DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
Toxics Advisory Committee, January 28, 2021 Meeting Minutes

The DRBC Toxics Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting, chaired by Clay Stern, was held on January 28, 2021 by virtual meeting. The meeting was started by approving minutes from the last meeting. Other business included a discussion of an opening for a member to represent agriculture, industry member expiring in 2021, the chairperson rotation, as well as potential speakers and topics for future meetings.

Presentations:

Status of Stage 2 PCB TMDLs for the Delaware River Estuary and Bay - Namsoo Suk, DRBC
https://www.nj.gov/drbc/library/documents/TAC/012821/DRBC_Stage2PCB_TMDLs_update_suk.pdf
Following the presentation Tracy Carluccio, DRN asked when the report will be finalization. Namsoo answered that the goal has been to be finalize each year but requires coordination with multiple agencies. The goal is to finalize in 2021.

1,4 dioxane monitoring – John Yagecic, DRBC
https://www.nj.gov/drbc/library/documents/TAC/012821/DRBC_1-4Dioxane_yagecic.pdf
Following the presentation questions focused on cost, media sampled (surface water, not sediment or fish) and sampling locations, if other solvents (e.g., 1,2,3-TCP) are of concern in the estuary and if partitioning coefficient were determined (literature values may be available). Matt Csik, NJAW thanked John Yagecic and the DRBC team for their expertise provided to NJAW on this topic.

Sources of 1,4-Dioxane in the Tidal Delaware River – Claire Kojaian, MSAG Capstone Project, University of Pennsylvania.
https://www.nj.gov/drbc/library/documents/TAC/012821/UPenn_14Dioxane_Kojaian.pdf
This student poster presentation was well received, and no questions were asked.

PFAS Water Resources Characterization Study – *Matt Fritch, PWD*
https://www.nj.gov/drbc/library/documents/TAC/012821/PWD_PFAS-Study_Fritch.pdf
Discussion following the presentation confirmed that the minimum reporting level used was 2 ng/L (ppt) and that the characterization study is on surface water not treated drinking water or tap water. Work by other groups is available from sampling data near the military bases upstream of the sampling sites.

PFAS monitoring – Ron MacGillivray, DRBC
https://www.nj.gov/drbc/library/documents/TAC/012821/DRBC_PFASmonitoring_macgillivray.pdf
Following the presentation Joe Duris – USGS PAWSC asked if Total Oxidizable Precursor (TOP) analysis will be used? Currently TOP is not being used in the DRBC monitoring but TOP is under consideration for future samples. Joe Duris – USGS PAWSC also asked "Have any states in the DRBC promulgated fish consumption guidelines for PFAS?" Dr. Sandra Goodrow, NJDEP indicated that NJ has fish consumption advisories for PFAS in the Delaware River and its tributaries. Dr.David Velinsky, indicated that The Academy, Temple and others are conducting a PFAS bioaccumulation study around Willow Grove that is delayed due to COVID. Joe Duris – USGS PAWSC indicated that the USGS is collecting samples in the Little Neshaminy Creek & Neshaminy Creek in cooperation with PADEP, also at many sites in the Schuylkill River Drainage that include PFAS analysis. After a brief discussion of PFAS impact on aquatic dependent wildlife by Clay Stern, Eric Bind and David Velinsky, Joe Duris – USGS PAWSC shared https://www.usgs.gov/centers/pwrc/science/immune-system-changes-and-susceptibility-disease-birds-

exposed environmental?qtscience_center_objects=0#qt=science_center_objects
Christine Custer, UMESC, ccuster@usgs.gov

The DRBC is evaluating a strategy to address PFAS issues in the Basin that includes guidance for monitoring of point source discharges. As part of that effort, the DRBC is reaching out and soliciting input and perspectives from basin states, EPA, stakeholders and especially from the regulated community.

Delaware Estuary Microplastics Monitoring and Cleanup – Jake Bransky
DRBC received a grant for microplastics sampling in Estuary. Goal of project is to look at microplastics densities in upper Estuary. Ten sampling locations were collected in 2019 (10L whole water) methodology for analysis was developed in cooperation working with Temple U WET Center. DRBC will be collecting additional samples spring 2021 using nets to filter larger volumes of water. The second part of the project is using results to targeted cleanup efforts in watersheds with higher levels of plastics. A number of groups and agencies are conducting microplastics work in the Delaware River Basin: USGS (in sediment, fish, and mussels); UDel (microplastics studies in the bay); PWD (in water); PDE (in sediment); and at Rutgers U (in water).
Following the oral update: Jess Newbern, NPS shared a report entitled "Microplastics in the Delaware River, Northeastern United States"https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/fs20203071 ; Kelly Somers, EPA also shared that the EPA will be presenting at the Delaware Estuary Science Summit on work in the Chesapeake Bay focusing on developing a preliminary ecological risk assessment for microplastics and juvenile striped bass. EPA also helped create a unit terminology and science document and a science strategy for Chesapeake Bay. If anyone wants to learn more about that effort, email her at somers.kelly@epa.gov. Kelly is interested in discussing how that work can translate to the Delaware Estuary unit terminology and size classification document for microplastics; David Blye, Environmental Standards, Inc. shared an article on microplastics https://www.envstd.com/recently-published-in-law360-actions-cos-can-take-now-to-address-microplastics-risk/ ; and Joe Doris informed the group that the USGS Northeast Region Urban Landscapes Capabilities Team is compiling information on sampling including wastewater and downstream samples. The team meets monthly and would like to hear about DRBC's work. USGS, at the national level in the water mission area, has put together a science-planning team to formulate a water strategy for microplastics to help fill gaps in data, methodologies, and modeling.

2020 Delaware River and Bay Water Quality Assessment announcement – Jake Bransky
WQAssessmentReport2020.pdf (state.nj.us) There were no question following the announcement that the report is available on the DRBC website.

Presentations and meeting materials are posted on the Commission website at https://www.nj.gov/drbc/about/advisory/TAC_jan2021.html

TAC member participants were John Cargill, DE; Roop Guha and Dr. Sandra Goodrow, NJ; Jason Fagel, NY; Maria Schumack, PA ; Dr. David Velinsky, Tracy Carluccio, Bart Ruiter, Scott Northey, Jason Cruz, Eric Bind, and Kuo-Liang Lai, EPA with sixty-five other participants.