

Explanations of Phase TMDLs and Adaptive Implementation Interpreted from EPA memo dated 8-2-06

Phased TMDLs

- Used where limited data are used to develop a TMDL
- Used when additional data would increase the accuracy of the TMDL load calculation for a second phase TMDL
- Used when a revision of the applicable standard is underway and necessitates development of a second phase to comply with new standard
- Must include load allocations, wasteload allocations and margin safety
- Must be established to attain applicable water quality standard
- Should include monitoring plan and schedule for revision of TMDL
- Revision requires re-approval by EPA

Adaptive Implementation

- Is an iterative implementation process making progress towards meeting water quality goals while using new data to reduce uncertainty and adjust implementation activities
- Can include provisions for flexible load allocation/wasteload allocation scheme
- Monitoring necessary to address efficacy of implementation actions
- If adaptive process reveals that TMDL needs revision, revisions require EPA approval