



2017-2025 Milestones Introducing New Information Rerunning History

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2017-2025 Milestones Rerunning History

The Issue

- During the WQGIT December face-to-face meeting, decision was made to hold the assumptions set at the beginning of each milestone period constant over the two year period.
 - Will not introduce new data and methods that don't represent on-the-ground changes from the history.
- The GIT also decided to re-run the history, back to 2009, at the end of each milestone period in order to incorporate new data and methods.
- When, exactly, is the history to be rerun and made public?
 - Is it possible to rerun history at this point in a timely manner, and if so, how?



2017-2025 Milestones Rerunning History

Where are we now?

- End of Milestone period was 2015 (model progress).
 - EPA is discussing these evaluations with jurisdictions.
 - Numeric progress is being compared to 2009-2025 60% reduction trajectory + jurisdictions' 2015 Milestone scenario.
 - Assumptions set at the beginning of this 2013-2015 milestone period were not held constant over the two year period as this was not (yet) the rule.



2017-2025 Milestones Rerunning History

Proposal at the December, 2015 WQGIT meeting:

- Update with new data every 2 years
- Within a milestone period, keep with what's available at the time of milestone development
- Update historical progress when new data/methods are incorporated
- **Begin with 2017 Milestone development**



2017-2025 Milestones Rerunning History

Where are we now?

- Final numeric 2017 Milestones are due Friday 4/29/16.
 - These 2017 Milestones included latest data and methods agreed to by partnership for Phase 5.3.2 model.
 - These data and methods will be held constant for 2016 Progress and 2017 Progress scenarios.
 - For evaluations, 2017 Milestone scenario loads are being compared to original 60% reduction goals, i.e., from original 2009 scenario starting point that does not have any of the changes in data and methods.



2017-2025 Milestones Rerunning History

The Issue

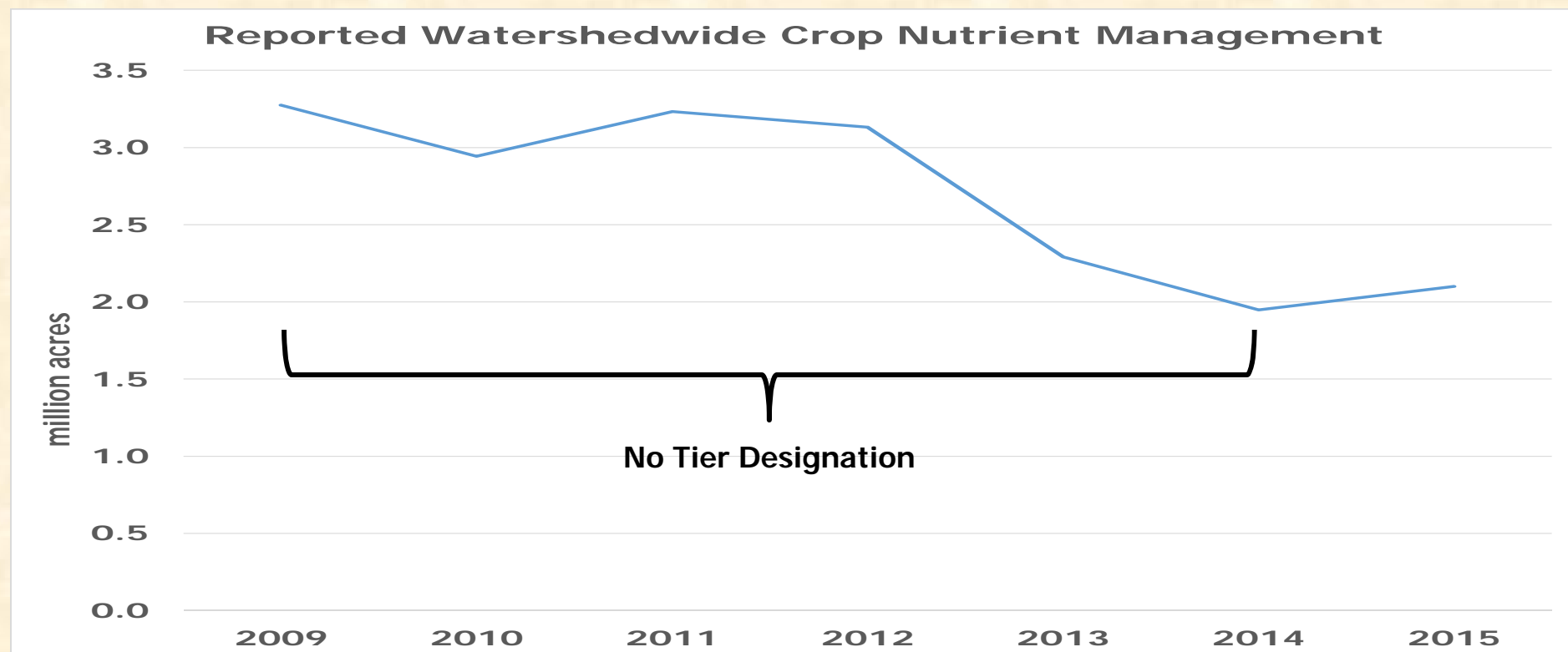
- December, 2015 WQGIT proposal is to:
 - Rerun history at this point in time
 - Use new 2009 to determine new 2009-2025 60% reduction trajectory
 - Evaluate 2017 Milestones with that trajectory as reference



2017-2025 Milestones Rerunning History

The Issue

- Rerunning the history is not simple.
 - We have spent 7 months trying to address concerns with Tier Nutrient Management compliance data for year 2015 and all issues are not yet fully addressed.





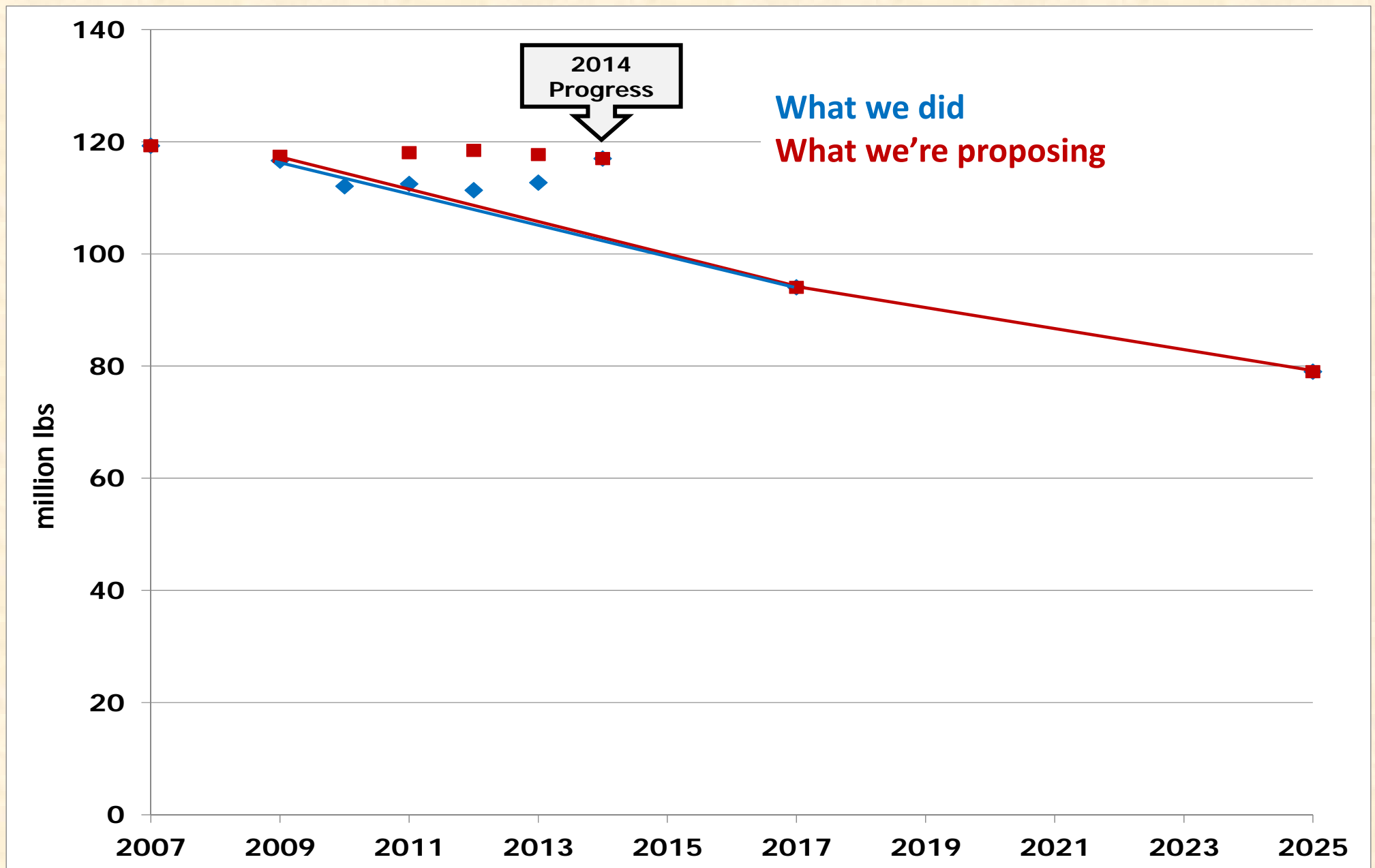
2017-2025 Milestones Rerunning History

Options

- a) Continue to work at defensible compliance levels for each Tier of Nutrient Management for each year back to 2009
- This will likely need to happen at some point.
 - Cannot be introduced in time for publishing of 2017 Milestones.
 - Will continue to be unable to explain progress in terms of: To what degree are loads improving? – since history is not measuring on-the-ground changes
 - When 2009 is revised, 60% reduction goal changes – but should not revise goals just prior to evaluation of meeting/missing the goals.



Nitrogen Loads and Goals All Sources





2017-2025 Milestones Rerunning History

Options

- b) Wait until Phase 6 version of modeling tools when issue could be addressed with jurisdictions' record of historic BMPs.
- It has not yet been decided how agriculture Nutrient Management will be accounted for in Phase 6 of the modeling tools.
 - Recommendation from Expert Panel at this point seems to be to continue to work on compliance and compliance data issues.
- c) Other ideas? + discussion.