

**Date:** May 6, 2022

**To:** Environmental Quality Commission

**From:** Richard Whitman, Director

**Subject:** Item E: Department of Agriculture and DEQ Collaboration and Memorandum of Agreement Revision Update (Informational)  
May 19-20, 2022, EQC Meeting

**Purpose of Item** DEQ and ODA will present an update on the effort underway by the two agencies working toward alignment of the respective agencies' water quality programs. The update will include information on the status and work plan for updating the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between ODA and DEQ on implementation of the Agriculture Water Quality Program, including implementation of TMDLs.

**Background** DEQ and ODA have an ongoing commitment and regular interaction to continuously improve interagency collaboration with the objective of aligning water quality efforts and processes to meet water quality goals. As part of this effort, the agencies have agreed to develop mutually acceptable processes between DEQ and ODA for ODA's water quality area rule and plan processes and for DEQ's TMDL development and implementation processes. This work will be used to revise the MOA between DEQ and ODA with the objective of having the MOA finalized by the end of the calendar year.

**Key Issues** DEQ and ODA will provide an overview of the work conducted to date, the agencies' planned work to achieve the stated desired outcomes including public engagement, and the areas of revision being discussed for the updated MOA.

**EQC Involvement** There is no request for commission action as part of this agenda item. DEQ and ODA will provide periodic updates on the agencies' efforts.

Report compiled by Gene Foster  
*Watershed Management Program*