

Proposal for On-going Program Support for the Pollution Tracking and Accounting Project (PTAP)

Project Lead: James Houle, UNH Stormwater Center

Project Cost: \$50,000

Duration: Winter 2023 – December 2024

Project Purpose

This funding will provide critical continued support for two key regional efforts to manage and track municipal efforts to reduce nutrient pollution from nonpoint sources.

- The PTAP pollutant tracking tool, which has now been in existence for over six years, will be enhanced and upgraded based on recent input from end users to provide better functionality for current tracking needs. On-going technical assistance for PTAP will be provided to participating municipalities via direct communication and planned trainings and webinars. UNH Research Computing Services and NH GRANIT are included again as project partners to provide consistency with their past efforts to refine and enhance PTAP database functionality and operability. Accounting calculations for structural BMPs will be upgraded to comply with EPA Region 1 methods embodied in the 2017 NH MS4 permit and developed to comply with the adaptive management framework outlined in the Great Bay Total Nitrogen General Permit.
- Pollutant control tools developed through the pollutant “hot spots” mapping project will be further enhanced to provide greater utility for towns regulated under the NH MS4 permit and for towns subject to requirements of the Great Bay Total Nitrogen General Permit.

Project Scope

Objective 1: Technical assistance and improved functionality of the PTAP tracking and accounting platform.

Task 1: Review PTAP database functionality

Description: UNH and NHDES will coordinate with participating municipalities to receive feedback on the working PTAP database. The goal will be enhanced functionality and assist with PTAP participation. Feedback will be gathered through workshops, webinars, and meetings with end users.

Estimated cost: \$15,000

Objective 2: Develop PTAP reporting tools to track nitrogen additions or reductions in the Great Bay watershed.

Task 2: Annual Nitrogen Tracking Reporting

Description: UNHSC will work with MAAM communities to develop an annual report template that will be developed in compliance with the General Total Nitrogen Permit guidelines and will satisfy permit obligations.

Estimated cost: \$15,000

Objective 3: UNHSC will work with MAAM to refine, build, and provide enhanced technical assistance for hotspot mapping products.

Task 3: Working with NHDES, UNH and GRANIT will continue supporting and developing the online hotspot maps for all NH MS4 communities.

Description: Additional technical assistance may include, but not be limited to, completing hotspot maps for communities not included in the original product development due to insufficient data; changes, additions, or enhancements to existing mapping products; enhanced or new mapping products such as highlighted areas of high potential septic loading; and technical assistance for end users (workshops, webinars, written guidance materials).

Estimated cost: \$10,000

Objective 4: UNHSC will work with project partners to develop long-term land use change metrics to support permit compliance.

Task 4: Working with MAAM, NHDES, UNH GRANIT, and EPA, UNHSC will continue supporting development of hotspot maps for all Great Bay communities and associated land use change statistics.

Description: Additional technical assistance may include, but not be limited to, completing hotspot maps and hydrologic response unit (HRU) basemaps for communities tracking long-term land use change trends in the watershed.

Estimated cost: \$10,000