

Summary of the fall 2021 meeting of the UMRCC Water Quality Technical Section

October 1, 2021

Chair: Rob Burdis, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

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October 6th 2021

The fall meeting of the UMRCC Water Quality Technical Section was held online with Microsoft Teams from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM October 1st, 2021

Online attendees included:

Shawn Giblin	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Jim Fischer	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Sara Strassman	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Jeremy King	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Doyn Kellerhals	Illinois Natural History Survey
Molly Sobotka	Missouri Department of Conservation
Matt Vitello	Missouri Department of Conservation
Patrick Gorski	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Dave Bierman	Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Ashley Johnson	Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Daniel Kendall	Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Heidi Keuler	US Fish and Wildlife Service
Collin Belby	University of Wisconsin – La Crosse
Will Bouchard	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Dennis Wasley	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Justin Watkins	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Neal Jackson	US Fish and Wildlife Service
Eric Lund	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Rob Burdis	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Neil Rude	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Kathi Jo Jankowski	US Geological Survey
Jeff Houser	US Geological Survey
Jennie Sauer	US Geological Survey
Karen Hagerty	US Army Corps of Engineers
Dave Potter	US Army Corps of Engineers
Davi Michl	US Army Corps of Engineers
Rebecca Kreiling	US Geological Survey
Rita Seston	Hyla Environmental Consulting
Allison Madison	Wisconsin Slat Wise
Daniel Henely	Environmental Services, Metropolitan Council

Agenda

9:00 Greetings and introductions

9:10 WI Salt Wise: Raising Awareness and Celebrating Salt Reduction Champions - Allison Madison (Wisconsin Salt Wise)

9:35 UMRCC Coordinator update - Neal Jackson (US Fish & Wildlife Service)

9:40 Open discussion on the next steps for the WQTS following the UMRCC chloride resolution (fact sheet, outreach, OREIT assistance, UMRBA coordination, etc..?)

9:55 Monitoring of Volatile Methylsiloxanes in Lake Pepin - Dr. Rita Seston (Hyla Environmental Consulting)

10:20 Break

10:35 The Lake Pepin TMDL Story - Justin Watkins (MN PCA)

11:10 Phytoplankton assemblage dynamics in relation to environmental conditions in a riverine lake - Rob Burdis (MN DNR)

11:30 Agency Updates:

- Missouri
- Illinois
- Iowa
- Wisconsin
- Minnesota
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- Army Corps
 - STL
 - Rock Island
 - St. Paul
 -
- USGS

12:00 Adjourn

Discussion items

The Wisconsin Salt Wise presentation generated discussions on the topic of chloride reduction and next steps for the Water Quality Technical Section (WQTS). Suggestions for the included praising success stories as a way to continue to get the message out about salt use reduction and perhaps the WQTS pushing for legislation to reduce the liability of accidents involving snow and ice to the applicators of salt.

Action Items

Rob Burdis, as the WQTS chairperson, offered to compile and coordinate any ideas from the WQTS regarding the education and promotion of wise salt use that could be accomplished out of the section.

Neil Jackson, UMRCC coordinator, requested that he be provided with any potential product(s) generated from the WQTS regarding wise salt use and a timeline for the product(s).

Updates

Missouri Department of Conservation announced the dates and locations of the UMRCC 2022 spring meeting. The meeting will be held in person on March 22-24th, 2022 in Cape Girardeau, MO.

The UMRR-LTRM plans to host a science meeting in late January 2022 in La Crosse, WI. The details of whether at what level this will be an in person or online meeting have not been worked out yet.

The Iowa LTRM field station is now fully staffed with Travis K. moving the fish position and Ashley Johnson hired for the water quality position.

MN PCA plans to list two segments of the Lower St. Croix River for PFOS in 2022, an aluminum listing for the Mississippi River, and three proposed sulfate impairments on the Mississippi River:

- 1) Sturgeon Lake 25-0017-01 7 mi NW of Red Wing
- 2) Mississippi River 07040003-627 Chippewa River (WI) to L & D #6
- 3) Mississippi River 07060001-509 Root R to MN/IA border

The Minnesota DNR's LTRM Lake City Field Station vacant team leader position has been posted online.