

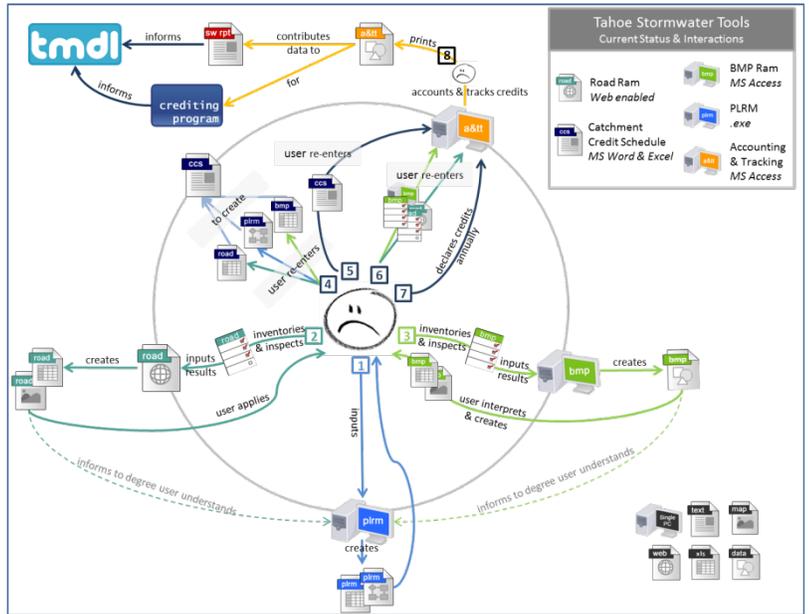
FACT SHEET: STORMWATER TOOLS INTEGRATION PROJECT

This project will produce an integrated, intuitive, and easy-to-use online interface to assist stormwater managers with their Crediting Program duties and responsibilities.

PROJECT NEED

The Lake Clarity Crediting Program (LCCP) is an innovative program in which Tahoe urban stormwater jurisdictions will participate during implementation of the Lake Tahoe Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). The LCCP incentivizes jurisdictions to prioritize pollutant controls and increases the transparency and accountability for the expenditures of public funds through the use of standardized reporting protocols and stormwater tools. In doing so, the LCCP encourages the use of a suite of stormwater tools: the Pollutant Load Reduction Model (PLRM), Best Management Practice Rapid Assessment Methodology (BMP RAM), Road Rapid Assessment Methodology (Road RAM), and the Accounting and Tracking Tool (ATT).

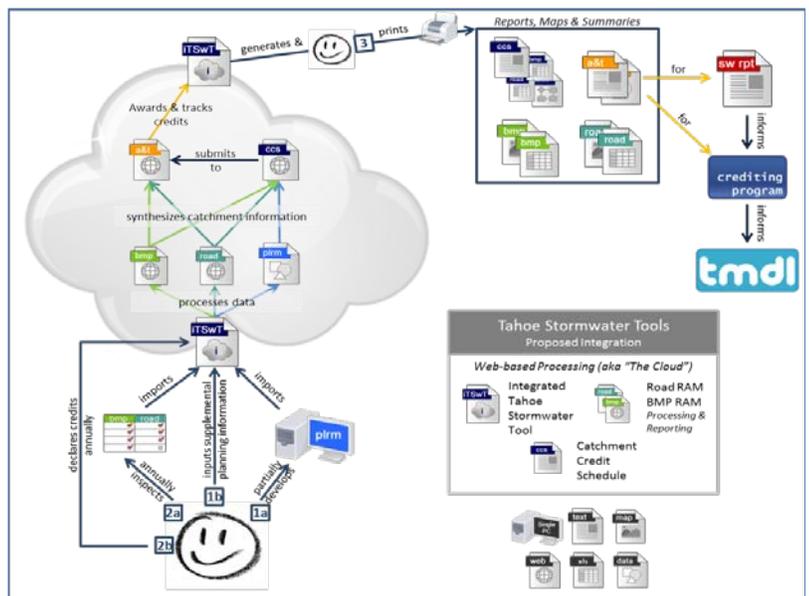
By necessity, these tools were each developed independently and thus so do they operate, requiring jurisdiction staff to enter similar and often redundant information into each tool. This is not a very efficient method of operation and one which creates an unnecessarily high information management burden. Consequently, jurisdictions remain concerned their limited resources for stormwater management will be diverted to administrative tasks. Through a recent project to test and train users on the procedures and tools of the Crediting Program, jurisdictions unanimously agreed upon a program improvement recommendation to improve the operation and minimize the administrative burden resulting from the independent operation of the LCCP tools and forms.



PROJECT PURPOSE & DELIVERABLES

The purpose of the project is to:

- Enhance the user experience and increase acceptance of the Crediting Program and supporting tools;
- Reduce the cost and complexity and increase the efficacy of existing Crediting Program tools and forms;
- Simplify and streamline information management and reporting and enable stormwater managers to focus their attention on targeting their actions;
- Increase transparency and improve the ability to demonstrate accountability for the use of public funds for water quality improvements;
- Demonstrate the TMDL regulatory agencies' commitment to adaptively manage the Lake Clarity Crediting Program and to improve it when necessary and desirable.



Through this project, a single Integrated Tahoe Stormwater Tool will be created that combines the functions of the Accounting and Tracking Tool, BMP RAM and Road RAM, enables direct uploads of PLRM outputs, and automatically populates Crediting Program forms and standard reports. The Integrated Stormwater Tool will essentially be an intuitive, easy-to-use interface that users access online to perform routine Crediting Program activities, such as: register catchments in which improvements have been implemented; enter inspection results; and generate status reports.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

As with the entire Lake Tahoe TMDL and Crediting Program development process, stakeholder involvement is a key component of this project. Tahoe urban stormwater jurisdictions, funders and regulators are all necessary participants to ensure the Integrated Stormwater Tool has the functionality to meet all user's needs. Users from all groups will be engaged and invited to provide input at several points in the course of product development: (1) prior to tool mockup and development, to explore and identify desirable tool functions, operations and outputs as well as provide direction for tool work flow; and (2) testing of the beta-version of the tool once it has been deployed online. Additionally, several select individuals may be invited to test and provide input during the alpha-test of the user interface.

TIMELINE

The milestone schedule below is subject to revision.

MILESTONE	TIMELINE
User Feedback Meeting #1	March 2012
Work Flow Conceptual Diagram	April 2012
Tool Mock Up	May 2012
Online tool alpha-version	August 2012
Online tool beta-version	September 2012
User Feedback Meeting #2	October 2012
Version 1 online tool	December 2012

RELATED TMDL PROJECTS

The Integrated Stormwater Tool is one of multiple funded efforts related to the Lake Tahoe TMDL and Crediting Program. These efforts however have distinct scopes of work that should not be confused by stakeholders.

Stormwater Tools *Improvement* Project

This project will accomplish technical improvements and provide updated documentation to individual stormwater tools. Tool improvements will be based on user feedback and research findings. A prioritization process will be carried out to accomplish what is determined to be the greatest needs first. If the stormwater management community desires, a web-based map viewer may also be produced that includes advanced information management and reporting functionalities. For more information on this project see *Fact Sheet: Tahoe Stormwater Tools Improvement Project*.

TMDL Management System

The TMDL Management System Project is focused on defining the process by which TMDL implementation may be adaptively managed and improved. The project will establish the protocols by which new information and data may be used to inform management decisions and programmatic and policy adjustments. Load reduction tracking protocols for the non-urban source categories will be developed. A public progress and reporting platform will assemble and report information. The tool will facilitate progress evaluation at a variety of scales (jurisdictional, basin-wide, and TMDL source category). For more information on this project see *Fact Sheet: Lake Tahoe TMDL Management System*.

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