

GREETINGS
FROM

What's New in Water?

Ken Moraff

EPA Region 1 – 9/15/20



State Flower the Lilac

Faster NPDES Permits

Long-Term Performance Goal

LTPG 3.4.1 By September 30, 2022, reach all permitting-related decisions within **six months.**⁴⁵



Working Together

FY 2018-2022 U.S. EPA Strategic Plan

February 2018 (Updated: September 2019)



**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY**

40 CFR Part 121

[EPA-HQ-OW-2019-0405; FRL-10009-80-OW]

RIN 2040-AF86

**Clean Water Act Section 401
Certification Rule**

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is publishing this final rule to update and clarify the substantive and procedural requirements for water quality certification under Clean Water Act (CWA or the Act) section 401. CWA section 401 is a direct grant of authority to States (and Tribes that have been approved for “treatment as a State” status) to review for compliance with appropriate federal, State, and Tribal water quality requirements any discharge into a water of the United States that may result from a proposed activity that requires a federal license or permit. This final rule is intended to increase the predictability and timeliness of CWA section 401 certification actions by clarifying timeframes for certification, the scope of certification review and conditions, and related certification requirements and procedures.

DATES: This rule is effective on September 11, 2020.

New 401 Certification Rule

40 CFR 124.53:

(b) Applications received without a State certification shall be forwarded by the Regional Administrator to the certifying State agency with a request that certification be granted or denied.

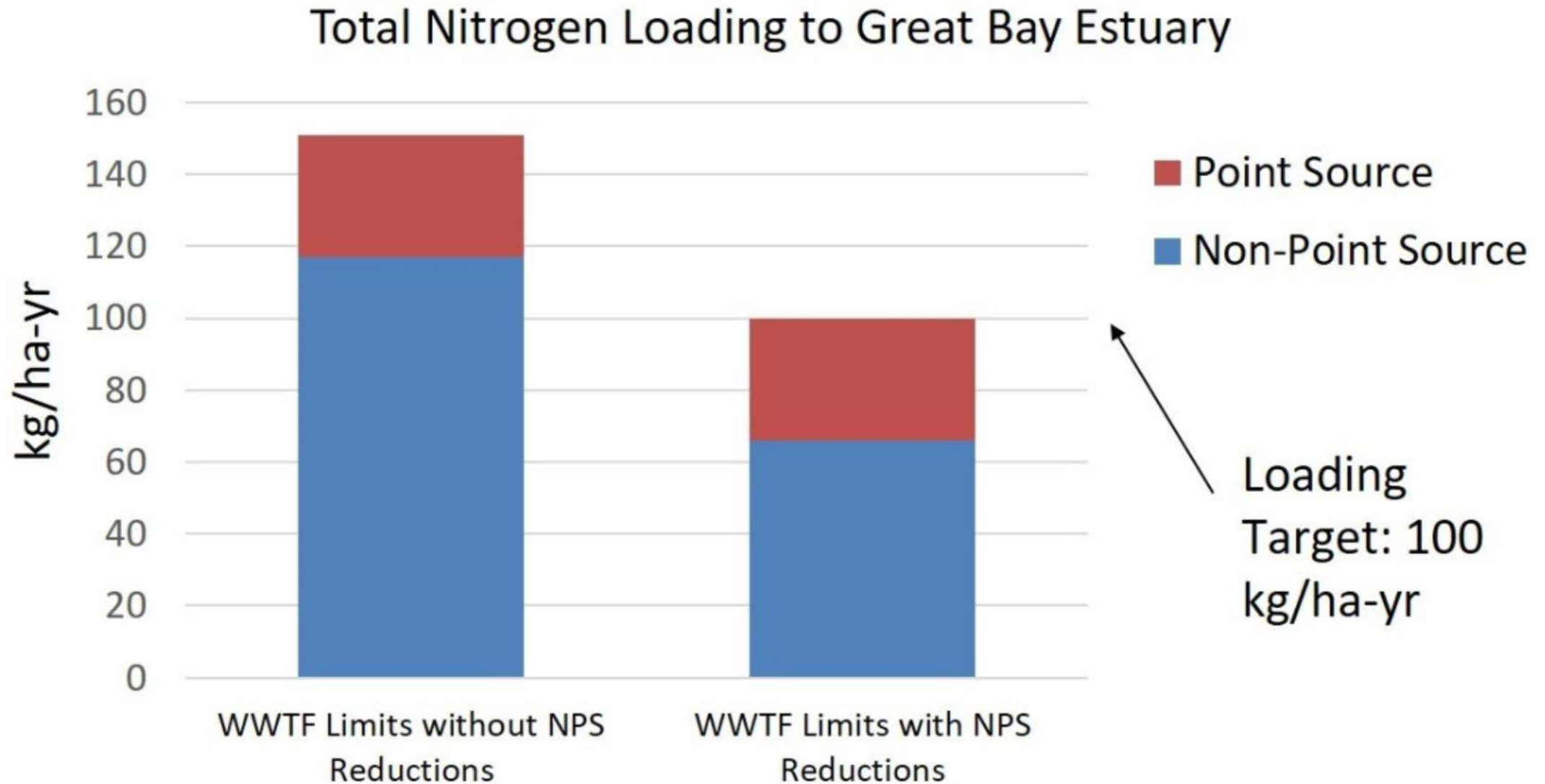
(c) If State certification has not been received by the time the draft permit is prepared, the Regional Administrator shall send the certifying State agency:

(1) A copy of a draft permit;

(2) A statement that EPA cannot issue or deny the permit until the certifying State agency has granted or denied certification under §124.55, or waived its right to certify; and

(3) A statement that the State will be deemed to have waived its right to certify unless that right is exercised within a specified reasonable time not to exceed 60 days from the date the draft permit is mailed to the certifying State agency unless the Regional Administrator finds that unusual circumstances require a longer time.

Flexible Nutrient Permits





Stormwater Petitions



May 9, 2019

Deborah Szaro
Acting Regional Administrator
EPA New England Region
1 Congress Street, Suite 1100
Boston, MA 02114-2023

RE: Petition for a Determination that Certain Commercial, Industrial, Institutional, and Multi-Family Residential Property Dischargers Contribute to Water Quality Standards Violations in the Charles River Watershed, Massachusetts, and that NPDES Permitting of Such Properties is Required

Dear Acting Regional Administrator Szaro,

As the Regional Administrator of the EPA New England Region ("EPA Region 1"), the Conservation Law Foundation ("CLF") and Charles River Watershed Association ("CRWA") hereby petition you for a determination pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 122.26(f)(2) that discharges of stormwater that are not currently subject to direct permitting by EPA from privately owned commercial, industrial, institutional,¹ and multi-family residential² real properties of one acre or greater in the Charles River Watershed ("Contributing Discharges") contribute to violations of water quality standards in the Charles River and require permits under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES").

As set forth below, the facts and the law, as developed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), require that these unpermitted discharges must be

WARNING

Toxic algae currently present in water
May be hazardous to health
Pets and people avoid direct contact
with algae and water
For more information please see:
www.mass.gov/dph/ceh



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Region 1

5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
Boston, Massachusetts 02109-3912

August 13, 2020

Dear Charles River Watershed Stakeholder:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's New England Region (EPA Region 1) is **beginning to evaluate** whether a new program is needed to control stormwater pollution from certain commercial, industrial, and institutional sources in the Charles River watershed at sites that are not currently covered by any existing federal or state stormwater permit.

...

We are in the **very early stages of analysis** on how best to act. We strongly believe your voice will help us **design as efficient and effective** an approach as possible, informed by your concerns and ideas. We are reaching out to you now, while our thinking is at its most fluid, so that our decision-making process will be informed by **an understanding** of the range of concerns, ideas, **available data**, and **realistic options**. **Your contributions** within the next **several months** **will help EPA ensure that its decision** on how to respond to the petition **is well-informed and implementable**.

COVID-19 Arrives

March 4, 2020

Hi Ken

It would be helpful if GSA put soap dispensers in all the kitchens to encourage hand washing.

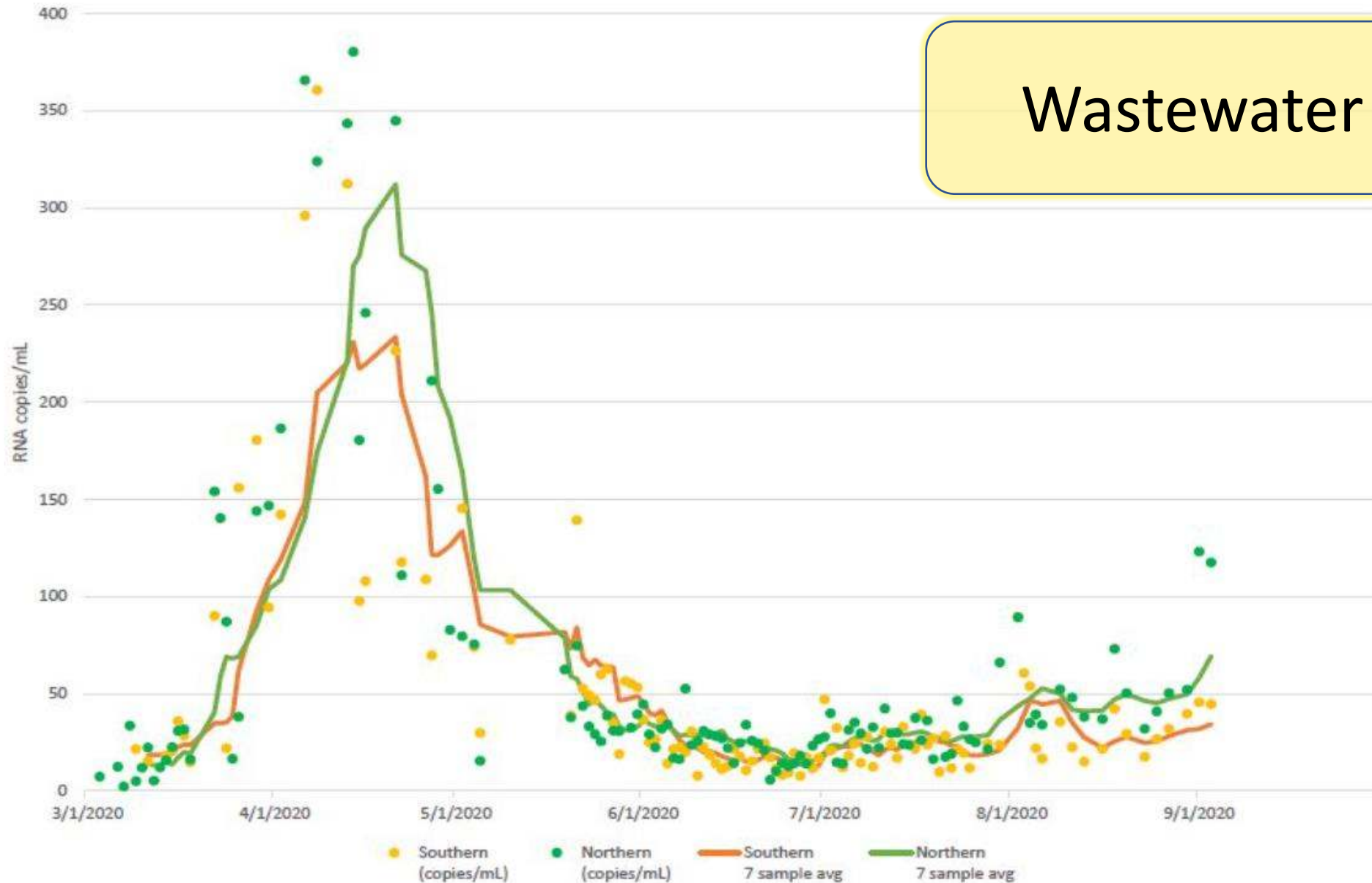
Thanks for soliciting ideas as staff are becoming more anxious.

Have a good day,

[REDACTED]

DITP Viral RNA Signal by Date

Wastewater Surveillance



Biobot Data – samples submitted through 09/04/2020



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)



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🏠 Cases, Data & Surveillance

US Cases & Deaths +

Cases & Deaths by County

Testing Data in the US +

Hospitalizations & Emergency Dept Visits +

Serology (Antibody) Surveillance +

CASES, DATA & SURVEILLANCE

National Wastewater Surveillance System (NWSS)

A new **public health tool** to **understand COVID-19 spread** in a community

Updated Aug. 17, 2020

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The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), in collaboration with agencies throughout the federal government, are initiating the National Wastewater Surveillance System (NWSS) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The data generated by the NWSS will help local health officials better understand the extent of COVID-19



Questions?

Ken Moraff

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