Potomac Water-Quality Monitoring Program
Quarterly Progress Report
U.S. Geological Survey

Reporting Period January 1, 2002 – March 31, 2002

Cooperating Agencies Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

Project Personnel

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Progress During Reporting Period

1. The following water-quality samples were collected during this reporting period and include the semi-monthly base-flow samples collected during the month of March at most sites:

Mattawoman Creek nr Pomonkey, MD (01658000)

Thirteen samples were collected and analyzed for nutrient and suspended-sediment concentrations, which included four monthly base-flow samples, eight stormflow samples, and one field blank. In addition, several samples were collected for MDE (silica, chlorophyll-a, and DOC) and CBL parameters.

Piscataway Creek at Piscataway, MD (01653600)

Thirteen samples were collected and analyzed for nutrient and suspended-sediment concentrations, which included three monthly base-flow and ten stormflow samples. In addition, several samples were collected for MDE (silica, chlorophyll-a, and DOC) and CBL parameters.

St. Clement Creek nr Clements, MD (01661050)

Fifteen samples were collected and analyzed for nutrient and suspended-sediment concentrations, including four monthly base-flow samples, ten stormflow samples, and one field blank. This site remains a high priority for sample collection during storm events.

Zekiah Swamp Run nr Newtown, MD (01660920)

Five samples were collected and analyzed for nutrient and suspended-sediment concentrations, including four monthly base-flow samples and one field blank. This site remains a high priority for sample collection during storm events.

Blacks Run at Rt. 726 at Harrisonburg, VA (01621410)

A total of 13 samples were collected and analyzed for nutrient and suspended-sediment concentrations, including three monthly base-flow and eight stormflow samples, one storm replicate, and one field blank.

Goose Creek nr Leesburg, VA (01644000)

A total of 13 samples were collected and analyzed for nutrient and suspended-sediment concentrations, including three monthly base-flow and nine stormflow samples, one storm replicate, and one field blank.

Potomac River at Shepherdstown, WV (01618000)

Eight samples were collected and analyzed for nutrient and suspended-sediment concentrations, including four monthly base-flow and three stormflow samples, as well as one comparison of the weighted-bottle sampler to the DH-95 sampler.

Sideling Hill Creek nr Bellegrove, MD (01610155)

Fourteen samples were collected and analyzed for nutrient and suspended-sediment concentrations, including four monthly base-flow and eight stormflow samples, one storm replicate, and one comparison of the auto sampler to the river cross section.

Cacapon River at Great Cacapon, WV (01611500)

Nine samples were collected and analyzed for nutrient and suspended-sediment concentrations, including four monthly base-flow and four stormflow samples and one storm replicate.

2. Plots of selected water-quality data with discharge and rainfall were posted on the project web page, and can be viewed at: http://md.usgs.gov/watershed/MD151/data.html.

3. Water-year 2001 data were finalized for the annual data report. The annual report water-quality files were transmitted to Virginia for the Goose Creek and Blacks Run sites.

Plans for Next Quarter

1. Continue water-quality sample collection. St. Clement Creek and Zekiah Swamp Run in Southern Maryland and Goose Creek in Virginia are priority sites for sample collection during storm events.

2. Collect MDE and CBL samples for selected storms at the four southern Maryland sites.