



RTOC Clean Water Workgroup Session

JANUARY 26TH 1 PM PT

Advancing Equity and Environmental Justice in the National Nonpoint Source Program

- **Justice40 Initiative:** federal government-wide effort, including several EPA programs, aimed at ensuring benefits of federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities.
- **National NPS policy memo** issued in September 2021:
“Near-term Actions to Support Environmental Justice in the Nonpoint Source Program”
- This year, EPA is engaging in a national dialogue with the NPS community to inform equity efforts in the program.
- As part of this dialogue, we are engaging Tribes to discuss challenges building and sustaining Tribal NPS program capacity, and potential EPA actions to better support Tribal §319 grantees.

Regional §319 Grantee Equity Listening Sessions

All §319 Grantees (States, Territories, and Tribes)	Tribal §319 Grantees
EPA Regions 1, 2 and 3 (Feb 2, 9:30am Eastern)	EPA Regions 1, 2 and 4 (Feb 10, 2pm Eastern)
EPA Regions 4 and 6 (Feb 14, 11am Eastern)	Regions 5, 6 and 7 (Jan 26, 1:30pm Eastern)
EPA Regions 5, 7 and 8 (Jan 25, 2:30pm Eastern)	Regions 8 and 10 (Feb 3, 10:30am Pacific)
EPA Regions 9 and 10 (Feb 16, 12-1:30pm Pacific)	Region 9 (Feb 8, 12-1:30pm Pacific)

Contact Steve Epting (epting.steve@epa.gov) for more information.

Grant	Deadline	How?
CWA 319 Tribal Competitive Grant	TOMORROW January 27, 2022	Submit full application in Grants.gov
CWA 106 Funding	February 1, 2022	Send draft budget and workplan via email to CWA project officer
CWA 319 Base Funding	February 25, 2022	Send draft budget and workplan via email to CWA project officer

Upcoming Clean Water Act Grant Deadlines

More information can be found:

<https://www.epa.gov/tribal-pacific-sw/r9tribalcwa>



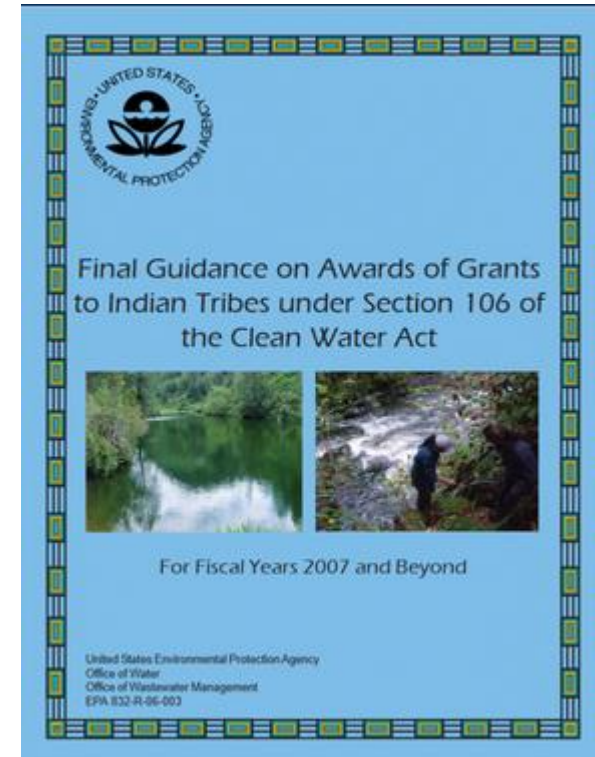
NEW

Grant Match Waivers

- As of October 1, 2021, match for tribal PPGs is waived
 - <https://www.epa.gov/grants/rain-2022-g01>
- CWA 106 Standalone Match Waiver Pending
 - Optional: Submit proposals without match

CWA 106 Guidance Revision

- Notification of Consultation and Coordination on Guidance was sent on January 13, 2021
- First Comment Period – Jan 13- March 15, 2021
- Call for Tribal Volunteers to be part of Subworkgroup – April 2021
- At least one Region 9 Tribal rep in each subworkgroup
- Workgroups Draft Revised Chapters for Guidance – Summer-Fall 2021
- EPA Reviews and Formats Draft Guidance- January 2022
- **Up Next:** EPA shares the draft revised Guidance for the second public comment period



Water Quality Assessment Report (WQAR) FY22

CWA 106 REPORTING REQUIREMENT

Goals Today: WQAR Template

IDENTIFY UPDATES, IF NEEDED

- What's working, what's not
- Potential need for sub-workgroup

EXPANDING USE OF TEMPLATE, FOR CONSISTENT DATA

- Encouraging template use
 - WQAR is a 106 Reporting Requirement, but use of the WQAR excel template is optional
- Achievable results with more uniform data

Current Template: What Updates are Needed?

Last updated October 2016

- Major changes: Added Report Tab and Flat Table

Feedback today: What should be changed and what is working well?

- Number or Theme of Tabs
- Difficulty or ease of entering information
- What discourages use

Identify need for Sub-Workgroup

Clean Water Act Section 106 Tribal Water Quality Assessment Report Template (R9 Pilot)

Tribe: (Type Tribe Name)		Monitoring Period:		(Month Started)		(Number of months monitored)		ONLY FILL OUT COLUMNS 12-15 IF THE "CURRENT WATER QUALITY STATUS" IS MARKED AS "IMPAIRED"							
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12		13		14	15	16	17	
Waterbody Name/Identifier	Waterbody Type	Monitoring Station Located On Reservation	Monitoring Station ID (WQX)	Distance or Area Monitored or Assessed	Unit of Measure	Frequency of Monitoring	Parameters Monitored		Tribal Goal or Designated Use for this Waterbody	Change in water quality since start of monitoring period	Current Water Quality Status	Impaired Parameters		Impaired Tribal Goals/Designated Uses		Source(s) of Impairment	Impairment Status	Watershed restoration project at this monitoring station	Additional Comments	
Wendell Wash	River/Stream Perennial	Yes	Wendell001	3.2	miles (mi)	Choose...	pH	Yes	Unknown	Choose...	Some improvement, some degradation	Impaired	pH	No		Choose...	1) Agriculture (Livestock)	Year Round Impairment	No	(Add other comments or information about this waterbody. EX: No water to monitor, unsafe to monitor due to high flows, faulty equipment.)
							Temperature	Yes	Primary Contact	Yes			Temperature	No	Primary Contact	No				
							Dissolved Oxygen	Yes	Secondary Contact	No			Dissolved Oxygen	No		Choose...				
							Turbidity	Yes	Cultural Use	Yes			Turbidity	Yes	Cultural Use	Yes				
							Total Phosphorus	No	Drinking Water	Choose...			Total Phosphorus	Choose...		Choose...				
							Total Nitrogen	No	Fish/Shellfish Safe To Eat	Choose...			Total Nitrogen	Choose...		Choose...				
							E. coli	Yes	Agricultural Irrigation	Yes			E. coli	No	Agricultural Irrigation	Yes				
							Enterococci	No	Aquatic Life and Wildlife	Choose...			Enterococci	Choose...	Agricultural Irrigation	Choose...				
							Macroinvertebrates	No	Livestock Watering	Yes			Enterococci	Choose...	Livestock Watering	No				
							Basic Habitat	No	Rare And Endangered Species	Choose...			Enterococci	Choose...	Livestock Watering	Choose...				
							(Additional parameter)	Choose...	(Fill in any additional uses)	Choose...			Enterococci	Choose...		Choose...				
							(Additional parameter)	Choose...	(Fill in any additional uses)	Choose...			Enterococci	Choose...		Choose...				
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							(Additional parameter)	Choose...	(Fill in any additional uses)	Choose...			Enterococci	Choose...		Choose...				
Wendell Wash	Wetland	No	Wendell002	4.5	miles (mi)	Bimonthly	pH	Yes	Unknown	Choose...	Some improvement, some degradation	Impaired	pH	No		Choose...	1) Agriculture (Livestock)	Year Round Impairment	No	(Add other comments or information about this waterbody.)
							Temperature	Yes	Primary Contact	Yes			Temperature	No	Primary Contact	No				
							Dissolved Oxygen	Yes	Secondary Contact	No			Dissolved Oxygen	No		Choose...				
							Turbidity	Yes	Cultural Use	Yes			Turbidity	Yes	Cultural Use	Yes				
							Total Phosphorus	Yes	Drinking Water	No			Total Phosphorus	Choose...		Choose...				
							Total Nitrogen	Yes	Fish/Shellfish Safe To Eat	Choose...			Total Nitrogen	Choose...		Choose...				
							E. coli	No	Agricultural Irrigation	Yes			E. coli	No	Agricultural Irrigation	Yes				
							Enterococci	No	Aquatic Life and Wildlife	Yes			Enterococci	Choose...	Agricultural Irrigation	Choose...				
							Macroinvertebrates	No	Livestock Watering	Yes			Enterococci	Choose...	Livestock Watering	No				
							Basic Habitat	No	Rare And Endangered Species	Choose...			Enterococci	Choose...	Livestock Watering	Choose...				
							(Additional parameter)	Choose...	(Fill in any additional uses)	Choose...			Enterococci	Choose...		Choose...				
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							(Additional parameter)	Choose...	(Fill in any additional uses)	Choose...			Enterococci	Choose...		Choose...				

1. Instructions	2. WQAR Template	3. Atlas of Tribal Waters	4. Watershed Restoration	5. Narrative	6. Definitions	7. Report	8. Table (Flat)	...	+	:
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Current WQAR Template Tab

ATLAS OF TRIBAL WATERS

On Reservation

	Total Distance or Area	Monitored
STREAM MILES:	(Type number here)	(Type number here)
LAKE AND RESERVOIR ACRES:	(Type number here)	(Type number here)
WETLAND ACRES:	(Type number here)	(Type number here)
ESTUARY OR COASTAL WATER SQUARE MILES:	(Type number here)	(Type number here)
NUMBER OF SPRINGS:	(Type number here)	(Type number here)
NUMBER OF GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELLS (optional):	(Type number here)	(Type number here)

Off-Reservation

Monitored (optional)
(Type number here)
(Type number here)
(Type number here)
(Type number here)

WATERSHED RESTORATION PROJECT INFORMATION

Tribe: (Type Tribe Name)

The purpose of this section is to help EPA and tribes track water quality changes through the implementation of watershed restoration activities. On-the-ground watershed restoration projects include the implementation of management measures and best management practices (BMPs) in areas where water quality is threatened or has been degraded by pollutants. Such tribal water quality projects are usually funded through EPA's CWA Section 319 grant program, however, other sources of funding (Natural Resources Conservation Service, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Reclamation, etc) are available to tribes. Please list all watershed restoration activities that have been implemented on the specific waterbody/watershed you have listed for this exercise.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
CWA §319 Project	Waterbody or Watershed Targeted by Project	Type of Best Management Practice(s) (BMPs) Implemented	Total BMP Length or Area	BMP Units	Year Project Work Began	Project Status	Pre-Project Data	Post-Project Data	Monitoring Location ID (WQX)	Project Cooperators	Comments
Yes	Wendell Wash	Fencing/Barrier Control	4.6	miles (mi)		In Progress	Yes	No	Wendell001	BOR	Example
		Waste Removal	1.5	miles (mi)							
		Seeding/Mulching	0.4	acres (ac)							
Choose...		Choose...		Choose...		Choose...	Choose...	Choose...			
Choose...		Choose...		Choose...		Choose...	Choose...	Choose...			
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Choose...		Choose...		Choose...		Choose...	Choose...	Choose...			
Choose...		Choose...		Choose...		Choose...	Choose...	Choose...			

Current WQAR Template: Atlas of Tribal Waters and Watershed Restoration Project Information Tabs

EPA Region 9
CWA §106 Water Quality Assessment Report Template Pilot
Narrative Outline

The following is a suggested outline for the narrative component of the Water Quality Assessment Report. This should be used in conjunction with the Region 9 Water Quality Assessment Report Template (WQAR Template) and the submittal of your water quality data in a STORET-compatible format in order to comply with the annual reporting requirement as described in Appendix A of the *Final Guidance on Awards of Grants to Indian Tribes under Section 106 of the Clean Water Act*. For additional information, please refer to Appendix A and contact your CWA § 106 Project Officer.

The subsequent information should be discussed by ALL grantees receiving CWA § 106 funding for their Water Quality Monitoring Program:

1) Name of Tribe:

2) Project Period Used for Water Quality Assessment:

- a. Should be the same project period used within the WQAR Template and Water Quality Data submittal

3) Purpose of your Water Quality Monitoring Program:

NOTE: Be sure to include the goals described within your Monitoring Strategy

- a. Describe the Major Goals of your program
 - i. Examples: Identifying water quality problem areas, developing a water quality baseline by collecting data from around the area/region for purposes of developing trend analysis, identifying Nonpoint source (NPS) impacts, protect and maintain water quality for cultural purposes, address public health concerns, etc.
 - ii. Do you currently have tribally-adopted water quality standards on any of the monitored water bodies?

4) Collaboration or coordination with other groups addressing water quality concerns:

- a. Discuss in detail any work with other groups on your water bodies and/or within your watershed to address water quality issues
 - i. Examples: watershed restoration activities, ordinances, community outreach, etc.
- b. Watershed organizations, stakeholders (farmer groups or concerned community members), local irrigation districts, etc.

5) Design of your Water Quality Monitoring Program:

NOTE: Be sure that the justification for your monitoring design is consistent with your Monitoring Strategy

- a. Discuss the approach you used for selection of sampling sites
 - i. List the factors that went into your decisions, for example:
 1. Particular water bodies of concern
 2. Accessibility to water for the person monitoring
 3. Was there a particular area of concern?
 4. Changes in water source (i.e., the convergence of two streams, the affects of a dam, etc)
 5. Seasonal water flows and conditions
- b. Discuss the approach you used for determining the frequency in which all of the sampling locations would be monitored
 - i. List the factors that went into your decisions, for example:
 1. Seasonal or daily water flows and conditions
 2. Changes in human activities on a water body (construction, agriculture, etc)
 3. Resource availability (personnel, monitoring funding, etc)

6) How water quality data is interpreted and managed:

NOTE: Use your Monitoring Strategy as a reference when discussing this portion of the narrative

- a. Do you have any lab support for your water quality program?
 - i. How do results from the lab get organized with the results taken in the field?
- b. How is your data organized?
 - i. Spreadsheet (STORET/WQX compatible?)
 - ii. Access Database

Distance Monitoring	
Monitored Miles	(Type number here)
Atlas Miles	(Type number here)
Ratio of monitored miles	#VALUE!
Area Monitoring	
Monitored Area (acres)	#VALUE!
Atlas Area (acres)	#VALUE!
Ratio of monitored area	#VALUE!
Monitoring Station Count	
River/Stream	0
Lake	0
Spring	0
Estuary	0
Reservoir	0
River/Stream Intermittent	0
River/Stream Perennial	1
Well	0
Wetland	1
Hot Spring	0
Slough	0
Ocean	0
Other-Ground Water	0
Other-Surface Water	0
Frequency of Monitoring	

Water Body Type	Count
River/Stream	0
Lake	0
Spring	0
Estuary	0
Reservoir	0
River/Stream Intermittent	0
River/Stream Perennial	1
Well	0
Wetland	1
Hot Spring	0
Slough	0
Ocean	0
Other-Ground Water	0
Other-Surface Water	0

1. Instructions 2. WQAR Template 3. Atlas of Tribal Waters 4. Watershed Restoration 5. Narrative 6. Definitions

▶ 1. Instructions 2. WQAR Template 3. Atlas of Tribal Waters 4. Water

Current WQAR Template: Narrative and Report Tabs

Expanding Use of Template: What Can We Gain?

Immediate Benefits of Expanded Use:

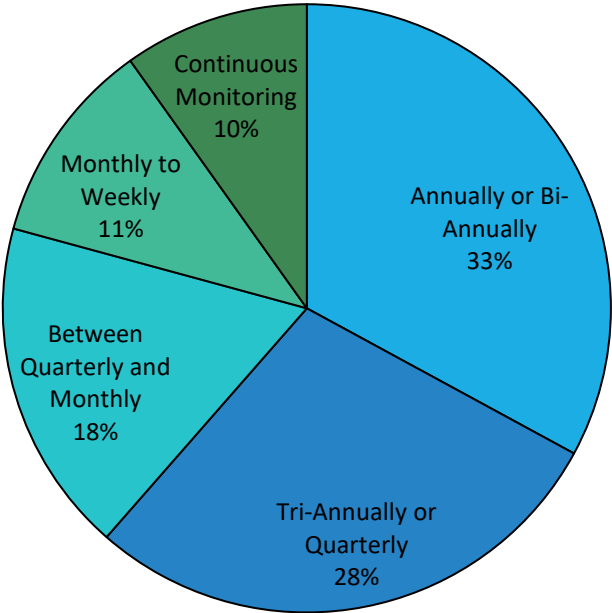
- Share with Regional Administrator and other Senior Leadership to provide status on R9 Tribes
- Summary overview of Tribal Waters at RTOC and Annual Conference

Long Term Benefits of Expanded Use:

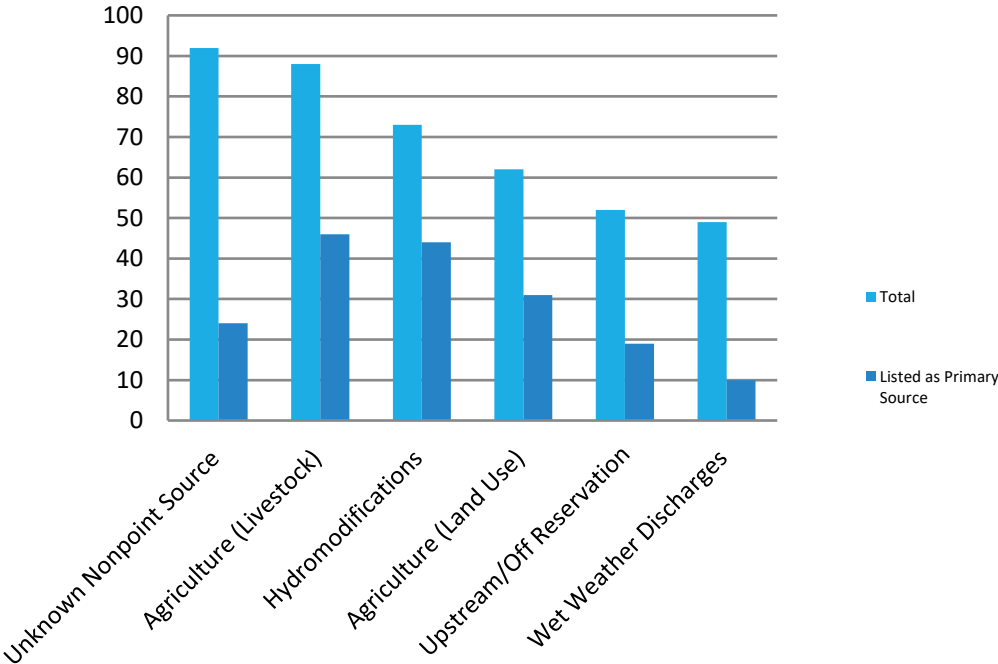
- Demonstrates need for funding within Region 9
- Identifies potential areas for improvement, additional funding or training opportunities

Examples of Reports We Can Run: WQAR Template Tab

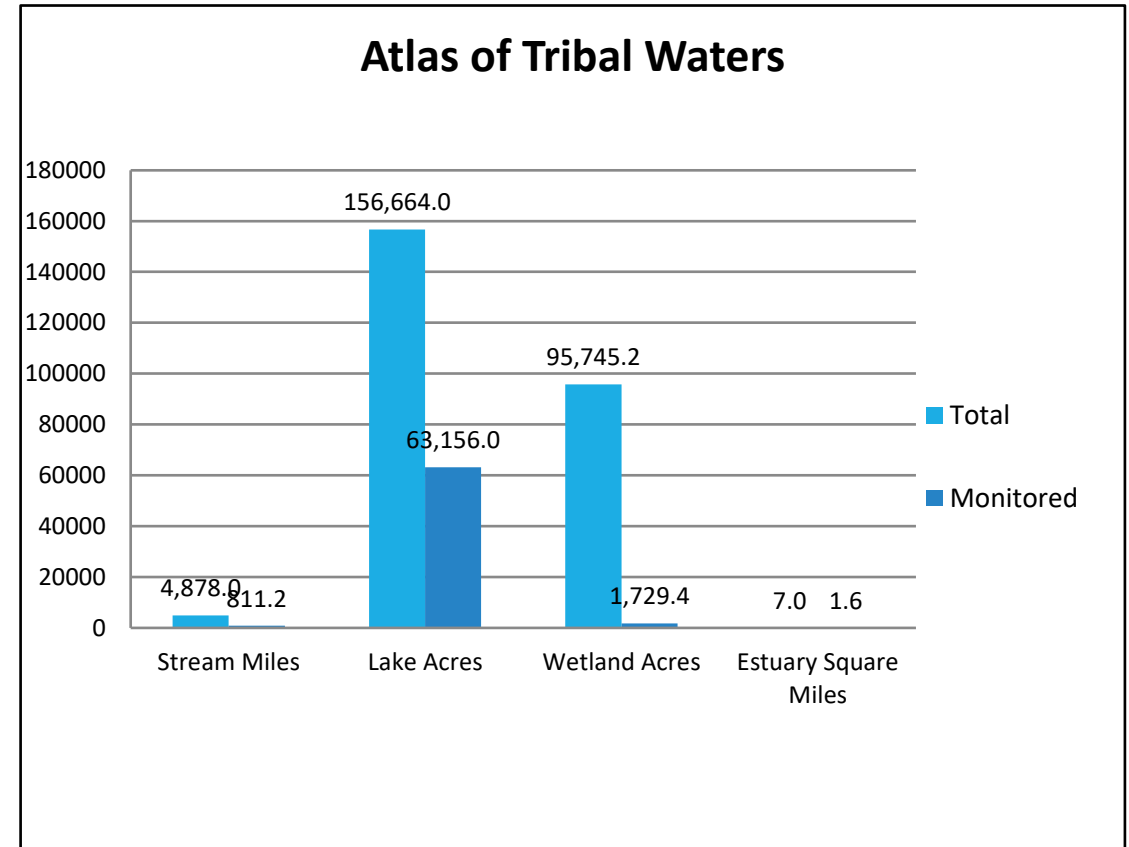
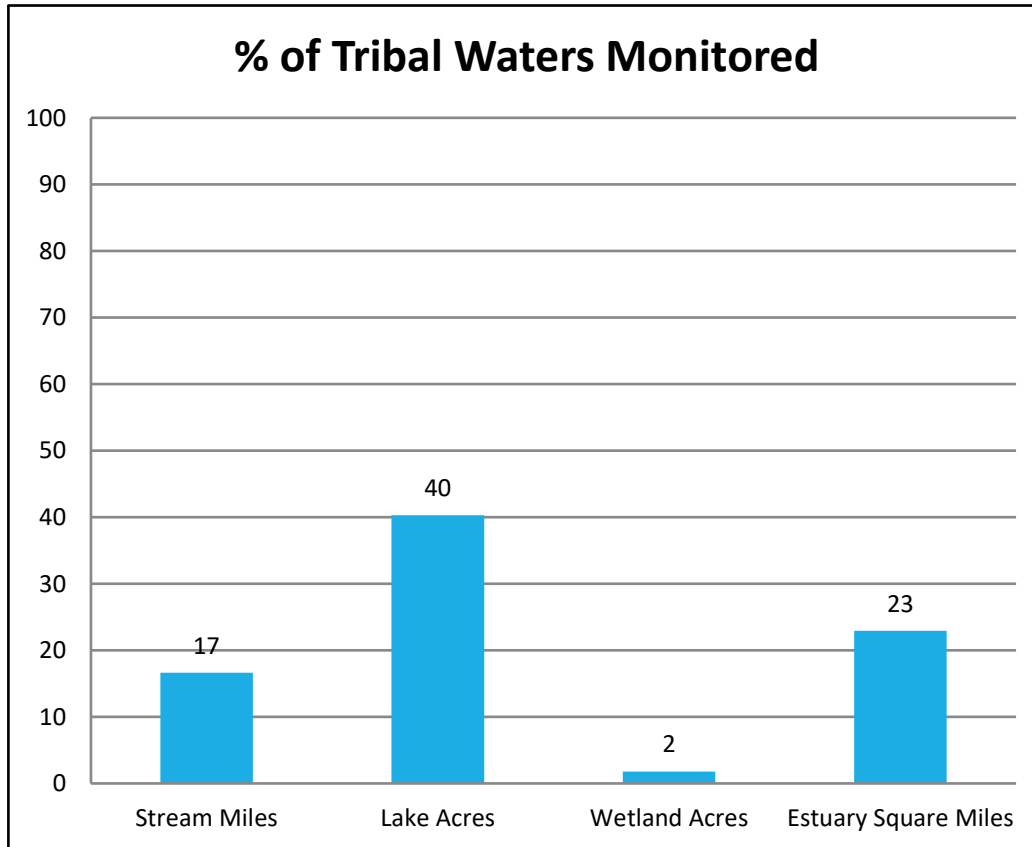
Frequency of Water Quality Monitoring



Primary Sources of Water Quality Impairment

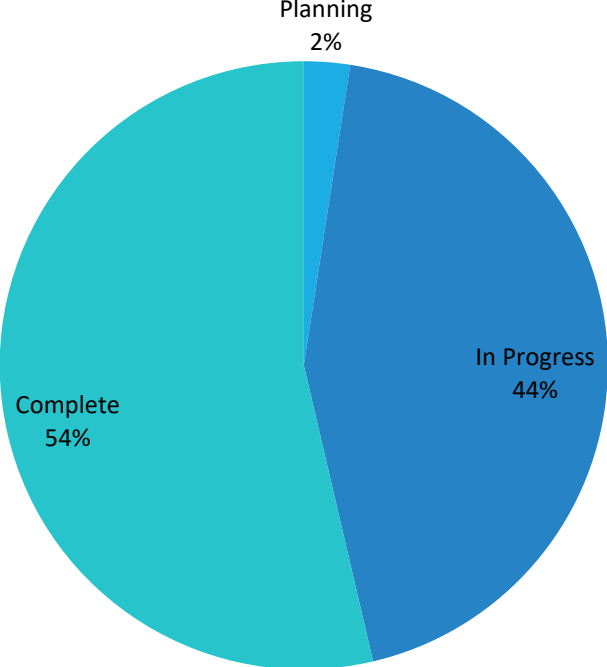


Examples of Reports We Can Run: Atlas of Tribal Waters Tab

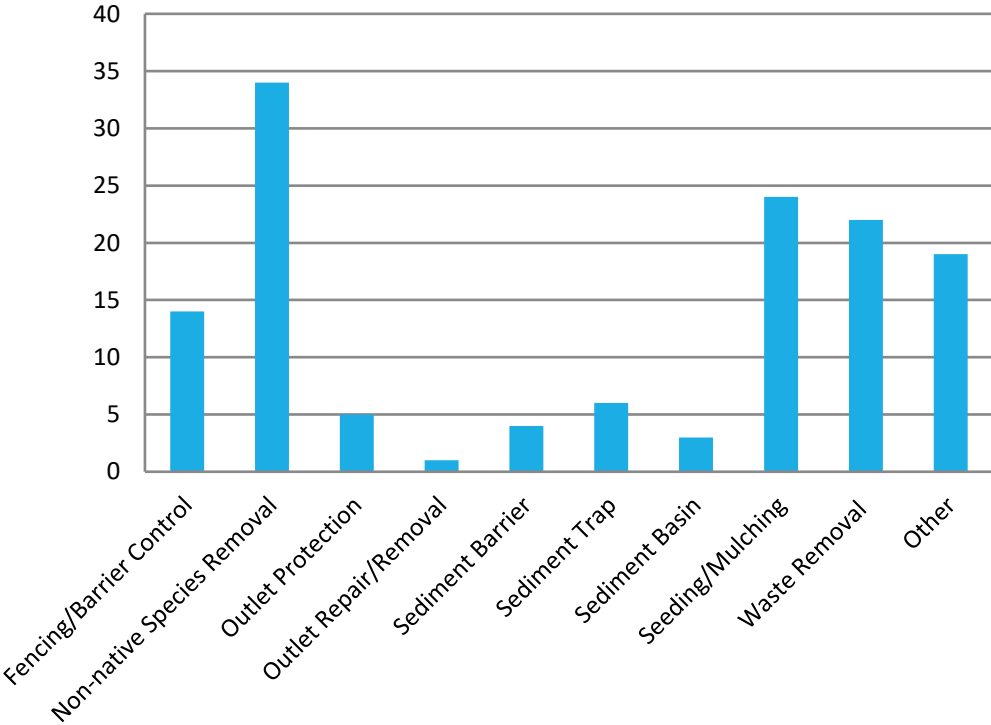


Examples of Reports We Can Run: Watershed Restoration Tab

Project Status



BMPs Used



Thank you!

Please contact

Steve Epting for questions about CWA 319 EJ: Epting.Steve@epa.gov

Kate Pinkerton for questions about CWA 106: Pinkerton.Kate@epa.gov

Sofia Sotomayor for questions about WQAR: Sotomayor.Sofia@epa.gov

Licia Maclear for questions about MPG Funds: Maclear.Licia@epa.gov