

## **Appendix C. Adaptive Management Implementation Plan for the Tinkers Creek Subbasin**

Due to continued unidentified sources and causes of non attainment in this watershed, adaptive management has been chosen as a valid and workable implementation plan for restoration of water quality. The adaptive management plan will consist of two general phases which will be described in greater detail below.

**Phase 1** will consist of 3 main tasks.

**Task 1** NPDES permit modifications. As previously described, NPDES permits for discharges in the Tinkers Creek subbasin will be initially modified to include the following language:

*“The Lower Cuyahoga TMDL, identified the Tinkers Creek subbasin as an area with unidentified sources of stressors resulting in NONATTAINMENT of Ohio Water Quality Standards. A process known as adaptive management will be used to gather data, identify stressors, and implement appropriate controls needed to restore water quality in the Tinkers Creek subbasin. The permit holder shall be a member of the Tinkers Creek Restoration Group and be included in all notifications for activities pertaining to this project. Should stressor identification result in additional pollutant loading recommendations for permittees in the Tinkers Creek subbasin this permit shall be modified to reflect those recommendations.*

*Schedule:*

*January - December 2004 Gather Data*

*June 2004 - June 2006 Conduct Stressor Identification*

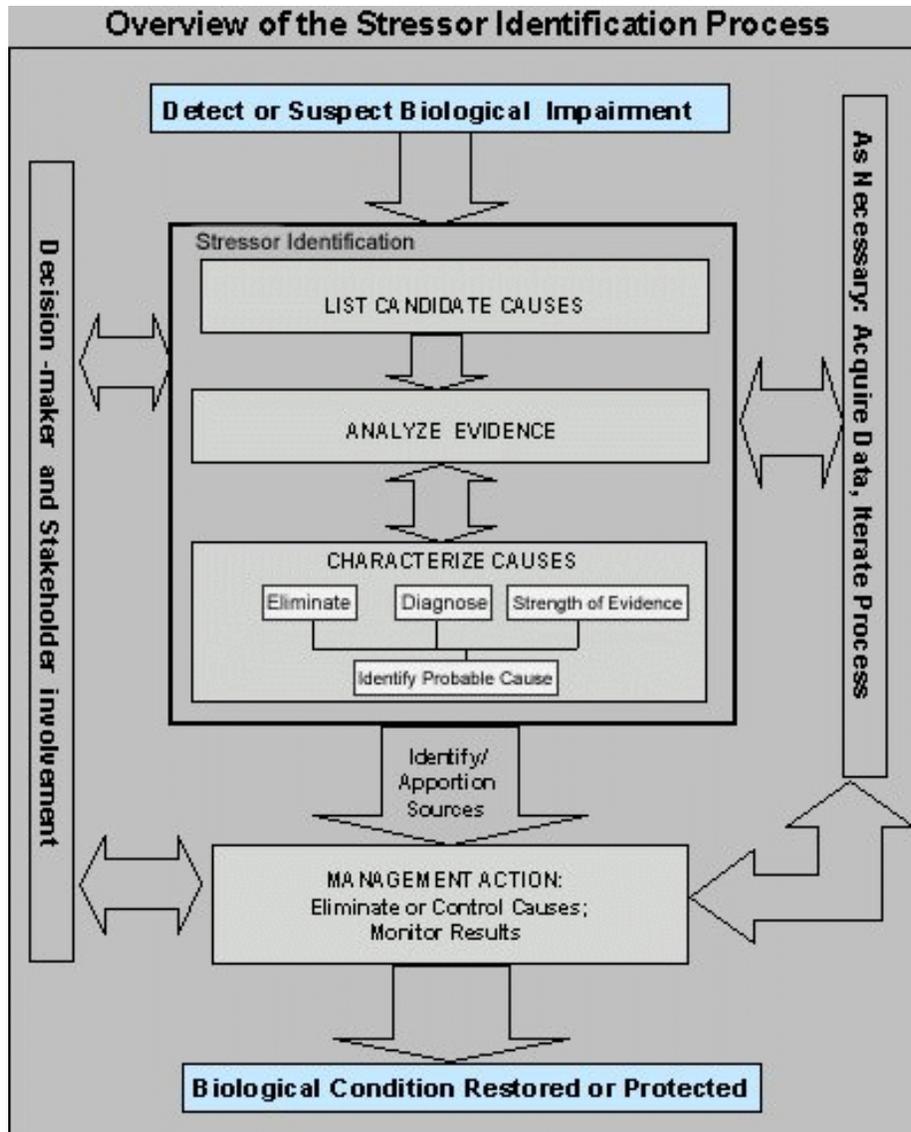
*June 2006 Begin to Implement Management Plan”*

**Task 2** Develop a mailing list and initiate contact with the Tinkers Creek Restoration Group.

**Task 3** Develop a database of all available biological, habitat, and water quality information. The database should also include information on all dischargers to the Tinkers Creek subbasin and effluent monitoring results. Historic spill information will also be gathered to support the adaptive management plan.

**Phase 2** will utilize the US EPA Stressor Identification Guidance Document (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water, Washington, DC 20460, Office of Research and Development, Washington, DC 20460, EPA-822-B-00-025, December 2000). An overview of the process is located in the following diagram.

**Task 1** Initial stakeholder meeting to identify candidate causes for analysis. Formation of a working group to conduct the analysis.



**Task 2** Conduct the stressor identification analysis. Upon completion, conduct a meeting of all stakeholders to discuss results.

**Task 3** Based on identification of stressors, implement management actions. Actions may comprise one or all of the following (additional measures may be identified as part of the public involvement process):

- \* Regulatory controls (NPDES Permits)
- \* Local controls (Riparian protection, land use ordinances)
- \* Remediation (Habitat restoration)
- \* Septic system controls

**Task 4** Monitor Tinkers Creek watershed to determine success of management actions. The monitoring plan will be determined by outcomes of Task 2, specific parameters will depend on the identified stressors.