

# Executive Summary

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The Indiana State Nonpoint Source Management Plan (“Plan”) guides the usage of Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 319 funds received by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). Current U.S. EPA policy requires states to update their Plans every five years. This 2014 revision of the Plan is an update of the latest edition which was completed in 2008 (IDEM 2008).

Nonpoint source water pollution in general is a reflection of land uses on a given watershed landscape. Nonpoint source pollution in Indiana originates from a variety of sources, including agriculture, forestry, mining, and urban or residential land uses. Of the 63,130 miles of streams and rivers in Indiana and 106,205 acres of lakes, 27,452 miles of flowing waters and 43,613 lake acres are considered impaired for one or more designated use(s) (IDEM 2012a), the majority of which are believed to be impaired by nonpoint source.

Under its previous five-year program plan (approved in 2008), Indiana formulated a multi-layered approach to the treatment of nonpoint source pollution that includes monitoring, targeted implementation, and education and outreach. Monitoring and modeling form the basis of the program. Watersheds eligible for 319 funding must be included on the current 303(d) List of Impaired Waters (“impaired waters”); or have had a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) calculated for pollutants in the watershed; or have an approved watershed management plan (WMP). Indiana has targeted its restoration dollars to watersheds with impaired waters that have demonstrated stakeholder interest in tackling nonpoint source issues and show the most potential for success. Section 319 watershed planning and implementation grant recipients undertake an outreach campaign for the local watershed and encourage the use of best management practices (BMPs) on targeted lands. Cost-share for those BMPs is often provided through a Section 319 grant or through the United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Farm Bill programs. As a result of these efforts, Indiana has been able to show successful restoration of several streams and watersheds (Table 6).

In April 2013 U.S. EPA released new guidance for state nonpoint source programs to adhere to. This 2014 Nonpoint Source Management Plan update has been written to meet that guidance. Over the next five years, Indiana’s Section 319 program proposes to continue working with state, federal and local partners to produce and implement watershed management plans. However, with shrinking funds available to continue this important work, Indiana proposes to work with partners to prioritize its watersheds for funding. Indiana will work to achieve a balance between restoration and protection activities funded through its programs.

This Plan will be reviewed annually by program staff to assess its continued validity. The next full revision of this program plan will be completed in FFY 2018.