

Stormwater Management

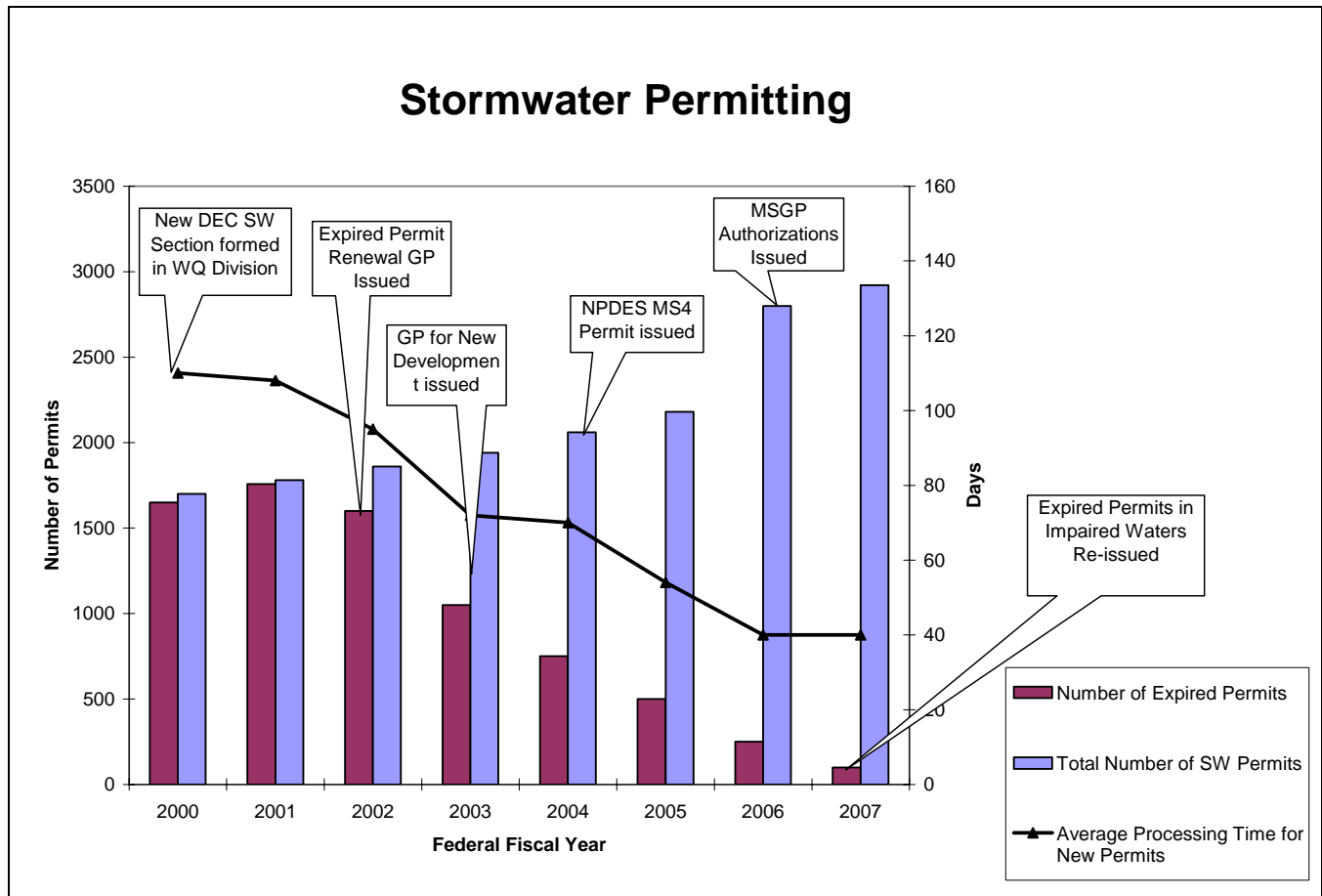
Water Quality Division

December 15, 2005

Results

Effective and efficient permitting and management of stormwater discharges, reduction in expired permit backlog, remediation of stormwater impaired watersheds, and protection of instream water quality through implementation of enhanced stormwater treatment standards.

Key Indicators



Story Behind Baseline Performance

The Stormwater Management Section was transferred to the Water Quality Division effective September 2001. The new enhanced program was given four primary goals; lower processing time for new permits, develop a strategy to eliminate the backlog of expired permits, develop and issue the Federal Multi-Sector and MS4 General Permits, and develop a strategy to remediate stormwater impaired waters, while simultaneously preventing additional waters from becoming impaired. With an increased staffing level, issuance of several general permits, and a workplan to reduce the permit backlog, the processing time for permit review dropped while the total number of new permit decisions has increased. The innovative concept of Watershed Improvement Permits was devised to implement immediate remediation of stormwater-impaired waters. Unfortunately these permits were subsequently overturned on appeal to the Water Resources Board. The VTDEC is now pursuing an alternative

strategy developed through a collaborative process with the WRB. This process expands the scope and detail of watershed study, developing TMDL targets based upon hydrological comparisons with similar un-impaired watersheds. This new process should be fully in place by 2007.

New stormwater treatment standards have been put in place, and a proposed SW rule would reduce the threshold for requiring a SW permit. Aggressive efforts have been made to reduce the expired permit backlog, and dramatic results have been accomplished in this area. Recent personnel losses have caused delays in the adoption and implementation of the MSGP. If adequate personnel and funding can be maintained over the next three-year period, the baseline trends toward improved performance and accomplishment of the four goals will be achieved within this period of time.

Also transferred to the Water Quality Division in 2001 was the NPDES program for the permitting of stormwater discharges from construction sites involving land disturbances of 5 or more acres. In April 2002, the Division adopted a new general permit to cover these discharges. In April 2003, the permit was revised to include municipal projects, which became jurisdictional on March 10, 2003 under Phase II of the NPDES rules. Under Phase II, the Division is currently also processing a general permit for sites involving disturbances between one and five acres.

Strategies/ Performance Measures / Proposed Accomplishments

Regulation, Compliance Assistance, and Enforcement - Vermont Stormwater Management Procedures, 10 V.S.A. § 1264, Federal CWA

Performance Measure	“P”=Projected and “A”=Actual Values	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006*	2007	2008
Number of new operational SW permits issued	P	56	87	58	80	80	80	100	120	120
	A	56	87	58	39	62	109	11		
Average DEC Day processing time	P	110	108	95	60	30	30	40	40	40
	A	110	108	95	72	70	54	66		
Percentage meeting PEP standard	P	80	83	95	95	100	100	100	100	100
	A	80	83	95	100	50	36			
Number of Expired Permits Re-issued	P	0	0	20	125	500	250	150	300	
	A				59	185	270	18		
Number of WIPs issued	P			6	4					
	A			6	0					
Number of Watershed Permits	P							2	10	
	A									
Number of NOIs under MSGP	P						500	500	200	100
	A						0			
Number of Large Construction Permits	P				65	80	80	150	150	
	A			38	54	76	151	9		
Number of Small Construction Permits	P						500	500	500	
	A						0			

* Year to date

Strategy 1: Regulatory

- a) Issue general permit authorizations or individual discharge permits to control construction activities for all jurisdictional projects.

- b) Enhance the existing inspection program to provide assistance at construction sites and to identify measures which can be taken to improve the Handbook, outreach, and permits.
- c) Participate in Act 250 to the extent that resources allow – so that guidance for site design and erosion control planning is available early on in the process.

Proposed Accomplishments

- 2004, 2005, 2006 – Maintain existing Stormwater regulatory program and performance standards
- 2004 – Target expired permit backlog reduction (300 permits re-issued)
- 2005 – Target expired permit backlog reduction (250 permits re-issued)
- 2006 – Target expired permit backlog reduction (250 permits re-issued)
- 2007 – Target expired permit backlog reduction (250 permits re-issued)

Grants and Loans - None

Education and Technical Assistance - Field visits, technical design assistance, stormwater treatment design classes, public outreach at meetings and seminars

Performance Measure	“P”=Projected and A”=Actual Values	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Stormwater information and outreach at meetings and seminars	P				15	15	15	15	15	15
	A	0	0	20	15	15	15			
Formal analysis and design training	P				4	4	4	4	4	4
	A	0	0	3	4	4	4			

Strategy 2: Professional Training & Public Education

- a) Finalize the Vermont Handbook on Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control on Construction Sites.
- b) Train engineers and contractors on NPDES rules and use of Handbook.

Proposed Accomplishments

- 2004 - Target education toward MSGP and previously permitted projects.
- 2005 - Target education toward MSGP
- 2006 – Issue Stormwater TMDL(s) and corresponding Watershed Implementation Permits
Issue and Implement Federal MSGP
Issue and Implement Federal 1 -5 acre Construction General Permit

Monitoring, Assessment, and Direct Services – WIPs, Field Audits, Previous Permittee Assistance

Proposed Accomplishments

- 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 – Maintain/improve existing performance on permit review times