

Modeling and Regulatory Support Workgroup (MRSW) Meeting

October 4, 2022, 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM

In-person meeting at Butner Town Hall

Call-in option: (717)275-8940 Meeting code: 599 2074

Materials related to the meeting will be placed on the UNRBA [Meeting page](#) prior to the meeting.

I. Opening Comments, Agenda Review/Revisions — Chair, Michelle Woolfolk

II. Watershed Model Report Status

Item Summary (Alix Matos): The draft WARMF watershed modeling report was distributed to the MRSW on June 30, 2022. We have received comments from several MRSW members as well as DWR. The modeling team continues to compile and address comments in a revised report to be submitted to the Path Forward Committee (PFC). Following PFC review and input, the report will be finalized for submittal to DWR for their formal review along with the modeling files and executable. Prior to delivery of the watershed model files, the modeling team will conduct a training workshop with DWR and others interested in running the model.

III. WARMF Lake Development and Calibration Status

Item Summary (Alix Matos and Scott Sheeder): The modeling team will present a revised draft calibration of the WARMF Lake model for review by the MRSW. The model team has been evaluating uniform model coefficients for chemical and biological processes as suggested by the third-party reviewers in the August MRSW meeting. Net settling rates are still segment-specific given their physical differences. The modeling team will briefly summarize the revised model coefficients as well as the performance statistics for the six lake segments. The MRSW will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the calibration as well as proposed model coefficients for the WARMF Lake sensitivity analyses.

IV. EFDC Lake Modeling Status

Item Summary (Alix Matos and Silong Wu): During the [May 2022](#) and [August 2022](#) MRSW meetings, the modeling team described the challenges with the EFDC chlorophyll-a calibration with respect to the algal groups present in Falls Lake and comparisons to total algal biovolume. Modeling team has continued to discuss EFDC model calibration with subject matter experts and DWR modeling staff with most recent meeting on September 26, 2022. Further refinements are being made and sensitivity analyses being conducted; we hope to finalize the calibration soon.

V. Lake Reporting Status

Item Summary (Alix Matos): The modeling team is continuing to draft sections and appendices of the lake modeling report and will continue to work with subject matter experts and DWR regarding time series comparisons to observed data. Our current focus is on responding to comments on the watershed modeling report.

VI. Statistical Model Development and Plan for Developing the Revised Strategy and Site-Specific Chlorophyll-a Water Quality Standard Proposal

Item Summary (Forrest Westall and Jay Sauber): The modeling team is continuing to develop the statistical/Bayesian/decision support tool. The Executive Director will continue to coordinate with DWR on a collaborative approach for DWR and UNRBA to finalize the models, develop a revised nutrient management strategy, and develop a petition for site specific criteria. The UNRBA will continue to work with other stakeholders on these items as well. The UNRBA subject matter experts continue to evaluate other State's

site-specific standards for chlorophyll-a and nutrient-related standards and continue to coordinate with Dr. Marty Lebo to integrate his work into the statistical modeling and regulatory support efforts.

VII. Communications Outreach and Preparation

Item Summary (Forrest Westall): There are several items of outreach that are underway including the continued engagement with DWR and a training workshop on the new WARMF model interface this fall. The UNRBA is also planning for the Technical Stakeholder Workshop scheduled for this winter, the workshop with local government communications staff scheduled for this winter, a workshop with DWR/NC Policy Collaboratory/NGOs to discuss stakeholder feedback on the concepts for a revised nutrient management strategy planned for spring 2023, a joint symposium with NC Policy Collaboratory planned for early summer 2023, and a Stakeholder workshop to review the final draft strategy in Fall 2023.

VIII. Future Meeting Protocols

Item Summary (Forrest Westall): The Executive Director will continue to track conditions and coordinate changes as needed.

Next PFC Meeting: November 8, 2022, 9:30 AM to Noon

Next BOD Meeting: November 16, 2022, 9:30 AM to Noon