

Wisconsin's Nutrient Reduction Strategy

November 2013



Wisconsin's Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy

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Office of Agriculture and Water Quality

Presentation Outline

Why are we developing a Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy?

What is our process & timeline?

What does stakeholder engagement look like?

What will the new strategy look like?

How will this strategy result in better outcomes?

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Why are we developing a Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy?

- Environmental & Human health impacts.
- Gulf Hypoxia Task Force commitment.
- Need to do better.



Why are we developing a Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy?

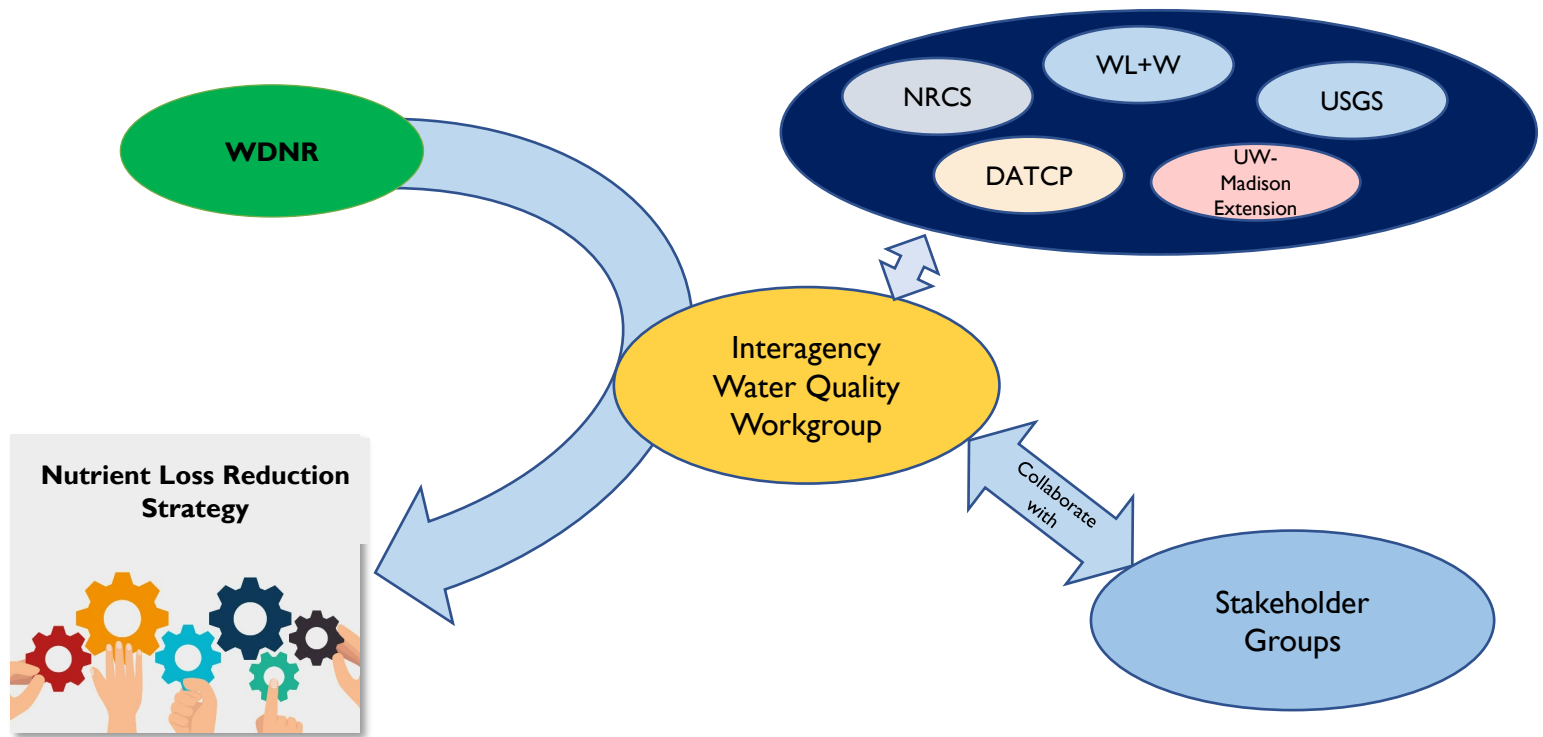
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Structure for coordinating development of a Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy



Interagency Water Quality Workgroup

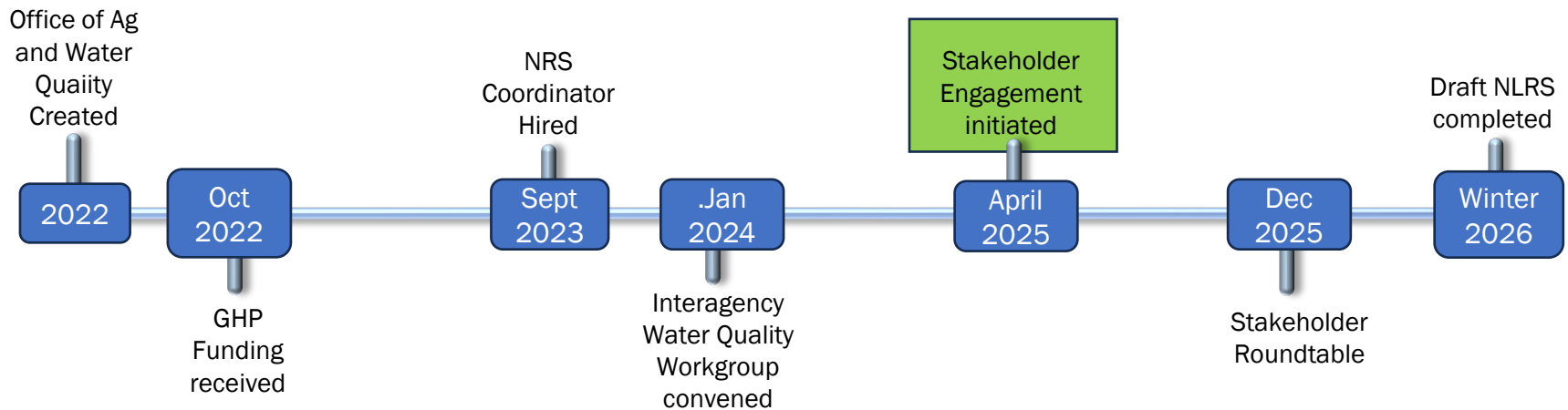
Agency Leaders

- Jeffrey Voltz (WDNR)
- Chris Clayton (DATCP)
- Matt Kreuger (WI L & W)
- Nathan Fikkert (NRCS)
- Heidi Johnson (UWM-Extension)

Steering Committee

- Joe Bonnell (WDNR)
- Karl Gesch (WDNR)
- Stacy Steinke (WDNR)
- Mark Witecha (DATCP)
- Katy Smith (DATCP)
- Amber Radatz (UWM-Extension)
- Ken Genskow (UW-Madison)
- Christina Anderson (WI L&W)
- Barry Bubolz (NRCS)
- Amy Piaget (Dane Co LCD)
- Matt Diebel (USGS)

NLRS timeline



Why are we developing a Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy?

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What does stakeholder engagement look like?

Who?

- Farmers
- Commodity groups
- Conservation and agronomy professionals
- Watershed groups
- Lake associations
- Public water systems
- State and local agency staff
- Other interested stakeholders

How?

- Interviews
- Listening sessions
- Survey
- Stakeholder roundtable [Dec 2025]

Why?

- Better product
- Broad-based support and commitment

Stakeholder Engagement Goals

	<u>Goal</u>	<u>To-date</u>
Farmers	100	~60
Agriculture Trade Associations	10	2
Conservation Organizations	5-10	2
Lake/watershed Groups	5-10	3
Conservation Organizations	5-10	3
County Land & Water Dept's	40	~30

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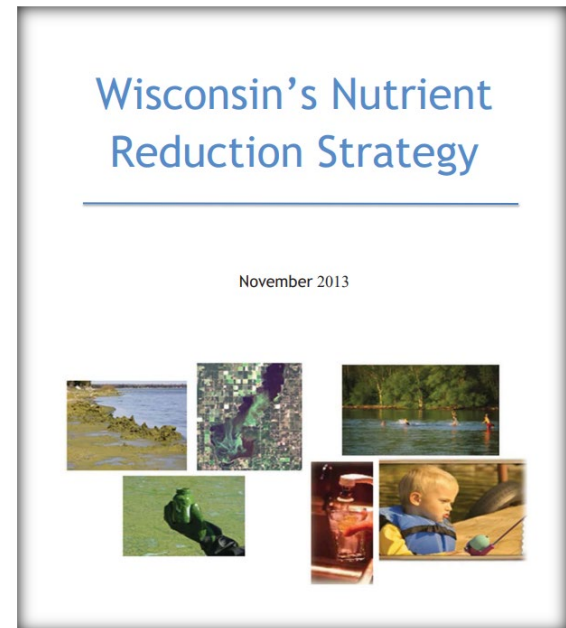
How will this strategy result in better outcomes?

WI State Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy

Published in 2013

Strengths:

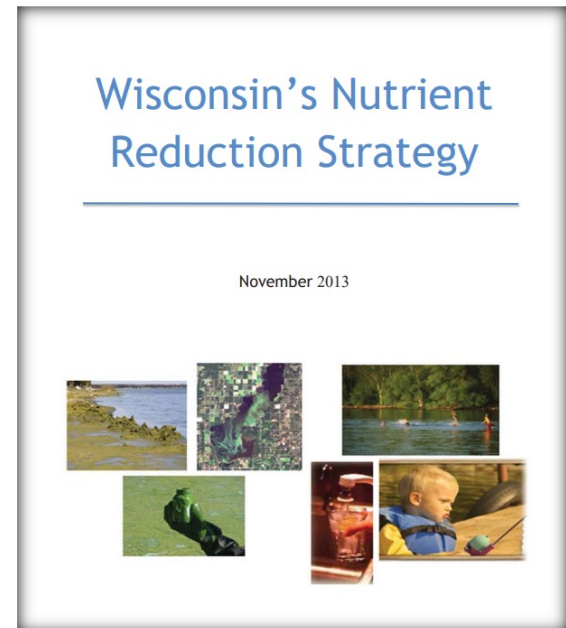
- WQ data and trends
- Existing policies and programs
- Priority watersheds



WI State Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy

Weaknesses:

- No shared strategic vision
- No stakeholder engagement



What will the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy look like?

- Objectives
 - Environmental
 - Social/Economic
 - Institutional
- Limited number of strategic investments
 - Short-term actions
 - Structures and processes for ongoing collaboration
 - Science assessments to inform decision-making
- Evaluation plan (accountability and progress)

How is science being incorporated into the strategy?

Ken Genskow

Amber Radatz

Wisconsin NLRS Science Assessments

Current

Agricultural Best Mgt Practices – Phosphorus (P)

- P loss reduction effectiveness

Social Science Assessment

- Application of social science to NLRS

Proposed

Agricultural BMPs– Nitrogen (N) & Economics

- N loss reduction effectiveness + economics of ag conservation practices

Nutrients Mass Balance

- P and N imports and exports over space and time

Why are we developing a Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy?

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What's different?

- Funding (Gulf Hypoxia Program)
- Shared strategic vision
- Investment in science assessments
- Emphasis on stakeholder engagement

What the NLRs *is* and what it *is not*

Is not

- A DNR strategy
- Primarily a technical document
- Call for new policies or regulations
- The final word on nutrient loss reduction


Is

- Foundational to future work, building on...
 - Shared strategic vision and priorities.
 - Improved structures for communication & cooperation
 - Improved relationship with agriculture


Why will the NLRS result in better outcomes?

- Strategic: Focusing resources where they will produce the best outcomes.
- **Process** is equal to **product** in importance.
- Collaborative:
 - More effectively integrate & implement existing policies and programs.
 - Increase motivation and structures for collective action to reduce nutrient loss.
 - Strengthening relationships (trust, communication, networks, shared sense of accountability)

For more information:

**WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

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WISCONSIN'S NUTRIENT LOSS REDUCTION STRATEGY

A FRAMEWORK FOR NUTRIENT REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT

Wisconsin's approach to nutrient loss reduction relies on a combination of regulatory programs and conservation efforts at the local, state and federal levels. These efforts target both point sources (e.g., wastewater treatment facilities) and nonpoint sources (runoff from rural and urban landscapes) to improve water quality. Most importantly, progress is driven by strong partnerships at the watershed scale, bringing together municipalities, sanitary districts, county land and water conservation departments, farmers, environmental groups, UW-Extension and state and federal agencies. A statewide Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy is not just a document, it also represents a process by which the partners identify shared goals and how they can work together most effectively to achieve those goals.

DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW NUTRIENT LOSS REDUCTION STRATEGY

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is leading the development of a new statewide Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy (NLRS) in collaboration with the Interagency Water Quality Workgroup comprised of representatives from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP); Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association; the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS); University of Wisconsin – Madison, Division of Extension; Dane County Land and Water Resources Department; and the US Geological Survey (USGS). The target date for completing the new NLRS is December 2025.

Surface Water Quality

Assessment Process
Monitoring
Planning
Standards and Classifications
Search Wisconsin Waters

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