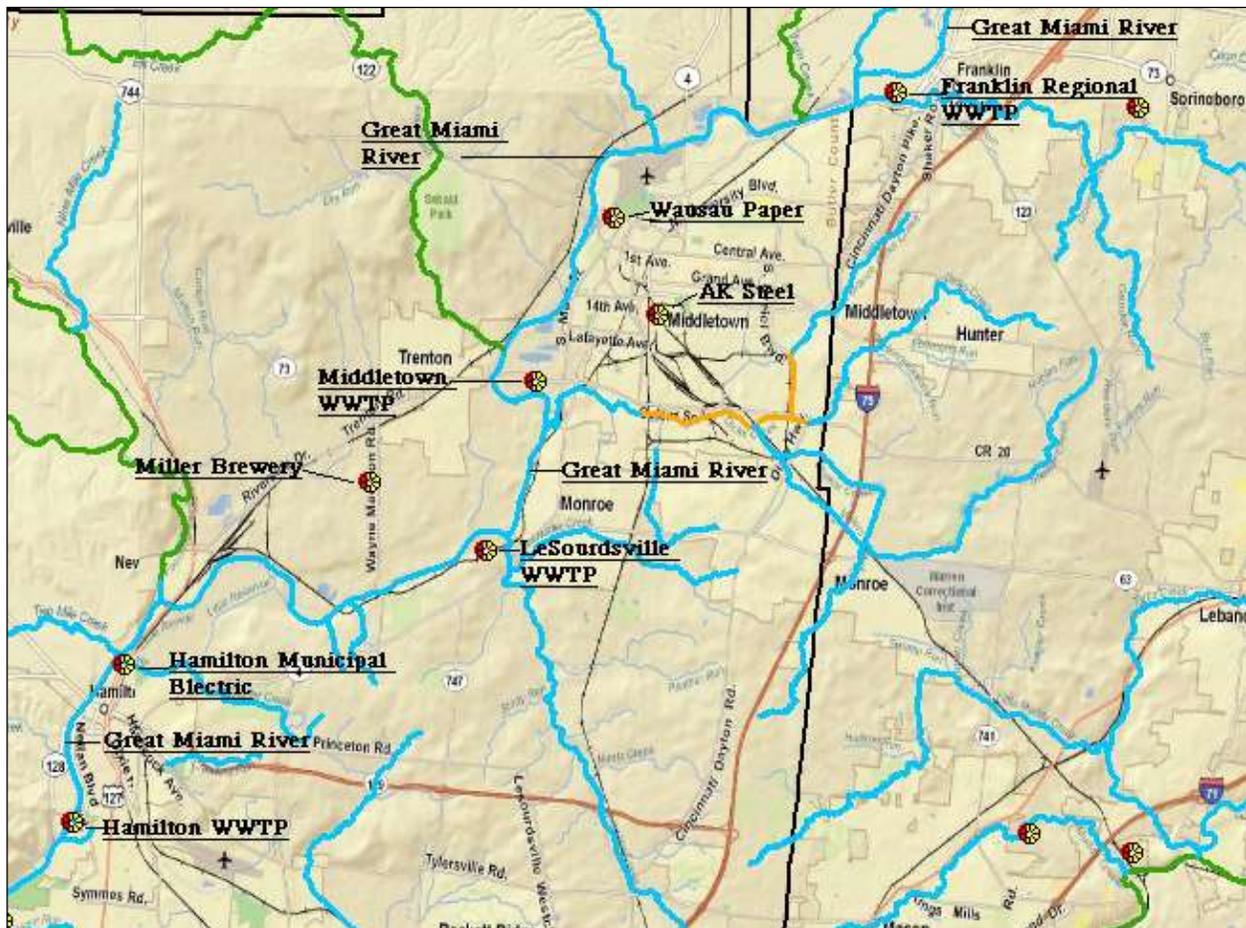


Figure 2. Great Miami River Study Area (not to scale)

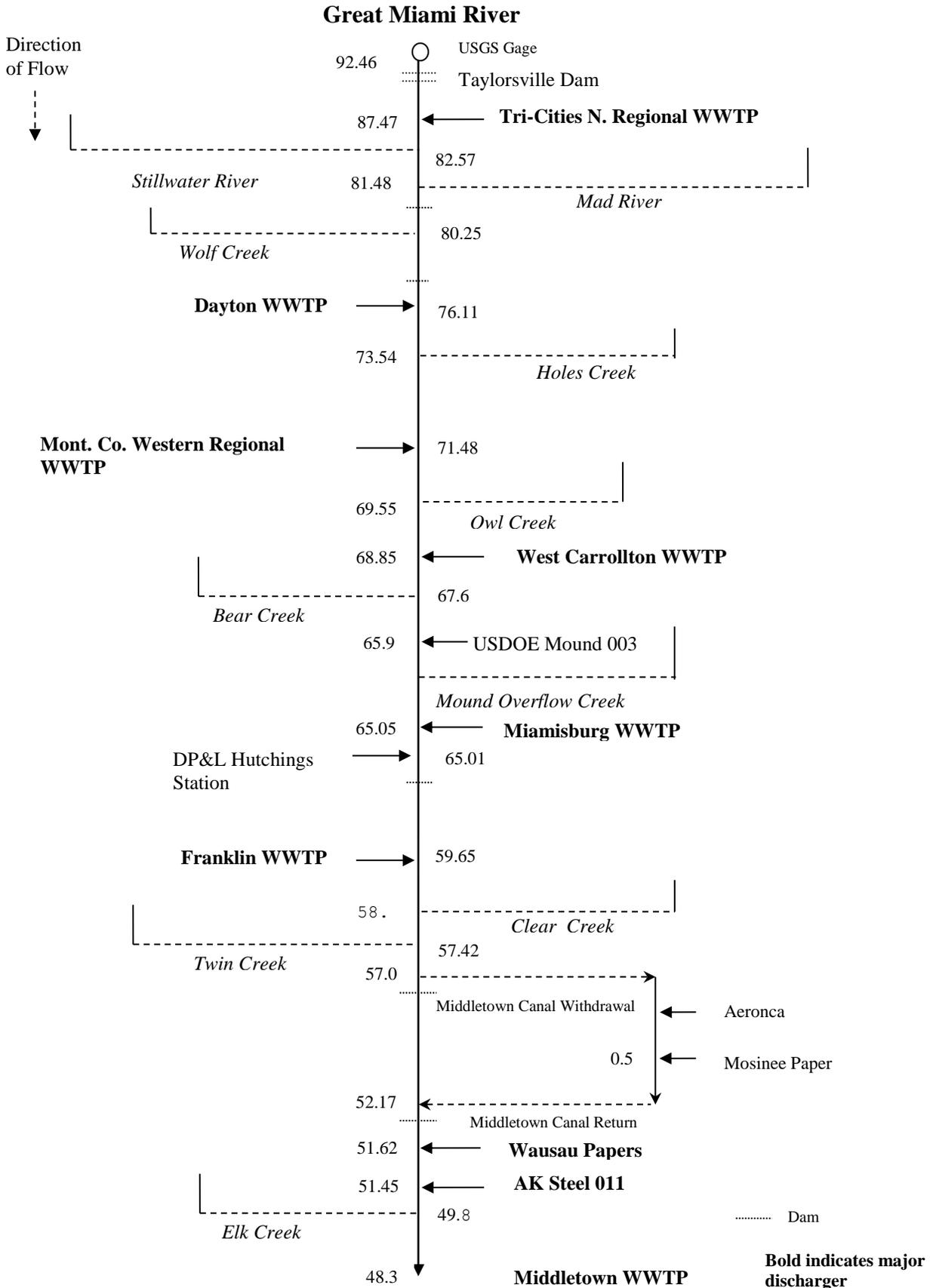


Figure 2. Great Miami River Study Area - Continued.

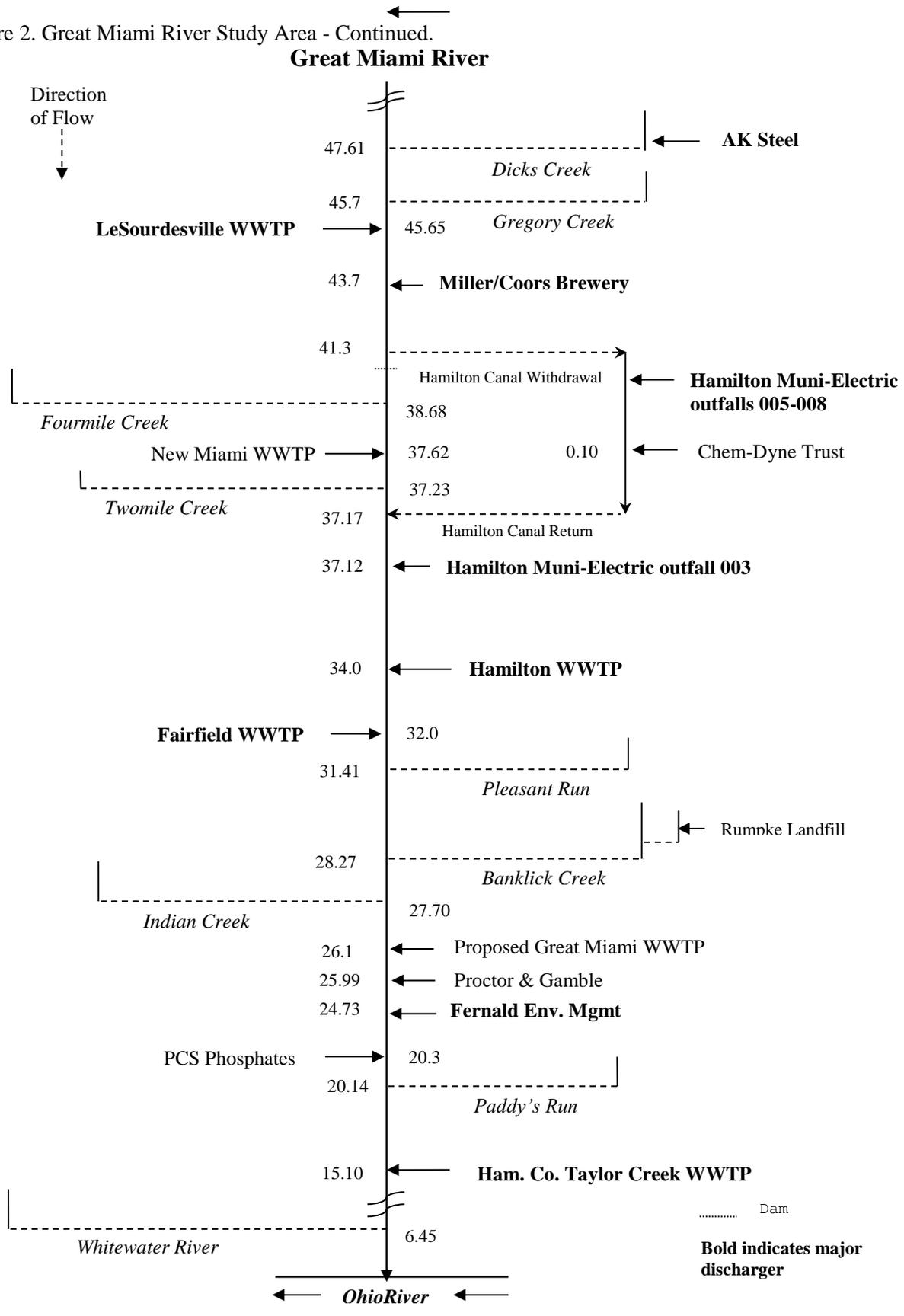


Table 1. Sludge Removed from LeSourdsville WWTP 2009-2014

Year	Dry Tons Removed
2009	1903
2010	1774
2011	1913
2012	1835
2013	1728
2014	2283

Table 2. Effluent Flow Rates for Outfall 1PL00002001 2009-2014 (in MGD)

Year	50 th percentile	95 th percentile	Maximum
2009	7.965	11.319	15.89
2010	7.8	11.79	16.48
2011	9.07	18.777	25.75
2012	6.89	11.358	19.87
2013	7.88	12.287	19.98
2014	8.22	13.428	22.12

Table 3. Effluent Characterization Using Ohio EPA and Pretreatment Data

Summary of analytical results for LeSourdsville outfall 1PK00011001. Units $\mu\text{g/l}$ unless otherwise noted; OEPA = data from analyses by Ohio EPA; PT = data from pretreatment program reports; NA = not analyzed; ND = not detected (detection limit).

Parameter	OEPA	PT	PT	PT	PT	PT
	11/27/2012	9/26/2012	8/17/2011	8/19/2010	7/28/2009	7/17/2008
Arsenic	2.4	ND (5)	ND (5)	ND (5)	ND (5)	1.9
Barium	94	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Bis (2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	149	ND (6)	ND (10)	ND (10)	ND (6)	ND (10)
Cadmium	ND (0.20)	ND (0.5)	ND (0.5)	ND (0.2)	ND (0.2)	0.07
Chromium	ND (2.0)	ND (5)	ND (5)	ND (5)	ND (5)	0.62
Copper	3.6	ND (5)	ND (5)	ND (5)	ND (5)	3.1
Di-n-butyl phthalate	ND (5.6)	ND (10)	ND (10)	ND (10)	ND (10)	2.4
Iron	52	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Nickel	4.1	ND (5)				
Nitrate+nitrite (mg/l)	4.58	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Phosphorus (mg/l)	2.41	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Selenium	ND (2.0)	ND (10)	ND (10)	ND (5)	ND (5)	4.5
Silver	NA	ND (2)	ND (2)	0.52	ND (0.5)	ND (0.5)
Strontium	529	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Toluene	ND (0.5)	ND (5)	ND (5)	ND (5)	ND (5)	0.59
Total Filterable Residue (mg/l)	792	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Zinc	44	47.1	42.2	32.7	38.8	31.5

Table 4. Effluent Characterization Using Self-Monitoring Data

Parameter	Season	Units	Current Permit Limits		# Obs.	Percentiles		Data Range
			30 day	Daily		50 th	95 th	
<u>Outfall 001</u>								
Water Temperature	Annual	°C	--- Monitor ---		2099	18.4	24.1	7.4-26.4
Dissolved Oxygen	Summer	mg/l	6.0 Minimum		1072	8.6	9.44	0-10.2
Dissolved Oxygen	Winter	mg/l	6.0 Minimum		1027	9.6	10.3	1.5-11
Total Suspended Solids	Annual	mg/l	12	18	1417	0	8	0-46
Oil and Grease	Annual	mg/l	--	10	148	0	1.62	0-11.1
Ammonia	Summer	mg/l	1.0	1.5	745	0.38	1.9	0-15.1
Ammonia	Winter	mg/l	3.0	4.5	694	0.295	1.96	0.03-5.31
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	Annual	mg/l	--- Monitor ---		292	1.75	4.41	0-31.8
Nitrite + Nitrate	Annual	mg/l	--- Monitor ---		292	5.43	9.67	0.097-17.2
Phosphorus	Annual	mg/l	--- Monitor ---		311	1.7	2.86	0.3-12.3
Cyanide, Free	Annual	mg/l	--- Monitor ---		107	0	0	0-0.0081
Nickel	Annual	µg/l	--- Monitor ---		83	0	2.05	0-5.81
Zinc	Annual	µg/l	--- Monitor ---		83	35.9	47.2	0-61.6
Cadmium	Annual	µg/l	--- Monitor ---		83	0	0.128	0-6.21
Lead	Annual	µg/l	--- Monitor ---		103	0	0	0-7.33
Chromium	Annual	µg/l	--- Monitor ---		83	0	2.15	0-7.26
Copper	Annual	µg/l	--- Monitor ---		103	0	5.14	0-10.4
Chromium, Dissolved Hexavalent	Annual	µg/l	--- Monitor ---		83	0	0	0-0
<i>E. coli</i>	Annual	#/100 ml	126	284	364	15.8	301	0-2420
Bis(2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate	Annual	µg/l	--- Monitor ---		17	0	0	0-0
Flow Rate	Annual	MGD	--- Monitor ---		2073	7.86	13	4.53-25.8
Mercury	Annual	ng/l	--- Monitor ---		82	1.5	5.44	0-15.6
pH, Maximum	Annual	S.U.	--	9.0	2099	7.7	7.9	7.1-8.3
pH, Minimum	Annual	S.U.	--	6.5	2099	7.5	7.7	6.8-7.9
Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (5 day)	Summer	mg/l	9.2	13.8	743	2	5	0-10
	Winter	mg/l	10	15	691	3	5	0-10

Table 5. Projected Effluent Quality Values

Parameter	Units	# of Samples	# > MDL	Average PEQ	Maximum PEQ
<u>Self-Monitoring (DMR) Data</u>					
Total Filterable Residue ^A	mg/l	21	21	942.2	1014.
Ammonia (Summer)	mg/l	511	499	1.208	2.813
Ammonia (Winter)	mg/l	337	337	0.939	2.216
Nitrate+Nitrite ^A	mg/l	293	293	8.789	12.04
Phosphorus ^A	mg/l	312	312	2.565	3.662
Cyanide, Free	µg/l	105	1	6.57	9.0
Nickel ^A	µg/l	89	40	2.212	3.40
Strontium ^A	µg/l	20	20	534.5	602.9
Zinc ^A	µg/l	89	88	44.90	54.65
Cadmium ^A	µg/l	49	7	0.737	1.01
Lead	µg/l	103	5	4.816	6.60
Chromium ^A	µg/l	89	41	2.144	3.113
Copper ^A	µg/l	109	33	4.383	6.720
Hexavalent Chromium (dissolved)	µg/l	83	0	--	--
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate ^{A, C}	µg/l	22	0	--	--
Aldrin ^C	µg/l	6	0	--	--
Mercury	ng/l	82	75	3.746	5.787
<u>Combined Other Data^B</u>					
Arsenic	µg/l	6	2	3.679	5.04
Barium	µg/l	1	1	425.4	582.8
Iron	µg/l	1	1	235.4	322.4
Selenium	µg/l	6	1	9.49	13.0
Silver	µg/l	5	1	1.139	1.56
Di-n-butyl phthalate	µg/l	6	1	10.86	14.88
Toluene	µg/l	6	1	1.637	2.242

^A DMR data combined with Ohio EPA data.

^B Combined other data sources include Pretreatment Program data and Ohio EPA data.

^C Carcinogen

DMR = discharge monitoring report

MDL = analytical method detection limit

Ohio EPA = Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

PEQ = projected effluent quality

Table 6. Summary of Acute Toxicity Test Results

Date	Acute Toxicity (TU ^a)	
	<i>Ceriodaphnia dubia</i>	<i>Pimephales promelas</i>
06/30/10(E)	AA ^b	AA
06/21/11(E)	AA	AA
06/28/12(E)	AA	AA
06/25/13(E)	AA	0.3
06/19/14(E)	AA	AA
11/27, 28/12(O)*	AA	AA

O = EPA test;

E = entity test

^a TU_a = acute toxicity units

^b AA = below detection limit (0.2 TU_a)

* = Ohio EPA screening test

Table 7. A Summary of the Great Miami River Mainstem Use Designation Status and Causes/Sources of Impairment, 2009-10 Surveys

Location	RM	Use Desig.	Attain. Status	Causes of Impairment	Sources of Impairment
Upst. Tri-Cities N. WWTP	87.7	EWH	FULL		
Dst. Tri-Cities N. WWTP	85.8	EWH	PARTIAL	Ammonia (modest toxicity)	Major WWTP (Tri-Cities N. WWTP)
Upst. Mad River to Dst. Bear Creek	82.1 to 66.9	WWH	FULL		
Dst. DP&L Hutchings discharge	64.1	WWH	PARTIAL	Temperature	Industrial Thermal Discharges (DP&L)
Further Dst. DP&L to Dst. Franklin WWTP	62.6 to 58.2	WWH	FULL		
Middletown area	52.6	WWH	PARTIAL	Nutrients	Livestock (grazing or feeding operations), Crop production (crop land or dry land), Municipal point sources
Dst. Wausau Papers to Just Upst. Hamilton WWTP	51.6 to 34.2	WWH	FULL		
Dst. Hamilton WWTP	33.6	WWH	PARTIAL	Temperature	Industrial thermal discharges (Hamilton Muni-Electric Plant)
Upst. Fairfield WWTP to Upst. Banklick Creek	32.7 to 28.7	WWH	PARTIAL	Nutrients, Biochemical Oxygen Demand	Livestock (grazing or feeding operations), Crop production (crop land or dry land), Municipal point sources
Dst. Indian Creek to Upst. Taylor Creek WWTP	26.1 to 15.5	WWH	FULL		
Dst. Taylor Creek WWTP	14.8	WWH	PARTIAL	Nutrients, Biochemical Oxygen Demand	Livestock (grazing or feeding operations), Crop production (crop land or dry land), Municipal point sources
Upst. Whitewater River	8.2	WWH	FULL		

DP&L = Dayton Power and Light

Dst = downstream

EWH = exceptional warmwater habitat

RM = river mile

Tri-Cities N. WWTP = Tri-Cities North Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant

WWH = warmwater habitat

WWTP = wastewater treatment plant

Upst = upstream

Table 8. Water Quality Criteria in the Great Miami River Study Area

Parameter	Outside Mixing Zone Criteria					Inside Mixing Zone Maximum
	Units	Average			Maximum	
		Human Health	Agri-culture	Aquatic Life	Aquatic Life	
1,1-Dichloroethylene ^C	µg/l	32	--	210	1900	3800
1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	µg/l	--	--	15	140	280
1,2-Dichloroethane ^C	µg/l	990	--	2000	9600	19000
2,4-Dimethylphenol	µg/l	2300	--	15	140	280
3,4-Benzofluoranthene ^D	µg/l	0.49	--	--	--	--
Antimony	µg/l	4300	--	190	900	1800
Arsenic	µg/l	--	100	150	340	680
Barium	µg/l	--	--	220	2000	4000
Benzene ^C	µg/l	710	--	160	700	1400
Benzo(a)pyrene ^C	µg/l	0.49	--	--	--	--
Beryllium ^A	µg/l	280	100	65	560	1100
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate ^C	µg/l	59	--	8.4	1100	2100
Boron	µg/l	--	--	3900	33000	65000
Bromodichloromethane ^C	µg/l	460	--	--	--	--
Cadmium ^A	µg/l	--	50	5.9	16	32
Chlorine, Total Residual	µg/l	--	--	11	19	38
Chlorobenzene	µg/l	21000	--	47	420	850
Chloroform ^C	µg/l	4700	--	140	1300	2600
Chromium ^A	µg/l	--	100	210	4500	8900
Copper ^A	µg/l	1300	500	24	40	80
Cyanide, free	µg/l	220000	--	12	46	92
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene ^C	µg/l	0.49	--	--	--	--
Dibromochloromethane ^C	µg/l	340	--	--	--	--
Ethylbenzene	µg/l	29000	--	61	550	1100
Fluoride	µg/l	--	2000	--	--	--
Heptachlor Epoxide ^C	µg/l	0.0011	--	--	--	--
Hexachlorobenzene ^{B,C}	µg/l	0.0077	--	--	--	--
Hexavalent Chromium (dissolved)	µg/l	--	--	11	16	31
Ideno(1,2,3-c,d)pyrene ^C	µg/l	0.49	--	--	--	--
Iron	µg/l	--	5000	--	--	--
Lead ^A	µg/l	--	100	26	500	1000
Mercury ^B	ng/l	12	10000	910	1700	3400
Molybdenum	µg/l	--	--	20000	190000	370000
Naphthalene	µg/l	--	--	21	170	340
Nickel ^A	µg/l	4600	200	130	1200	2400
Nitrate+Nitrite	mg/l	--	100	--	--	--

Table 8. Water Quality Criteria in the Great Miami River Study Area

Parameter	Outside Mixing Zone Criteria					Inside Mixing Zone Maximum
	Units	Average			Maximum Aquatic Life	
		Human Health	Agri-culture	Aquatic Life		
Phenol	µg/l	4600000	--	400	4700	9400
Selenium	µg/l	11000	50	5	--	--
Silver ^A	µg/l	--	--	1.3	11	22
Strontium	µg/l	--	--	21000	40000	81000
Tetrachloroethylene ^C	µg/l	89	--	53	430	850
Thallium	µg/l	6.3	--	17	79	160
Toluene	µg/l	200000	--	62	560	1100
Total Filterable Residue	mg/l	--	--	1500	--	--
Xylenes	µg/l	--	--	27	240	480
Zinc ^A	µg/l	69000	25000	310	310	610

A Aquatic Life Criteria is hardness-based.

B Bioaccumulative Chemical of Concern

C Carcinogen

D Use Criteria for Benzo(b)fluoranthene

Table 9. Instream Conditions and Discharger Flow

Parameter	Units		Value	Basis
<i>Upstream Flows</i>				
<i>GMR at Taylorsville</i>				
7Q10	cfs	annual	58.4	USGS gage #03263000, 1970-2012 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	42	USGS gage #03263000, 1970-2012 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	73	USGS gage #03263000, 1970-2012 data
		winter	180.3	USGS gage #03263000, 1970-2012 data
Harmonic Mean Flow	cfs	annual	299.9	USGS gage #03263000, 1970-2012 data
Mixing Assumption	%	average	100	Stream-to-discharge ratio
(GMR & Tribs.)	%	maximum	100	Stream-to-discharge ratio
<i>Stillwater River at Mouth</i>				
7Q10	cfs	annual	24.2	USGS gage #03266000, 1970-2012 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	20.4	USGS gage #03266000, 1970-2012 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	29.8	USGS gage #03266000, 1970-2012 data
		winter	79.4	USGS gage #03266000, 1970-2012 data
Harmonic Mean Flow	cfs	annual	143.3	USGS gage #03266000, 1970-2012 data
<i>Mad River at Mouth</i>				
7Q10	cfs	annual	177.8	USGS gage #03270000, 1970-2012 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	166.9	USGS gage #03270000, 1970-2012 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	210	USGS gage #03270000, 1970-2012 data
		winter	264.7	USGS gage #03270000, 1970-2012 data
Harmonic Mean Flow	cfs	annual	482.7	USGS gage #03270000, 1970-2012 data
<i>Wolf Creek at Mouth</i>				
7Q10	cfs	annual	5.13	USGS gage #03271000, 1986-2012 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	4.18	USGS gage #03271000, 1986-2012 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	5.77	USGS gage #03271000, 1986-2012 data
		winter	14.1	USGS gage #03271000, 1986-2012 data
Harmonic Mean Flow	cfs	annual	23.3	USGS gage #03271000, 1986-2012 data
<i>Twin Creek at Mouth</i>				
7Q10	cfs	annual	5.04	USGS gage #03272000, 1970-2012 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	4.5	USGS gage #03272000, 1970-2012 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	7.26	USGS gage #03272000, 1970-2012 data
		winter	32.4	USGS gage #03272000, 1970-2012 data
Harmonic Mean Flow	cfs	annual	44.9	USGS gage #03272000, 1970-2012 data
<i>Four Mile Creek at Mouth</i>				
7Q10	cfs	annual	6.67	USGS gage #03272700, 1970-2012 data

Table 9. Instream Conditions and Discharger Flow

Parameter	Units		Value	Basis
1Q10	cfs	annual	5.84	USGS gage #03272700, 1970-2012 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	8.9	USGS gage #03272700, 1970-2012 data
		winter	24.6	USGS gage #03272700, 1970-2012 data
Harmonic Mean Flow	cfs	annual	50.2	USGS gage #03272700, 1970-2012 data
<i>Holes Creek at Mouth</i>				
7Q10	cfs	annual	1.16	USGS gage #03271300, 2002-2012 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	1.13	USGS gage #03271300, 2002-2012 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	3.54	USGS gage #03271300, 2002-2012 data
		winter	11.9	USGS gage #03271300, 2002-2012 data
Harmonic Mean Flow	cfs	annual	9.07	USGS gage #03272000, 2002-2012 data
<i>Indian Creek at Mouth</i>				
7Q10	cfs	annual	0.2	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	0.2	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	0.3	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
		winter	0.8	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
Harmonic Mean Flow	cfs	annual	1.17	USGS gage #03272800, 1960-72 data
<i>Clear Creek at Mouth</i>				
7Q10	cfs	annual	0.4	USGS gage #03271700, 1959-69 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	0.4	USGS gage #03271700, 1959-69 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	0.6	USGS gage #03271700, 1959-69 data
		winter	2.5	USGS gage #03271700, 1959-69 data
Harmonic Mean Flow	cfs	annual	3	USGS gage #03272000, 1970-2012 data
<i>Elk Creek at Mouth</i>				
7Q10	cfs	annual	0.4	USGS gage #03272200, 1960-67 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	0.4	USGS gage #03272200, 1960-67 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	0.6	USGS gage #03272200, 1960-67 data
		winter	2.1	USGS gage #03272200, 1960-67 data
Harmonic Mean Flow	cfs	annual	3	USGS gage #03272000, 1970-2012 data
<i>Bear Creek at Mouth</i>				
7Q10	cfs	annual	0.85	USGS gage #03272000, 1970-2012 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	0.76	USGS gage #03272000, 1970-2012 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	1.23	USGS gage #03272000, 1970-2012 data
		winter	5.48	USGS gage #03272000, 1970-2012 data
Harmonic Mean Flow	cfs	annual	7.59	USGS gage #03272000, 1970-2012 data
<i>Gregory Creek at Mouth</i>				

Table 9. Instream Conditions and Discharger Flow

Parameter	Units		Value	Basis
7Q10	cfs	annual	0.26	USGS gage #03272200, 1960-67 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	0.26	USGS gage #03272200, 1960-67 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	0.39	USGS gage #03272200, 1960-67 data
		winter	1.35	USGS gage #03272200, 1960-67 data
Harmonic Mean Flow	cfs	annual	1.93	USGS gage #03272000, 1970-2012 data
<i>Pleasant Run at Mouth</i>				
7Q10	cfs	annual	0.04	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	0.04	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	0.06	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
		winter	0.16	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
Harmonic Mean Flow	cfs	annual	0.23	USGS gage #03272800, 1960-72 data
<i>Banklick Creek at Mouth</i>				
7Q10	cfs	annual	0.01	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	0.01	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	0.02	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
		winter	0.05	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
Harmonic Mean Flow	cfs	annual	0.07	USGS gage #03272800, 1960-72 data
<i>Twomile Creek at Mouth</i>				
7Q10	cfs	annual	0.02	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	0.02	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	0.02	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
		winter	0.06	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
Harmonic Mean Flow	cfs	annual	0.1	USGS gage #03272800, 1960-72 data
<i>Paddy's Run at Mouth</i>				
7Q10	cfs	annual	0.03	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
1Q10	cfs	annual	0.03	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
30Q10	cfs	summer	0.05	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
		winter	0.13	USGS gage #03274200, 1961-69 data
Harmonic Mean Flow	cfs	annual	0.19	USGS gage #03272800, 1960-72 data
<u>LeSourdsville WWTP</u>				
<i>Outfall 001 flow rate</i>	cfs (MGD)	avg.	23.21 (15.0)	NPDES permit application
<u>Background Water Quality for the Great Miami River</u>				
Antimony	µg/L	annual	0	No representative data available.
Arsenic	µg/L	annual	1	STORET; 18 values, 10 <MDL, 2009-10

Table 9. Instream Conditions and Discharger Flow

Parameter	Units		Value	Basis
Barium	µg/L	annual	92	STORET; 18 values, 0 <MDL, 2009-10
Benzene	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 3 values, 3 <MDL, 2009
Benzo(a)pyrene	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 3 values, 3 <MDL, 2009
3,4-Benzofluoranthene	µg/L	annual	0	No representative data available.
Beryllium	µg/L	annual	0	No representative data available.
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	µg/L	annual	0.66	STORET; 5 values, 3 <MDL, 2009
Boron	µg/L	annual	0	No representative data available.
Cadmium	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 18 values, 18 <MDL, 2009-10
Chlorine, Total Residual	µg/L	annual	0	No representative data available.
Chlorobenzene	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 3 values, 3 <MDL, 2009
Chloroform	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 3 values, 3 <MDL, 2009
Hexavalent Chromium (dissolved)	µg/L	annual	0	No representative data available.
Chromium	µg/L	annual	1	STORET; 18 values, 17 <MDL, 2009-10
Copper	µg/L	annual	2.1	STORET; 18 values, 5 <MDL, 2009-10
Cyanide, Free	µg/L	annual	0	No representative data available.
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 3 values, 3 <MDL, 2009
1,2-Dichloroethane	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 3 values, 3 <MDL, 2009
1,1-Dichloroethylene	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 3 values, 3 <MDL, 2009
2,4-Dimethylphenol	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 3 values, 3 <MDL, 2009
Ethylbenzene	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 3 values, 3 <MDL, 2009
Fluoride	µg/L	annual	0	No representative data available.
Heptachlor epoxide	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 3 values, 3 <MDL, 2009
Hexachlorobenzene	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 3 values, 3 <MDL, 2009
Indeno(1,2,3-c,d)pyrene	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 3 values, 3 <MDL, 2009
Iron	µg/L	annual	468	STORET; 18 values, 0 <MDL, 2009-10
Lead	µg/L	annual	1	STORET; 18 values, 17 <MDL, 2009-10
Mercury	ng/L	annual	0	No representative data available.
Molybdenum	µg/L	annual	0	No representative data available.
Napthalene	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 6 values, 6 <MDL, 2009
Nickel	µg/L	annual	2.95	STORET; 18 values, 0 <MDL, 2009-10
Nitrate+Nitrite	mg/L	annual	1.26	STORET; 26 values, 2 <MDL, 2009-10
Phenols	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 3 values, 3 <MDL, 2009
Selenium	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 18 values, 18 <MDL, 2009-10
Silver	µg/L	annual	0	No representative data available.
Total Filterable Residue (dissolved solids)	mg/L	annual	412	STORET; 26 values, 0 <MDL, 2009-10
Tetrachloroethylene	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 3 values, 3 <MDL, 2009
Thallium	µg/L	annual	0	No representative data available.
Toluene	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 3 values, 3 <MDL, 2009

Table 9. Instream Conditions and Discharger Flow

Parameter	Units		Value	Basis
1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 3 values, 3 <MDL, 2009
Xylenes	µg/L	annual	0	STORET; 3 values, 3 <MDL, 2009
Zinc	µg/L	annual	5	STORET; 18 values, 13<MDL, 2009-10

DMR = Discharge Monitoring Report

GMR = Great Miami River

MDL = method detection limit

NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

STORET = United States Environmental Protection Agency Storage and Retrieval Data Warehouse

USGS = United States Geological Survey

WWTP = wastewater treatment plant

Table 10. Summary of Effluent Limits to Maintain Applicable Water Quality Criteria

Parameter	Units	Outside Mixing Zone Criteria				Inside Mixing Zone Maximum
		Average			Maximum Aquatic Life	
		Human Health	Agri-culture	Aquatic Life		
Arsenic ^B	µg/l	--	399	276	596	680
Barium	µg/l	--	--	330	3614	4000
Cadmium ^B	µg/l	--	198. ^A	11	28	32
Chromium ^B	µg/l	--	397	387	7907	8900
Hexavalent Chromium (dissolved) ^B	µg/l	--	--	23	32. ^A	31
Copper ^B	µg/l	3941. ^A	1514. ^A	37	60	80
Cyanide, Free	µg/l	2640000 ^A	--	52	218. ^A	92
Lead ^B	µg/l	--	377	45	829	1000
Mercury ^C	ng/l	12	10000. ^A	910	1700	3400
Molybdenum ^B	µg/l	--	--	42720	385300. ^A	370000
Nickel ^B	µg/l	18190. ^A	781	236	2092	2400
Selenium	µg/l	42130	191	9.5	--	--
Silver	µg/l	--	--	2.3	18	22
Total Filterable Residue	mg/l	--	--	2360	--	--
Zinc ^B	µg/l	25750. ^A	93340. ^A	533	507	610

A = Allocation must not exceed the Inside Mixing Zone Maximum.

B = This parameter would not require a wasteload allocation based on reasonable potential procedures, but allocation requested for use in pretreatment program.

C = Bioaccumulative Chemical of Concern; no mixing zone allowed after 11/15/2010, water quality standards must be met at end-of-pipe, unless requirements for an exception are met as listed in Ohio Administrative Code 3745-2-08(L).

Table 11. Parameter Assessment

Group 1: Due to a lack of numeric criteria, the following parameters were not evaluated at this time.

No Parameters

Group 2: PEQ < 25% of WQS or all data below minimum detection limit; WLA not required. No limit recommended, monitoring optional.

Aldrin	Arsenic	Zinc
Cadmium	Hexavalent Chromium (dissolved) Chromium	
Copper	Di-n-butyl phthalate	Iron
Lead	Molybdenum	Nickel
Nitrate+Nitrite	Strontium	Toluene
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate		

Group 3: PEQ_{max} < 50% of maximum PEL and PEQ_{avg} < 50% of average PEL. No limit recommended, monitoring optional.

Ammonia	Cyanide, free	Mercury
Silver	Total Filterable Residue	

Group 4: PEQ_{max} ≥ 50% but <100% of the maximum PEL or PEQ_{avg} ≥ 50% but < 100% of the average PEL. Monitoring is appropriate.

No parameters meet the criteria of this group.

Group 5: Maximum PEQ ≥ 100% of the maximum PEL or average PEQ ≥ 100% of the average PEL, or either the average or maximum PEQ is between 75 and 100% of the PEL and certain conditions that increase the risk to the environment are present. Limit recommended.

Limits to Protect Numeric Water Quality Criteria

Parameter	Units	Applicable Period	Recommended Effluent Limits	
			Average	Maximum
Barium	µg/l	annual	330.	3614.
Selenium	µg/l	annual	9.5	--

PEL = preliminary effluent limitation
 PEQ = projected effluent quality
 WLA = wasteload allocation
 WQS = water quality standard

Table 12. Final Effluent Limits and Monitoring Requirements

Parameter	Units	Concentration		Loading (kg/day) ^a		Basis ^b
		30 Day	Daily	30 Day	Daily	
		Average	Maximum	Average	Maximum	
Flow	MGD	----- Monitor -----				M/EP
Temperature	°C	----- Monitor -----				M/EP
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	----- Not less than 6.0 -----				PD/EP
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	12	18 ^c	682	1023 ^c	PD/EP
Total Filterable Residue (Dissolved Solids)	mg/L	----- Monitor -----				M
Ammonia						
Summer	mg/L	1.0	1.5 ^c	56.8	85.2 ^c	PD/EP
Winter	mg/L	3.0	4.5 ^c	171	256 ^c	PD/EP
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	mg/L	----- Monitor -----				M/EP
Nitrite + Nitrate	mg/L	----- Monitor -----				M/EP
Phosphorus	mg/L	----- Monitor -----				M/EP/SB1
Orthophosphate, Dissolved	mg/L	----- Monitor -----				SB1
Oil and Grease	mg/L	----- Not greater than 10 -----				WQS/EP
pH	S.U.	6.5 - 9.0				WQS/EP
<i>E. coli</i>	#/100mL					
Summer		126	284 ^c	--	--	WQS/EP
Barium	µg/L	----- Monitor -----				RP
Cadmium	µg/L	----- Monitor -----				M/EP
Chromium, Total	µg/L	----- Monitor -----				M/EP
Hexavalent Chromium (dissolved)	µg/L	----- Monitor -----				M/EP
Copper	mg/L	----- Monitor -----				M/EP
Cyanide, Free	µg/L	----- Monitor -----				M/EP
Lead	µg/L	----- Monitor -----				M/EP
Mercury	ng/L	----- Monitor -----				M/EP
Nickel	µg/L	----- Monitor -----				M/EP
Selenium	mg/L	----- Monitor -----				RP
Zinc	µg/L	----- Monitor -----				M/EP
Whole Effluent Toxicity						
Acute, <i>Ceriodaphnia dubia</i>	TU _a	----- Monitor -----				WET
Acute, <i>Pimephales promelas</i>	TU _a	----- Monitor -----				WET
Carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (5-day)						
Summer	mg/L	9.2	13.8 ^c	522	783 ^c	PD/EP
Winter	mg/L	10	15 ^c	568	852 ^c	PD/EP

^a Effluent loadings based on average design discharge flow of 15.0 MGD.

^b Definitions: EP = Existing Permit
M = Division of Surface Water NPDES Permit Guidance 1: Monitoring frequency

requirements for Sanitary Discharges

RP = Reasonable Potential for requiring water quality-based effluent limits and monitoring requirements in NPDES permits [3745-33-07(A)]

PD = Plant Design

SB1 = Implementation of Senate Bill 1 [ORC 61111.03]

WET = Whole Effluent Toxicity [OAC 3745-33-07(B)]

WQS = Ohio Water Quality Standards (OAC 3745-1)

^c Weekly average limit

Addendum 1

Lower Great Miami River

Total phosphorus effluent limits for major wastewater treatment plants

Factsheet Addendum

The lower Great Miami River (GMR) was assessed for its aquatic life beneficial use in 2010 as reported in Ohio EPA's 2012 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report. This study area starts at the confluence with the Mad River at river mile (RM) 81.48 and ends at the Ohio River (RM 0). Two GMR large river assessment units (05080002 90 01 and 05080002 90 02) are included in this assessment. Assessment sites within both assessment units were found to be impaired due to nutrient enrichment (RMs 52.64, 32.7, 31.4, 28.7, and 14.8). These assessment sites indicate that 14.4 river miles are directly impaired, however data show that excessive nutrient enrichment occurs throughout most of the lower GMR. The over-enriched condition begins downstream of the Dayton wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) (RM 76.11) and continues downstream to just upstream of the confluence with the Whitewater River (RM 6.45). In addition to the biological data collected in 2010, chemical and algal data were collected from 2010 through 2012 to fully document this condition: hence, this factsheet addendum outlines the scope of nutrient enrichment in light of all available data. It also documents why Ohio EPA is seeking modest point source effluent phosphorus reductions to address the enrichment. Why point to nonpoint source trading is not an acceptable means of addressing the enrichment is also explained below.

Linkage of nutrients to aquatic life use impairment

Nutrients rarely approach concentrations in the ambient environment that are toxic to aquatic life and, in small amounts, are essential to the functioning of healthy aquatic ecosystems. However, excess nutrients can manifest as multiple problems that affect the beneficial use of a stream, including causes of impairment presented in the section 303(d) list such as:

- Nutrient enrichment (biological indicators)
- Nutrient eutrophication
- Excess primary production
- Dissolved oxygen

These causes are identified by various water quality and biological indicators within the system; however, they are intrinsically linked to the root cause of excess nutrients. In general, the linkage between the causes of impairment due to nutrients can be described as follows: nutrients in excess of the needs of a balanced ecosystem increase algal and aquatic plant life production (Sharpley et al. 1994) and stimulate microbial decomposition of organic matter (Rosemond et al. 2015). This excess primary production and respiration causes negative effects, including large diel fluctuations of dissolved oxygen (DO). Large diel fluctuations of DO are caused by excessive photosynthesis (O₂ production) during daylight hours and ongoing respiration (O₂ consumption) during dark periods. These DO swings stress fish and macroinvertebrates and often result in DO concentrations that fall below DO water quality criterion.

It is important to note that large diel fluctuations in dissolved oxygen that do not cause DO criterion exceedances are stressful to biological life. Comprehensive water quality studies in the Midwest have shown that high diel fluctuations strongly correlate to declines in biological community performance (Miltner 2010; Heiskary and Markus 2003). Additionally, it is possible to see eutrophic conditions in systems where dead organic matter accumulates and decomposes resulting in a seasonal hypoxic (or anoxic) condition (Dodds 2006).

This process of eutrophication, as explained above, shifts species composition away from functional assemblages consisting of intolerant species, benthic insectivores and top carnivores typical of high quality streams. These taxa are replaced by less functionally and biologically diverse assemblages of tolerant species, niche generalists, omnivores and detritivores typical of degraded streams (Ohio EPA 1999). Such a shift in community structure lowers the diversity of the system, thus lowering the Index of Biological Integrity and Invertebrate Community Index scores. This precludes a stream from achieving its desired state of a beneficial aquatic life use.

Seasonality is an important consideration when examining eutrophication. Warm waters are required to produce enough phytoplanktonic organisms that cause shifts in DO as explained above. Light availability is also important. When streams are turbid due to storm events light penetration is not adequate to allow enough production of algae to cause eutrophic conditions. Many studies have documented streams experience eutrophication in late spring and early summer before leaf canopy shades a stream. However, later, when the canopy completely shades waters, algal production cannot proliferate enough to be deleterious to the stream (Dodds 2006). The lower GMR is too wide to be sufficiently shaded to limit photosynthetic primary production. As a result, summertime, low streamflow periods are when eutrophication negatively impacts aquatic life in the lower GMR.

Total phosphorus

Phosphorus is selected as the nutrient of concern to reduce eutrophic impacts because nitrogen is typically present in *ad libitum* concentrations in large rivers in Ohio. Miltner (2010) found that only 12 of 109 Ohio streams analyzed are not limited by phosphorus based on molar ratios. Data from the GMR indicates that it is a phosphorus limited system. Miltner also suggests that the functional difficulty in limiting nitrogen makes forcing phosphorus limitation a desirable option even in streams that are nitrogen limited. In effect, limiting the loading of phosphorus to streams reduces the impacts described above that are caused by excessive algal growth, thus addressing a stream's nutrient enrichment. Statewide total phosphorus (TP) targets for various size drainage area streams have been developed by Ohio EPA (1999) in order to address excess nutrients impacting aquatic life.

The mainstem GMR downstream of the Dayton WWTP exhibits excessive nutrient concentrations and shows signs of over enrichment. The blue dots on Figure 1 shows 7,221 TP concentration sample results monitored at the GMR in Miamisburg (RM 66.65) by Heidelberg University's National Center for Water Quality Research from 1996 to 2012. These data are presented as a concentration duration curve. This means that they are sorted based on streamflow; with high flows on the left and low flows on the right. The thick red line on this plot shows a locally weighted scatterplot smoothing or LOESS (also known as LOWESS) of the concentration data. LOESS is a method used for regressing non-parametric data and is recommended by USGS for data of this sort (Helsel and Hirsch 2002). A LOESS line is included to best understand the concentration trend through flow regimens. The black horizontal line at 0.3 mg/l concentration is the Ohio EPA TMDL TP target for large rivers (from Ohio EPA 1999). The bold, black vertical lines are present to divide up flow regimens and are only present as a reference.

Note on Figure 1 that the TP concentrations are elevated in the high flows on the left side of the plot. This is observed typically throughout Ohio's large rivers (Baker et al. 2006). This indicates the predominantly agricultural land use drained upper GMR exports a great deal of phosphorus-laden sediment during times of high flow. The middle of the plot shows TP concentrations in general below the 0.3 mg/l target. However, unlike most large rivers in Ohio, the TP concentration in the lower GMR again exceeds the target as flows recede (moving to the right) from the median flow. This is explained by the discharge from the multiple large publicly owned WWTPs with little or no TP controls, and is a strong indication of an effluent dominated system.

Through the Ambient Surface Water Monitoring Program, Ohio EPA regularly monitors the nutrient concentration of the lower GMR at a site very close to the one monitored by Heidelberg University and discussed here. While not

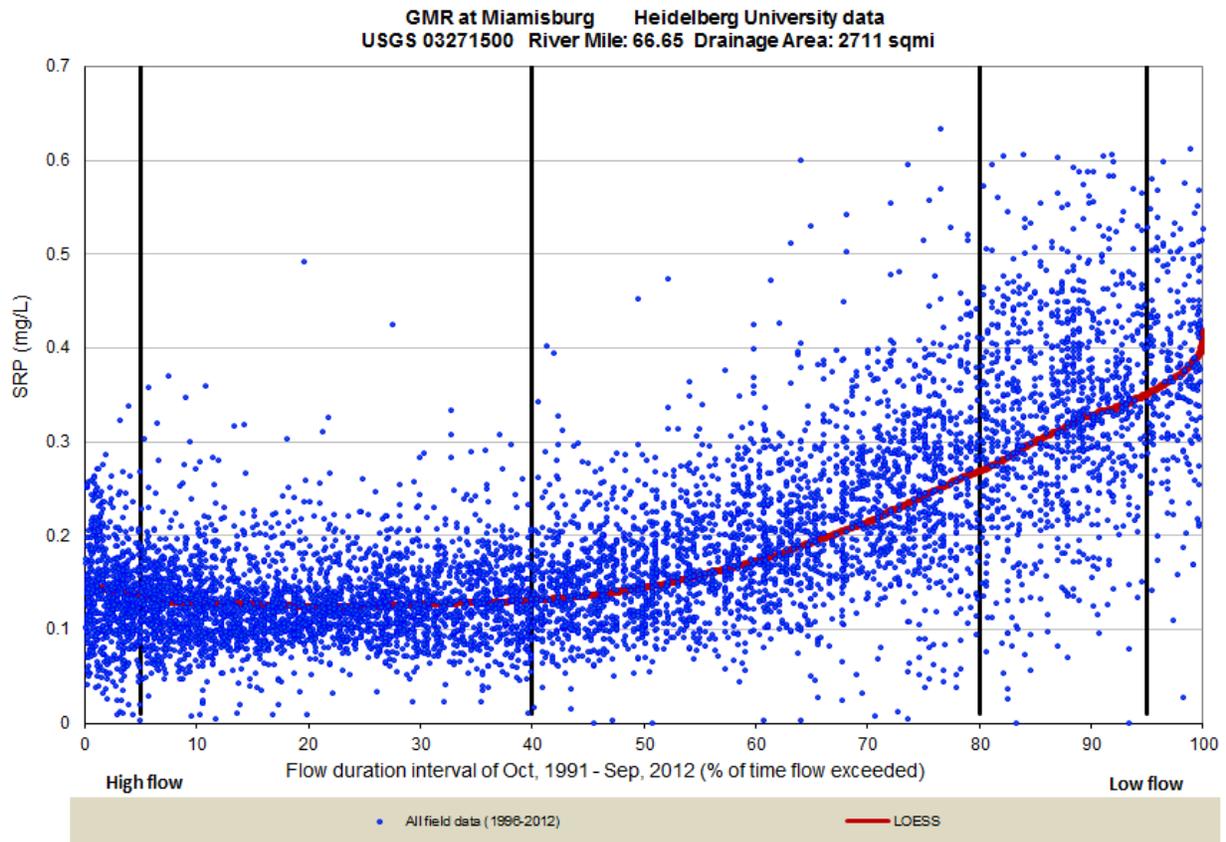


Figure 2 Concentration duration curve of soluble reactive phosphorus concentrations at the Great Miami River at Miamisburg plotted along the flow duration interval, data from the Heidelberg University National Center for Water Quality Research.

Figure 3 is a schematic of the lower GMR's point sources and tributaries; low head dams are also indicated on this schematic. Major WWTPs are denoted by bold face text in this figure. The GMR is unique in Ohio regarding the large amount of wastewater it receives.

Figure 4 shows a typical TP survey Ohio EPA carried out on the lower GMR on August 23-25, 2010. TP concentrations from upstream to downstream (left to right) are shown as blue diamonds. Labels along the top of the plot indicate the discharge locations of the major WWTPs. Labels along the bottom show several tributaries. Notice that downstream of the Dayton WWTP the river experiences a large jump in TP concentration, causing it to exceed the 0.3 mg/l target. Moving downstream the TP concentration decreases slightly due to attenuation, with periodic increases caused by additional WWTP discharges.

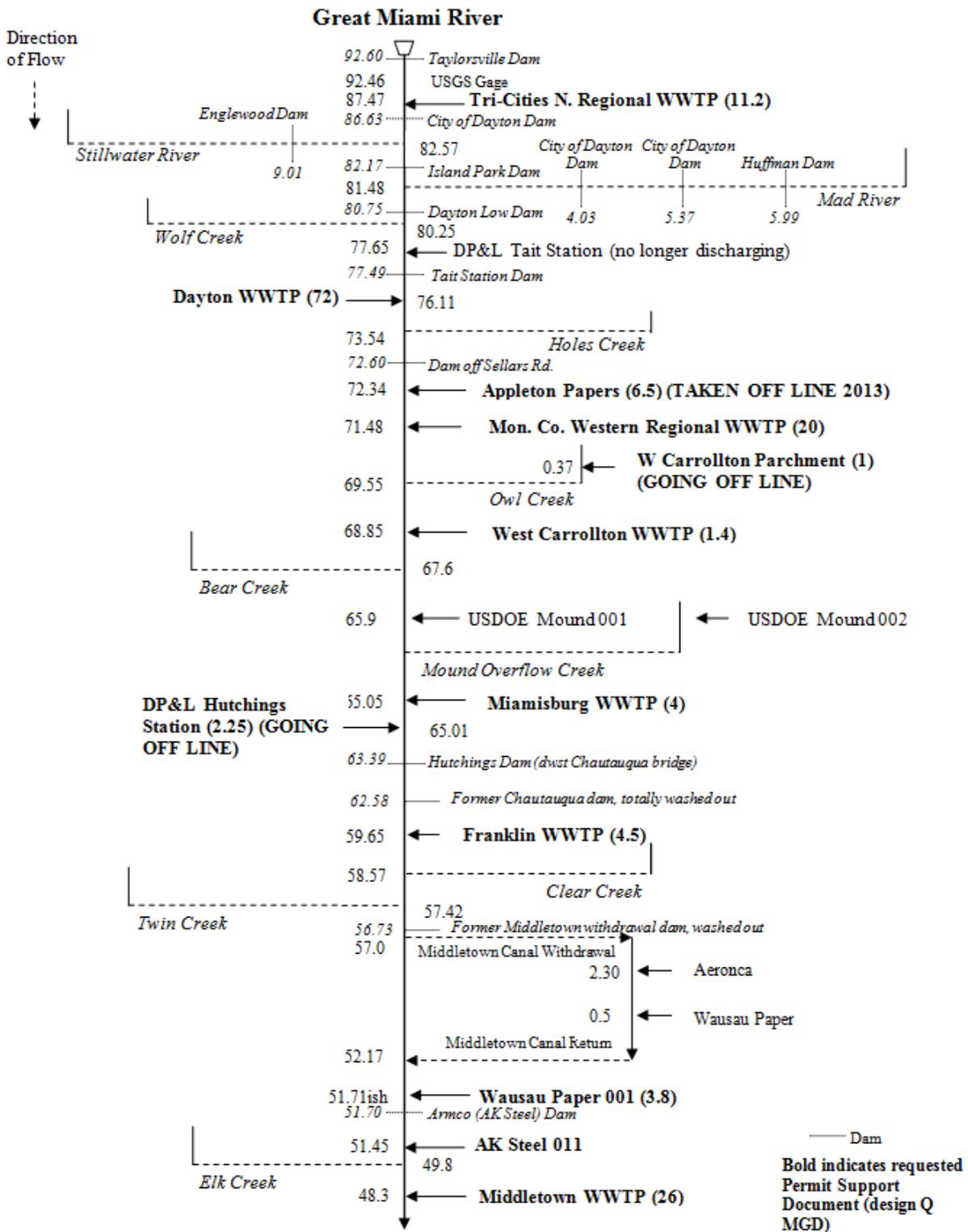


Figure 3 Schematic of the lower Great Miami River with point sources, dams and tributaries noted (upper half). Major plants are noted in bold, and their average design flow in million gallons per day are noted in parentheses.

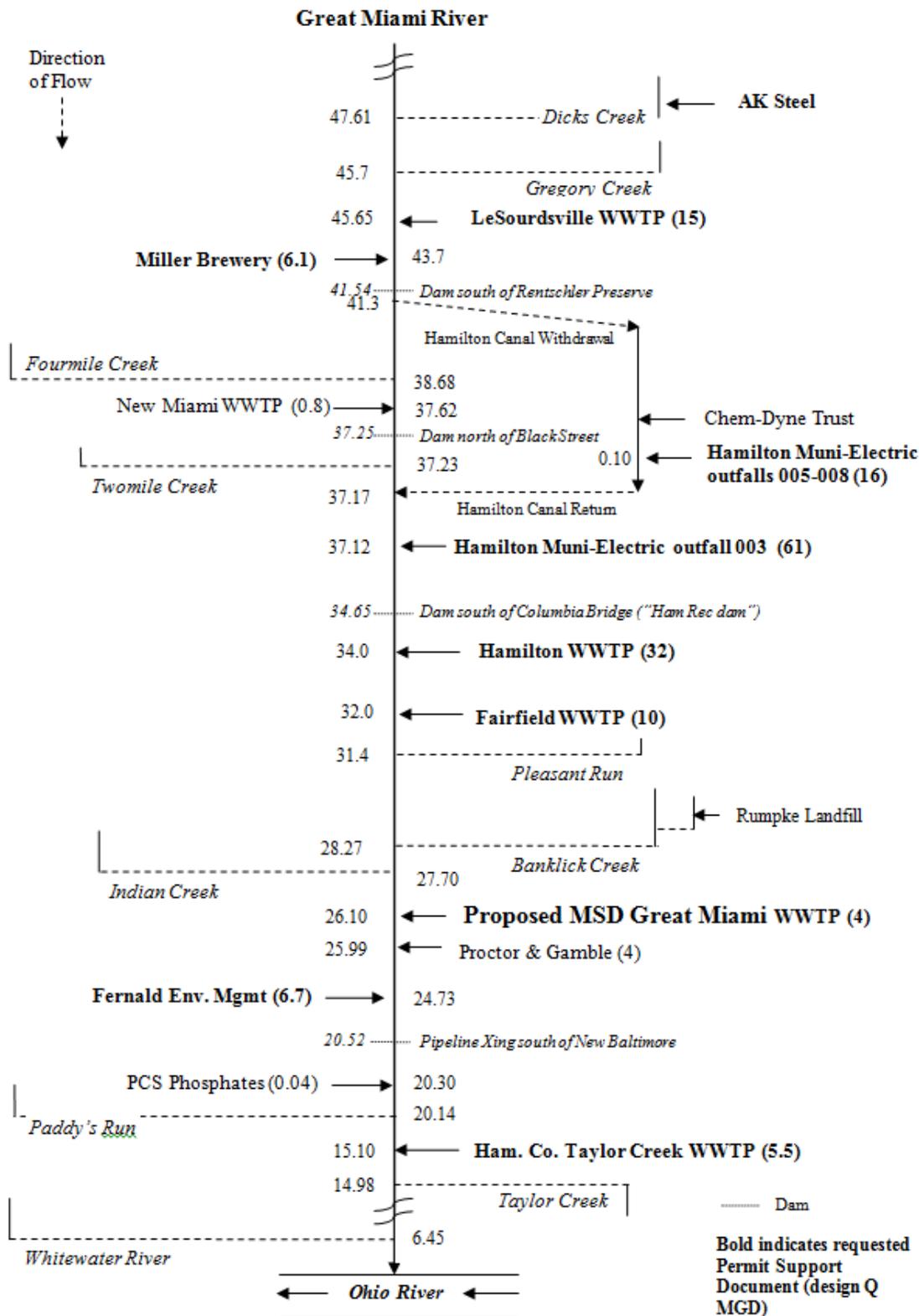
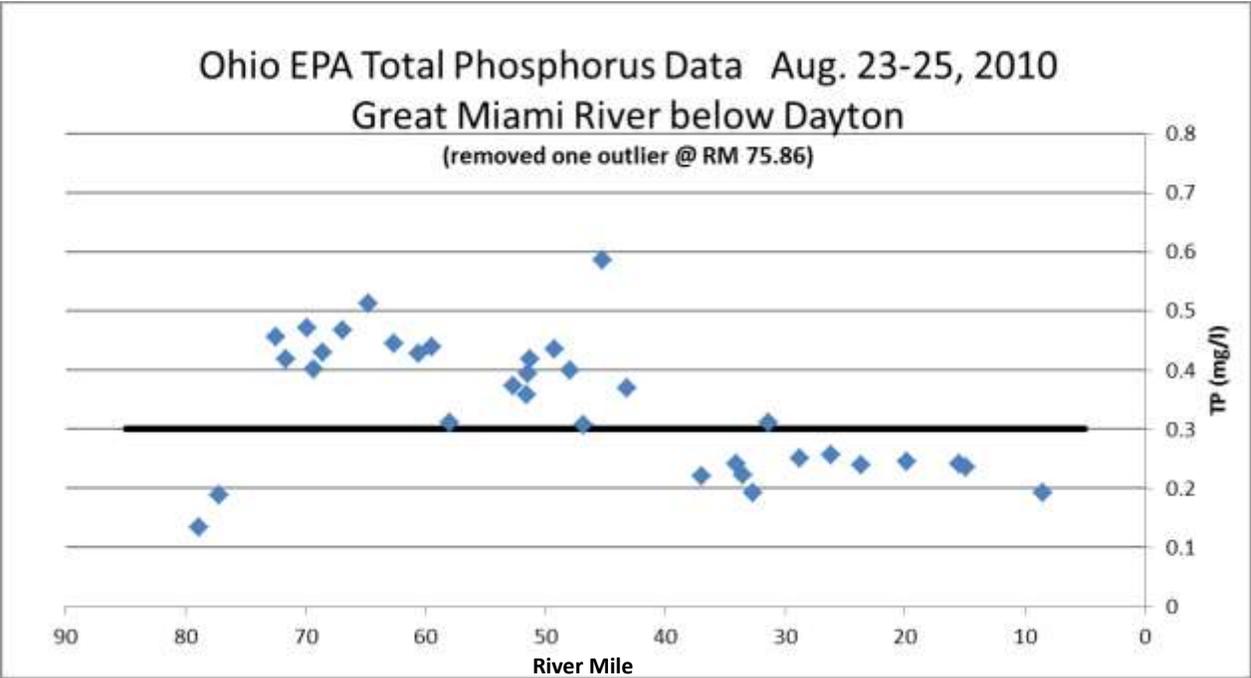


Figure 3 (continued) Schematic of the lower Great Miami River with point sources, dams and tributaries noted (lower half). Major plants are noted in bold, and their average design flow in million gallons per day are noted in parentheses.



RM	Point source	RM	Point source
76.11	Dayton WWTP	45.65	LeSourdsville WWTP
72.34	Appleton Papers*	43.70	Miller Brewery WWTP
71.48	Mon. Co. W. Reg.	37.12	Ham. Muni-Electric 003
68.85	W.Car. WWTP	34.00	Hamilton WWTP
65.05	M.burg WWTP	32.00	Fairfield WWTP
59.65	Franklin WWTP	27.10	New MSD plant
51.71	Wausau Paper 001	24.73	Fernald WWTP
51.45	AK Steel 011	20.30	PCS Phosphates
48.30	M.town WWTP	15.10	Ham Co Taylor Ck WWTP

RM	Tributary
82.57	Stillwater R
81.48	Mad River
80.25	Wolf Creek
69.55	Owl Creek
47.61	Dicks Creek
	Ham. canal withdrawal
41.30	Ham. canal
37.17	return

* Appleton Papers has ceased direct discharge to the Great Miami River since these data were collected.

Figure 4 Total phosphorus concentrations during August 23-25, 2010 from upstream to downstream in the lower Great Miami River and tables explaining the labels on the plot.

Figure 5 shows a summary of the TP concentrations in four surveys conducted by Ohio EPA in 2010, and includes the data in Figure 4. All of these surveys occurred during relatively steady state, low streamflows. Additionally, all of these surveys show the same trend of elevated TP concentrations downstream of the Dayton WWTP.

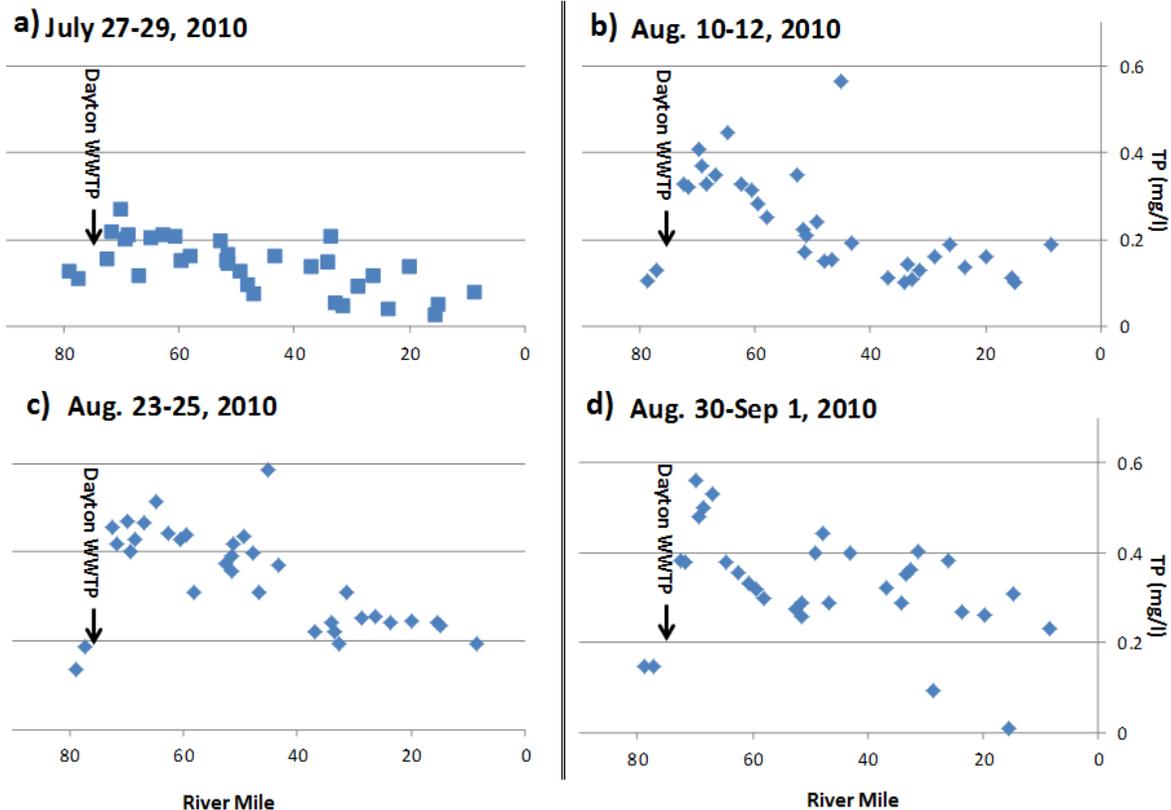


Figure 5 Total phosphorus concentration from four 2010 surveys from upstream to downstream

Chlorophyll *a*

Sestonic (or suspended) chlorophyll *a* (henceforth referred to as “chlorophyll”) is a parameter monitored in large rivers (>200 mi² drainage area) as an indicator of the concentration of phytoplanktonic organisms (Royer et al. 2008). (Note that periphyton or benthic algae chlorophyll *a* is the parameter that Ohio EPA is currently using to develop nutrient water quality standards for smaller streams; draining areas up to 1,000 square miles.) Figure 6 shows the chlorophyll concentrations as blue diamonds along the lower GMR during a similar time period as the TP data presented in Figure 4. The labels used in Figure 6 are also the same as in Figure 4. The shading in Figure 6 indicate a potential for enrichment with concentrations 40-100 ug/l and over enriched conditions at concentrations >100 ug/l. These thresholds are based on Miltner 2010 and Dodds 2006. Note the sample upstream of Dayton WWTP (the first sample on the left) is on the bottom of the potential for enrichment zone. However the chlorophyll concentrations increase markedly downstream of the Dayton WWTP, and by river mile (RM) 65 this parameter indicates that the river is over enriched throughout the remainder of the lower GMR.

The Heidelberg University data presented in Figures 1 and 2 were collected at RM 66.65. Note on Figure 4 that the TP is elevated above the target concentration at this point during the Ohio EPA August, 2010 data collection. At this river mile the chlorophyll data on Figure 6 indicate only a potential for enrichment however very close downstream the chlorophyll data crosses the threshold to become over enriched. This observation is viewed as the river’s response to the nutrient loading from the Dayton WWTP, and to a lesser degree continued loading from other WWTPs, in growing more algal material. This phenomenon is a well-documented interaction between phosphorus loads and residence time (Jarvie 2013, Bowes et al. 2012).

Ohio EPA Sestonic Chlorophyll α . August 10-12, 2010 Great Miami River below Dayton

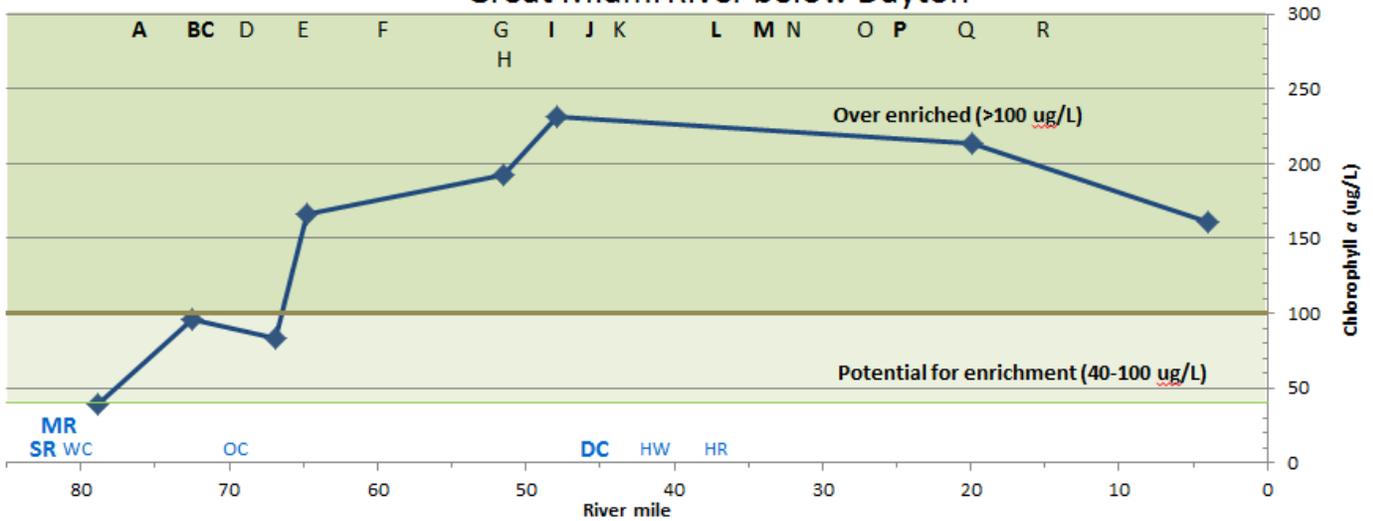


Figure 6 Sestonic chlorophyll α concentrations during August 10-12, 2010 from upstream to downstream in the lower Great Miami River. The tables in Figure 4 above explain the labels on the plot.

Several additional chlorophyll sampling events by the Ohio EPA agreed with these findings (84 samples collected during 8 different surveys in 3 years of study, 80% of those samples >40 ug/l and 40% > 100 ug/l). One sample collected in July 2011 near Middletown resulted in 280 ug/l chlorophyll, the highest value found in a lotic system the Ohio EPA’s laboratory has ever observed. That high value is included in Figure 7 which shows two additional surveys chlorophyll data. Figure 8 presents a summary of the results of all chlorophyll data collected in the lower GMR 2010-2012.

Sestonic Chlorophyll α . Great Miami River below Dayton

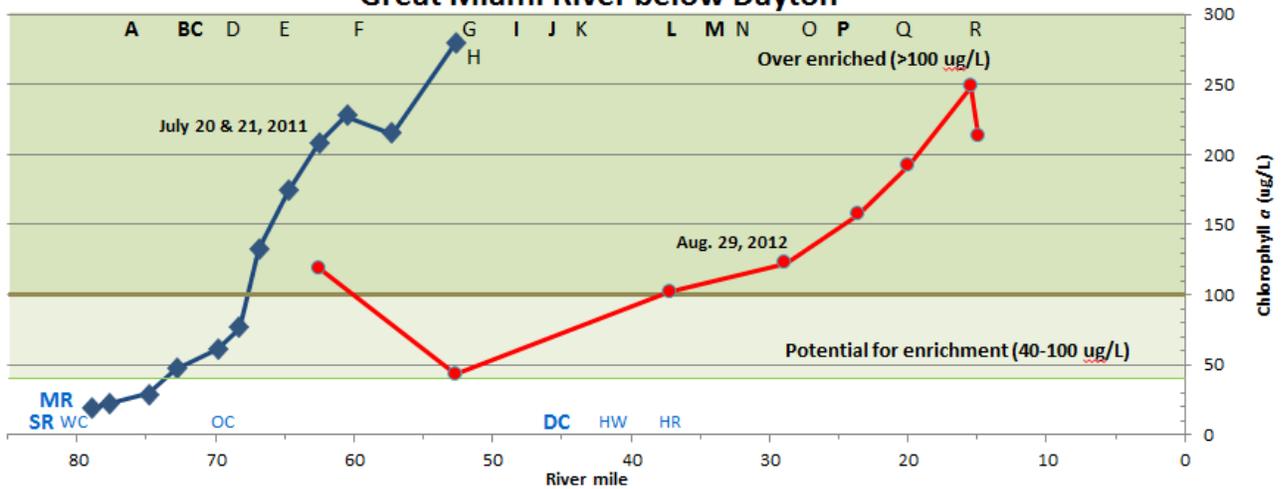


Figure 7 Sestonic chlorophyll α concentrations during two surveys, July 20-21, 2011 from Dayton to Middletown (in blue) and August 29, 2012 from Franklin to Miamitown (in red). The tables in Figure 4 above explain the labels on the plot.

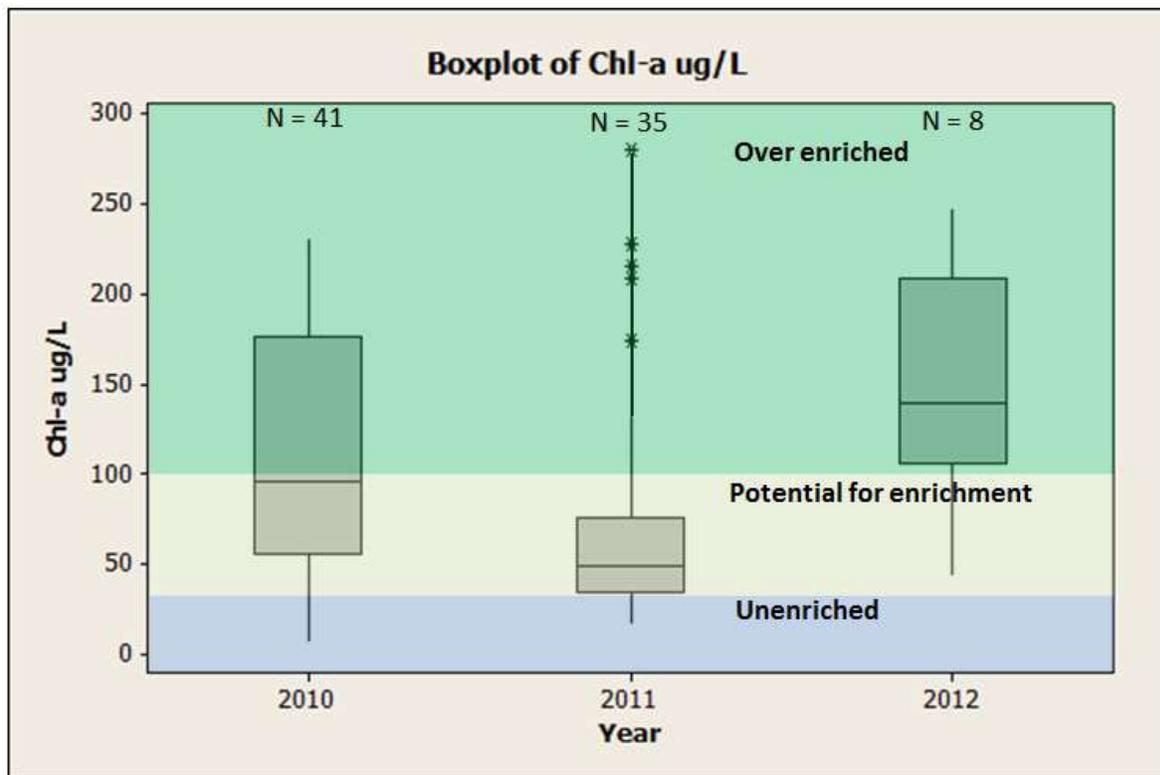


Figure 8 Sestonic chlorophyll α concentrations results of all lower GMR Ohio EPA collected data in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Low head dams and dam pools upstream of these structures are present throughout much of the lower GMR, and the presence of these dams is very likely a contributor to the excessive enrichment. However, chlorophyll data indicate little to no enrichment upstream of Dayton WWTP, as noted in both Figures 6 and 7. This is a stream reach with several dam pools similar to downstream enriched reaches. This provides evidence that the enrichment is primarily fueled by the large nutrient loadings from the Dayton WWTP and downstream.

Dissolved oxygen

Dissolved oxygen (DO) concentrations observed during surveys also confirm enrichment starting around RM 65 and continuing downstream. Figure 9 shows the diel 24-hour range of concentrations at nineteen sampling locations from July 6-7, 2010. These data are presented in the form of boxplots where the horizontal line in the middle of each box sampling site is the median concentration observed. The top and bottom of each box is the 75th and 25th percentiles respectively. Finally the tip of the tails above and below each box shows the maximum and minimum of each sampling site respectively. As noted above, enrichment processes cause DO to swing high during sunlight hours due to photosynthesis and low during the night due to continued respiration. A maximum to minimum range of greater than 9 mg/l is considered by Ohio EPA to be a sign of excessive nutrient enrichment in wadeable streams and small rivers. To put this range into context, Gammons et al. (2011) reported a 24 hour DO range of 9 m/l from Silver Bow Creek, and noted that that range was among the largest reported in the literature. Also, a range of 5 mg/l is considered a sign of over-enrichment in large, eutrophic Minnesota rivers due to a strong negative correlation between increasing 24-h DO swings and decreasing biological condition (Heiskary et al. 2010). The boxes for sites where this was observed are filled in green on Figure 9. Note that the location of the low head dams throughout the lower GMR in addition to the major point sources and tributaries are labeled on this figure. Similar to the inference drawn from the sestonic chlorophyll shown in Figures 6 and 7, DO data do not indicate excessive enrichment in the areas through the City of Dayton, where several dam pools are present. However about ten river miles downstream of the Dayton WWTP DO diel ranges do show signs of enrichment, and this enrichment continues downstream.

Ohio EPA Dissolved Oxygen 24-hour boxplots. July 6-7, 2010
Great Miami River below Dayton

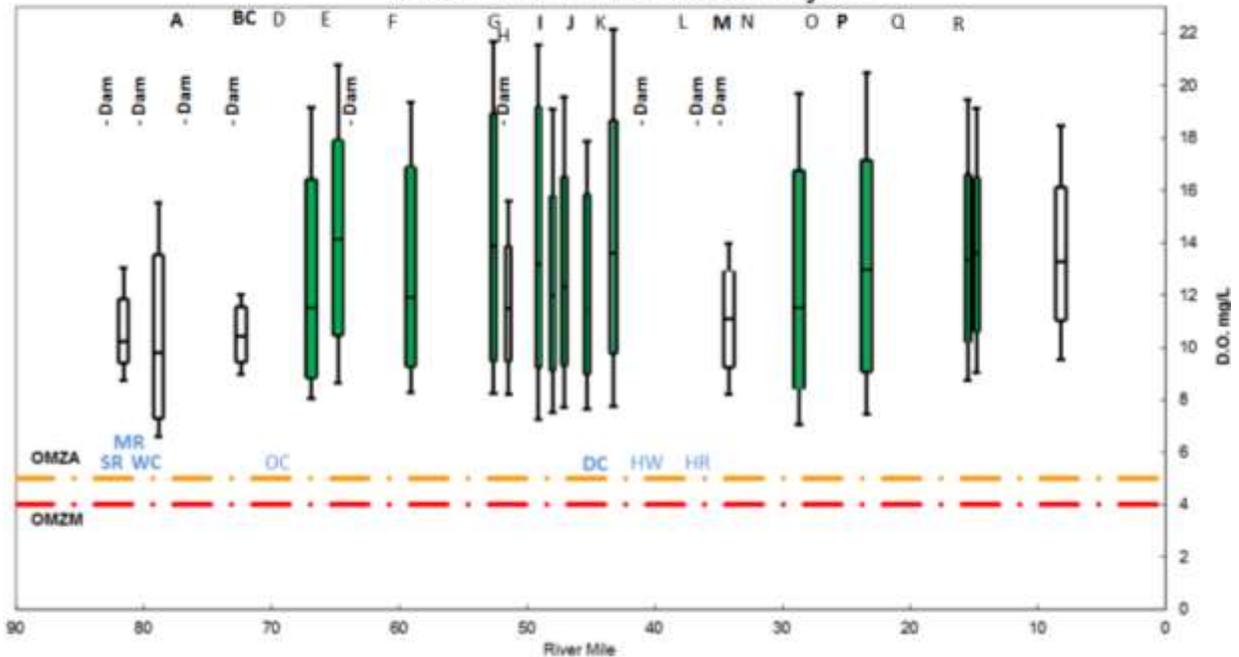


Figure 9 24-hour dissolved oxygen boxplots during July 6-7, 2010 from upstream to downstream in the lower Great Miami River. Sites filled in with green exceed 9 mg/l dissolved oxygen in the 24-hour period. The tables in Figure 4 above explain the labels on the plot.

Ohio EPA has documented enrichment in the GMR in three consecutive years. Figure 10 shows another 2010 DO survey on the lower GMR. In the free flowing river reach downstream of the Fairfield WWTP (labeled "N") diel ranges greater than 9 mg/l again are observed. Figure 11 shows a 2011 DO survey that focused only on the upper half of the lower GMR (from Dayton to Middletown). Note on this plot that diel ranges greater than 9 mg/l are observed just downstream of Dayton WWTP and continue downstream at all observed points but two. On Figure 11 it is easy to note that enrichment persists in free flowing waters well downstream of the Hutchings Dam at RM 64.4. Figure 12 shows a 2012 survey DO survey that examined the river from Hamilton and downstream. Here again excessive enrichment was observed in a dam pool and at multiple free-flowing sites.

Ohio EPA Dissolved Oxygen 24-hour boxplots. September 7-8, 2010
Great Miami River below Dayton

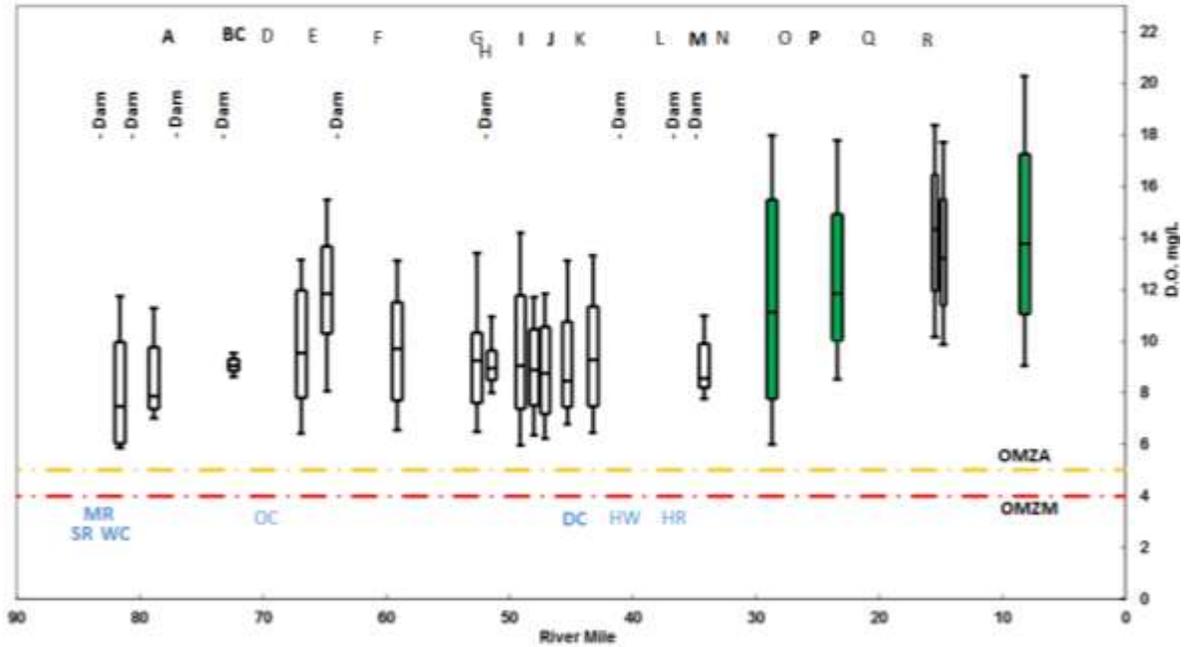


Figure 10 24-hour dissolved oxygen boxplots during September 7-8, 2010 from upstream to downstream in the lower Great Miami River. Sites filled in with green exceed 9 mg/l dissolved oxygen in the 24-hour period. The tables in Figure 4 above explain the labels on the plot.

Ohio EPA Dissolved Oxygen 24-hour boxplots. July 20, 2011
Great Miami River below Dayton

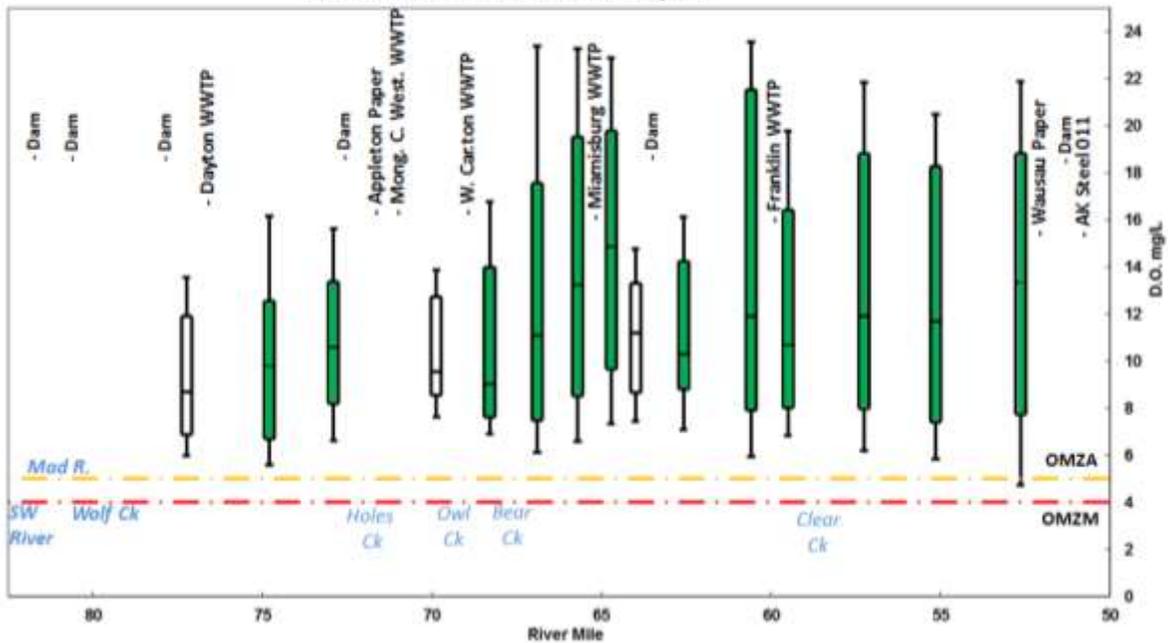


Figure 11 24-hour dissolved oxygen boxplots during July 20, 2011 from upstream to downstream in the upper half of the lower Great Miami River. Sites filled in with green exceed 9 mg/l dissolved oxygen in the 24-hour period. Note the change in scale on the DO axis compared to the previous DO plots; required due to super-saturated dissolved oxygen findings.

Ohio EPA Dissolved Oxygen 24-hour boxplots. August 28-29, 2012
Great Miami River Hamilton and downstream

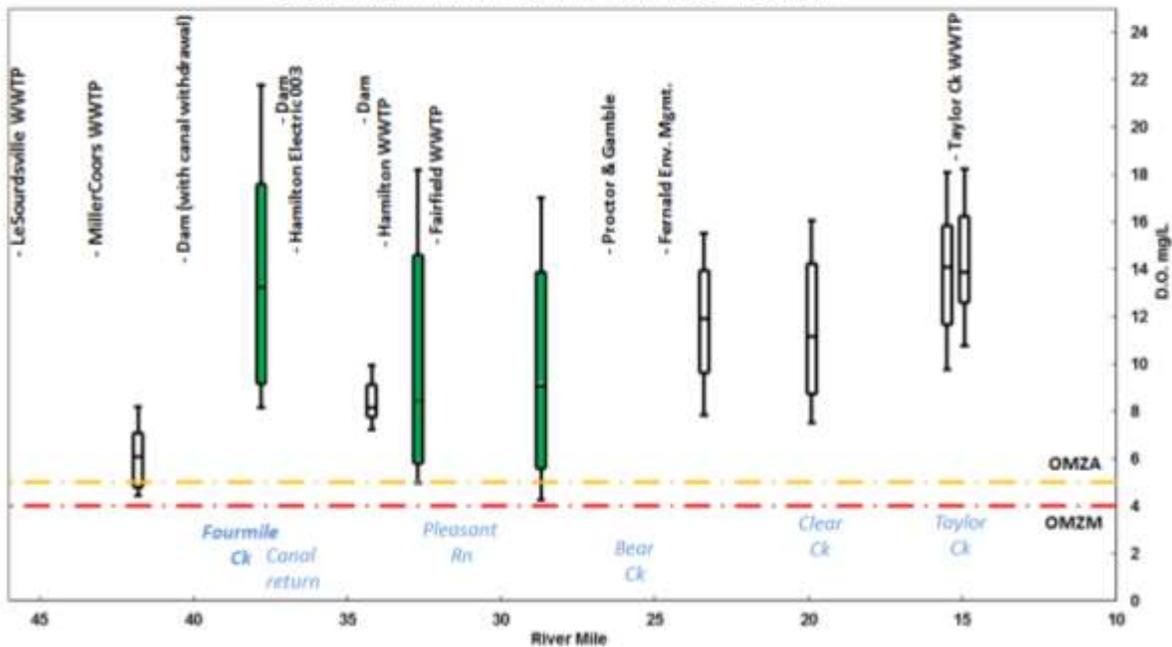


Figure 12 24-hour dissolved oxygen boxplots during August 28-29, 2012 from upstream to downstream in the lower third of the lower Great Miami River. Sites filled in with green exceed 9 mg/l dissolved oxygen in the 24-hour period.

Accounting and interactions of phosphorus

The phosphorus component that is most relevant to eutrophication in streams is soluble reactive phosphorus (SRP) (Baker 2011). Total phosphorus is used instead of SRP to develop TMDLs and permit limits because TP is the most commonly monitored species of phosphorus in waters, and it includes the reactive component. Figure 13 shows the ratio of soluble reactive phosphorus to total phosphorus using the same data from Heidelberg University's monitoring station in Miamisburg that is shown above in Figures 1 and 2. This plot clearly indicates that phosphorus in the dissolved form is the predominate species present in the river in lower streamflow conditions, the right side of the plot. Considering the large phosphorus loads from Dayton WWTP and several other major WWTPs, this clearly indicates that the high concentration of phosphorus in the lower GMR at lower flows is nearly entirely from WWTP effluent.

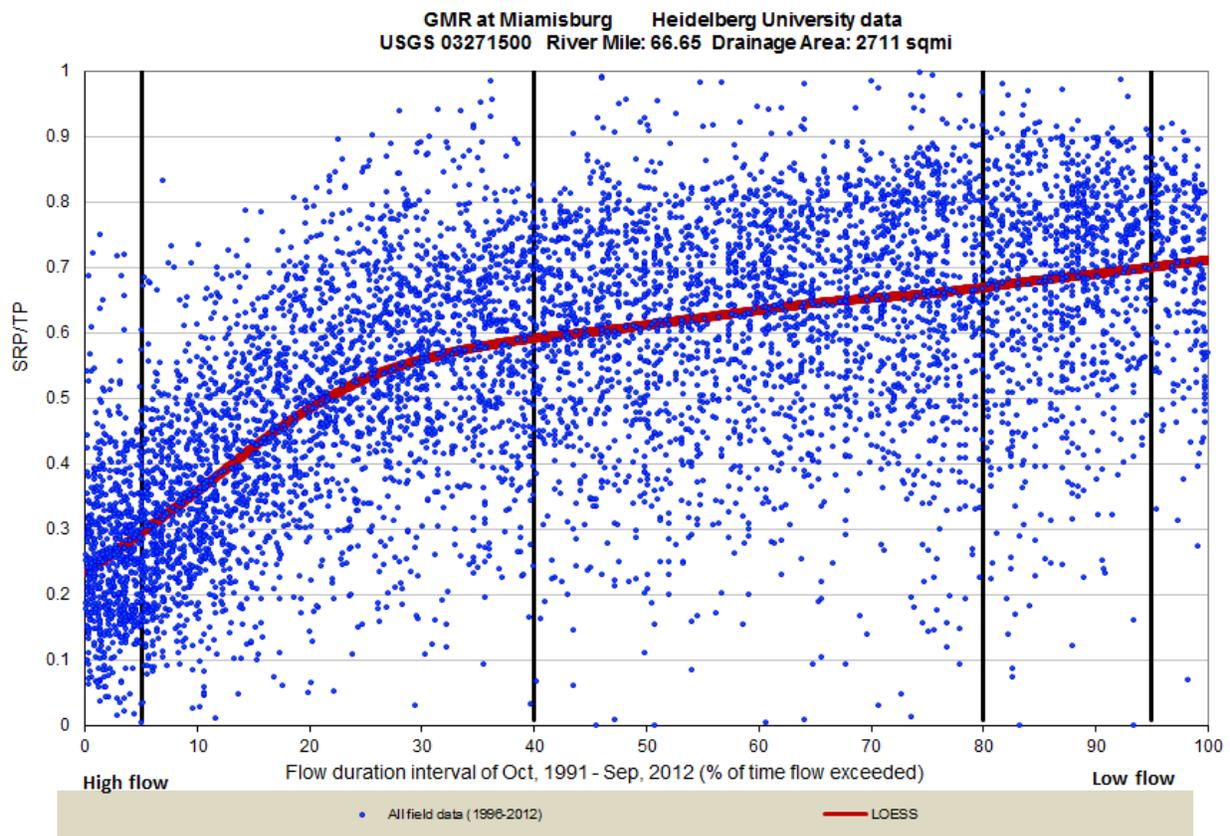


Figure 13 The ratio of soluble reactive phosphorus to total phosphorus concentrations at the Great Miami River at Miamisburg plotted along the flow duration interval, data from the Heidelberg University National Center for Water Quality Research.

Accounting of all lower GMR contributing sources of flows and TP concentrations can be carried out to further show that the lower GMR's TP load is dominated by the WWTPs that directly discharge to the river. This accounting has been calculated using two different background flow conditions for this document.

- 1) The first condition is that of a "typical" existing summer time day. Gaged and observed streamflow from a low flow period in August 2011 are used for the upstream and tributary flows for this condition. Discharger reported flows from the same time period are used for the point source flows. TP concentrations used are those that were sampled by Ohio EPA during this same time period for all sources.
- 2) The second background condition examines the TP load contributions based on average daily reported wastewater discharger flows from July through October for a five year period (2010-2014) and tributary and upstream streamflows set at the summertime seven-consecutive day, 10-year recurrence interval (7Q10) flow statistic. This flow statistic is the critical low flow value that is used when calculating conservative (e.g., metals) wasteload allocations for NPDES permitted dischargers. The TP concentrations used to calculate the loads for this second background condition are the same as the first condition.

For these calculations stream flow from to the DPL Hutching's Station, Miamisburg Canal and Hamilton Canal (including the Hamilton Power Station) are not accounted for. This is because the flow from these sources are diverted and then returned to the river.

Figure 14 shows the results of these two loading conditions as the two pie charts on the left half of the figure. These pie charts show that the lower GMR direct point sources are responsible for 68.6% of the TP load contributing to this section of the river on a typical summer day, and 85.3% of the load during the lower background flow 7Q10 condition. The two pie charts on the right half of Figure 14 show the show the relative

contributions of streamflow from the flow data used to determine the TP loadings. These pie charts show that the direct lower GMR point sources make up 25.3% of the typical summer day's flow and 45.1% during the 7Q10 flow condition.

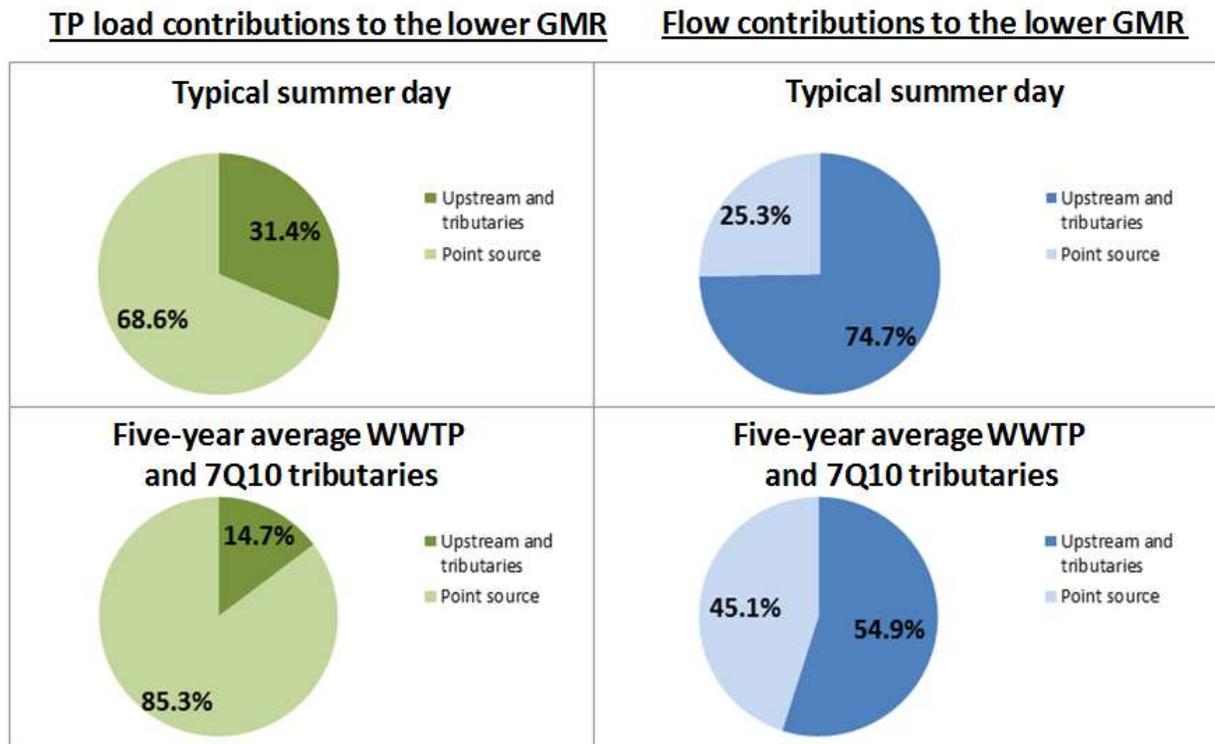


Figure 14 Relative total phosphorus load (left charts) and flow (right charts) contributions to the lower GMR from upstream/tributaries and direct lower GMR point sources. Flow conditions are set at a typical low flow, summer day using August 2011 (upper charts), and with point sources set at their 5-year average discharge flow and upstream/tributary flows set at the 7Q10 flow statistic (lower charts).

In a presentation and corresponding paper Baker et al. 2006 specifically notes the lower GMR within a discussion of point source to nonpoint source phosphorus trading in Ohio. In the paper Dr. Baker and colleagues delineate that the effluent borne phosphorus should be considered to have the greatest impact on excessive biological deleterious enrichment. This is because it is during the summertime low flow condition that excessive primary production occurs. Furthermore during low flow conditions other water sources are reduced and therefore offer much less dilution to the WWTP effluent. The ample dissolved nutrients delivered to the GMR from the WWTPs vastly overcome any other mechanisms of nutrient uptake by algae; as discussed below.

Baker et al 2006 also notes that accounting for phosphorus loading into the GMR during low flows the river delivers less phosphorus than it receives from WWTP contributions. Three mechanisms explain this phosphorus attenuation. First, direct algal uptake of phosphorus occurs. Next phosphorus is converted into biomass (*i.e.* fish and other aquatic life) as consumption occurs up the food web. Settling of algae and other aquatic life occurs and can incorporate phosphorus into bed sediments. This documented attenuation is an indication that the river system will respond to phosphorus reduction management.

In addition to the phosphorus being settled to the streambed from algae/biomass, phosphorus rich sediment runoff from the upstream contributing watersheds to the lower GMR delivers great loads of TP downstream throughout the year. Recall that the left side of Figure 1 shows large concentrations of TP during high flows at the Heidelberg sampling station. Furthermore, Figure 13 shows TP that consists of less than 50% soluble reactive phosphorus in 18% of the highest flows (note the change in slope of the red LOESS line around the 18 exceedance percentile flow on the X-axis). While much of the TP is exported out of the watershed during times of high flows,

some does settle onto the river substrate, especially so in dam pools. The fate of phosphorus settled within river substrates is next examined.

Internal loading

It has been well documented that in stream systems substrate sediment may provide an “internal” phosphorus load that contributes to low flow summertime algal growth. This is dependent on the mass and aerial extent of fine sediment in the stream, sediment temperature and chemistry, overlying water column concentration and the equilibrium phosphorus concentration (EPC_0) of the substrate sediments (Taylor and Kinishi 1971; Kunishi et al. 1972; Meyer 1979a; Meyer 1979b). This process involves phosphorus that is locked in stream sediments desorbing to become bioavailable within the stream. The inverse can occur in which water column phosphorus can be sorbed into the stream substrate sediment. In general, for a given stream, if the overlying water column phosphorus concentration is less than the substrate’s EPC_0 , desorption of substrate phosphorus to the water column will occur. The reverse will happen when the overlying water column concentration is greater than the substrate’s EPC_0 .

Ohio EPA 2015 has developed an evaluation of stream phosphorus critical conditions documenting these processes in detail as they relate to Ohio’s streams. In this paper Ohio EPA used nutrient accounting to document streams where phosphorus internal loading via desorption occurs and where phosphorus sorption to the substrate occurs following the EPC_0 concept in tributaries to the GMR.

A Sharpley et al. 2007 study examined the nature of streambed sediments in relation to the EPC_0 concept. This research and the Ohio EPA 2015 paper found that substrates consisting of silts containing a great deal of clay are most favorable for holding more phosphorus; i.e., have relatively higher EPC_0 . This is because clay has properties that are favorable to holding more phosphorus. The lower GMR’s bed sediments are quite different in nature from the sediments examined in these studies. Most importantly, fine material for phosphorus to bind to in the lower GMR is scarce. Figure 15 shows the results from the Ohio EPA’s habitat assessments, or QHEI surveys, of the lower GMR. The top pie chart shows that only one assessment site out of 34 had about half of its bottom sediment as silt. The vast majority of the assessment sites have gravel and cobbles as their bed material. The lower pie chart shows that very little riffle/run embeddedness (or fine sediments within those gravel and cobbles) exist. The QHEI assessments also noted 22 sites with no bank erosion at all, and 12 with “none/moderate” bank erosion. No sites were determined to have heavy bank erosion. All of these indicators point to the fact that the lower GMR’s streambed capacity for phosphorus sorption and desorption of dissolved phosphorus is relatively small.

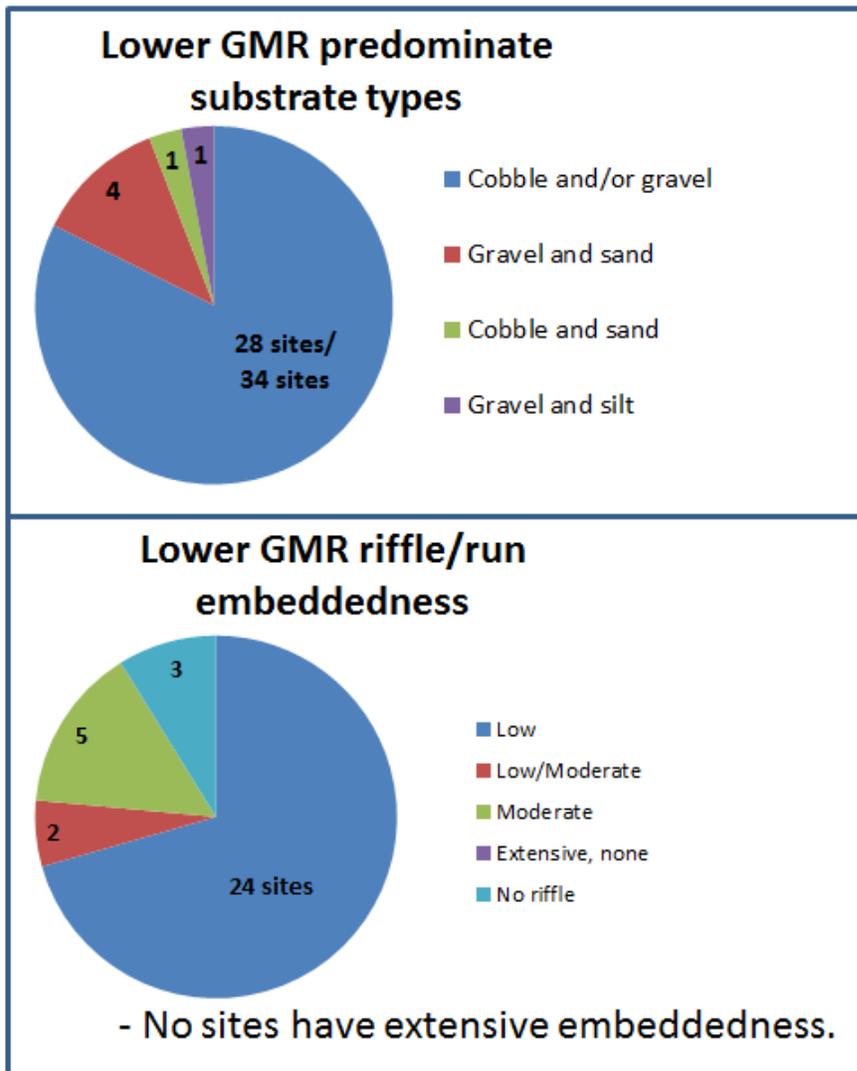


Figure 15 QHEI habitat assessment results for substrate types and stream bed embeddedness for the lower GMR.

The above examination of streambed material notwithstanding, some areas with fine stream substrate are present in the lower GMR; dam pools being the most likely location of these. Following the EPC_0 concept, the lower GMR's steady supply of SRP from wastewater point sources prevents substrate sediment from desorbing phosphorus. Jarvie *et al.* 2005 examined river systems similar to the lower GMR, and found this to be true. That research shows that in rivers with no phosphorus controls on major municipal waste treatment, sewage effluent borne phosphorus is the predominate driver of nutrient enrichment. As indicated by Baker *et al.* 2006 specifically in regards to the GMR, a Chomat and Westphal 2013 study show that streambed sediment is a phosphorus sink in low flow situations when the SRP concentration of the water is elevated; which is all summer for the lower GMR. As a result, internal phosphorus loading is not a significant source of eutrophication-causing phosphorus in the lower GMR.

Specific studies of the lower GMR substrate phosphorus and specifically its EPC_0 have not been carried out. Understanding the dynamics of this issue is very complex and rapidly changes over temporal and spatial scales (Chomat and Westphal 2013; James and Larson 2008; Jarvie *et al.* 2012). For instance research on the Illinois River in Arkansas and Oklahoma found that much of the TP during high flows were originally sourced from point source effluent that had become remobilized (Jarvie *et al.* 2012). Further, a study of the Assabet River in Massachusetts

found that dredging dam pool sediments with the idea of removing sunk nonpoint source TP would not address that river's enrichment due to the continual discharge of TP rich effluent (Chomat and Westphal 2013).

It is clear however that the amount of uncontrolled WWTP sourced TP being delivered to the lower GMR must first be addressed before internal loadings are considered. The lead engineer studying pollutant nonpoint source to point source trading coefficients for the Ohio River basin for the Electric Power Research Institute has stated that effluent TP must be reduced before streambed sediment phosphorus reductions will make any difference on the lower GMR's enrichment (Keller, email communication, February 20, 2014). Given this, reducing nonpoint sources of phosphorus loads without reductions in effluent loadings will not ameliorate all of the nutrient enrichment impacts to the lower GMR. Once effluent phosphorus loading is reduced, other measures to reduce nutrient loadings further can be considered if they are necessary to return the river to full attaining its aquatic life use criteria.

Finally, it should be noted that these measures of point source TP load reduction are protective for the lower GMR's aquatic life use. These reductions do not address the total exported load of nutrients to the Ohio River and subsequently to the Gulf of Mexico via the Mississippi River. It is clear that efforts developed to protect the Gulf of Mexico from nutrient enrichment must consider all sources of phosphorus load delivered by the GMR. Baker et al. 2006 and others have documented that in this case the nonpoint source load of nutrients is by far the most important component as it is the majority of exported load.

Ohio EPA recognizes that the relationship between nutrients in the lower Great Miami River and aquatic life indices is not entirely linear or predictable. Therefore, the agency proposes using an adaptive management approach to eliminating the impairment in the lower Great Miami River. The first step is to reduce the phosphorus inputs from the two largest and most upstream discharges (Dayton and Montgomery County Western Regional) that appear to cause a significant increase in the total phosphorus concentrations, dissolved oxygen swings and chlorophyll-a values in the river – as shown in figures 5, 6, 7 and 11 above. After those two inputs are reduced, and the river has time to respond, Ohio EPA will reassess the impaired sites, and determine if further improvement measures are needed. Other mitigation such as dam removal in the river during this time period is also recommended to help reduce the need for including limits in additional permits and/or reducing limits below 1.0 mg/l. Future permit decisions will consider the results of the activities and reassessment.

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