



# Minnesota's Clean Water Effectiveness Across the System

Interim Measures Workshop  
Washington DC - EPA  
August 19 - 20, 2009

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency



# Background

- Minnesota's Clean Water Legacy Act – 2 years funding/Clean Water Council
- Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment passed November 2008 – fraction of sales tax – 25 years.
- Clean Water Council Sub-team & Inter-agency Staff Team

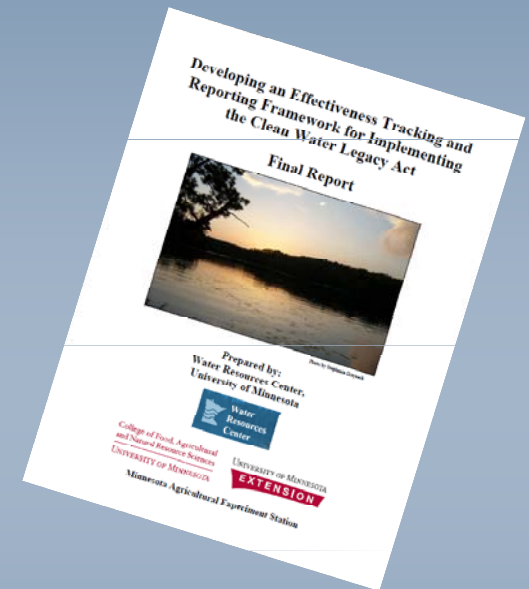


# Background cont.

- Multi-Agency Measures Framework Discussion hosted by University of Minnesota
- Next Steps – Finalizing measures to test in pilot watersheds, creating data system, communicating results

# Existing Metrics and Indicators

- Interagency/University of Minnesota effort to develop framework
- Key elements:
  - Organizational Performance
  - Partnerships/Leveraging
  - Social Indicators
  - Environmental Outcomes
- Key management “phases”
  - Monitoring and Assessment
  - TMDL/Protection Strategy Development
  - Implementation
- Measurement scale





# Metrics and Indicators, cont.

- Brainstormed list of potential metrics

## *Sample Measures*

### Assessment

- % of watersheds monitored and assessed
- % of stream sites or miles with citizen volunteers

### Planning (TMDLs)

- % locally-led TMDLs
- # of watersheds with completed implementation plans

### Implementation

- % adoption of key BMPs and permits
- Social indicators behavioral tracking

### Restoration and Protection

- % of watersheds meeting WQS
- WQ trends (watersheds, regions, state)



## Possible Measures to consider

- Monitoring /Assessment Measure:  
Number and % of lakes/lake acres and stream miles supporting/not supporting designated uses.



# Possible Measure to Consider

- TMDL Development Measure -

Number and percent of 303(d) impaired waters listings (total and by listing year) addressed in TMDL studies that have been approved by EPA



# Possible Measure to Consider

- TMDL Development Measure –

Dollar investment spent (federal, state, local) on TMDL's.



# Possible Measure to Consider

- Implementation Measure –

Degree of implementation of target BMP's (as specified in implementation plans or protection plans.)



# Metrics and Indicators, cont.

- Identifying key questions to select priorities
- Drivers
  - Clean Water Legacy Act & Constitutional Amendment
  - Programmatic efficiency
  - Partnerships
  - Stakeholder communication
- Database support



# Lessons Learned from EPA Pilot

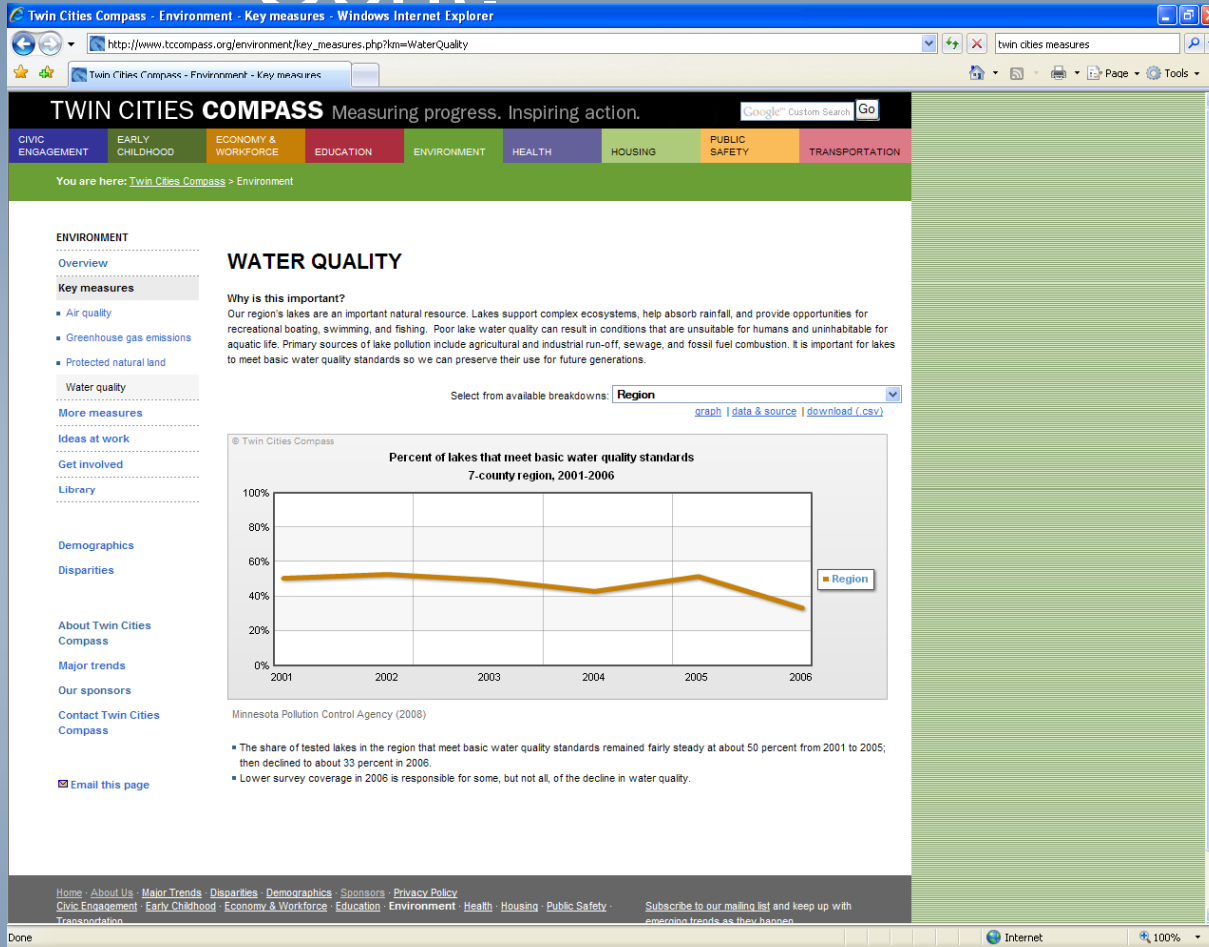
- Appreciate EPA's support all the way along our process – we involved them early.
- This is hard work and keeping a simple vision helps when getting bogged down.
- There are so many things we could measure – need to figure out what is important to tell our stories.



# Next Steps

- EPA Grant to help us refine the measures & test the measures using real watershed data from pilot watersheds
- Other refinement of the measures as needed – perhaps social indicators and project specific cost benefit indicators.
- Consider how we will communicate outcomes

# Next Steps: Reporting and Communicating Progress, Cont.



■ In the future: interactive web tool

<http://www.tccompass.org/index.php>



# Questions?

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