

# Arizona Department of Environmental Quality



June 2, 2023

Ellen Blake USEPA REGION 9 75 Hawthorne Street Mail Code: WTR-2 San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Rescinding Appendix B and A&Wedw changes

Dear Ellen,

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has reviewed EPA's responses for the proposed Appendix B changes and have decided to rescind the following list and address any changes in the next triennial review. This is the second set of Appendix B proposed changes ADEQ is rescinding following a discussion with EPA staff.

Mountain Valley Park Ponds (EDW)

2016 version: Mountain Valley Park Ponds (EDW)

Rescind 2019 version: Yavapai Lake (EDW)

Why: We need more time to research the name change and who requested it to be listed as Mountain Valley Park Ponds. The waterbody is currently on the USGS National Map as Yavapai Lake. We will rescind the change and revert to the 2016 version until the correct name is identified and the listing can be corrected in the next standards review.

Unnamed Wash (EDW)

2016 version: Luke Air Force Base WWTP Outfall at 33°32"00"/112°19'03" to the confluence with the Agua Fria River

Rescind 2019 version: Luke Air Force Base WWTP Outfall at 33°32"21"/112°19'15" to the confluence with the Agua Fria River

Why: The outfall actually discharged into the Agua Fria River, and this waterbody was created in error. Also, the discharge associated with this outfall no longer exists, and the permit has been terminated. This waterbody will need to be removed from Appendix B in a future rulemaking No new actions are allowed with the 2019 Triennial Review, so we will address this removal in the next standards review.

Weaver Creek

2016 version: Headwaters to confluence with Antelope Creek

Rescind 2019 version: Headwaters to confluence with Antelope Creek, tributary with Martinez

Creek

Why: The clause was added in error while trying to make the listing more descriptive. This addition was not necessary, and we won't pursue this further.

#### Little Colorado River

2016 version: Below confluence with the Puerco River to the Navajo Nation Reservation boundary Rescind 2019 version: Below Puerco River confluence to the Colorado River, Excluding segments on Native American Lands

Why: We will rescind the change and revert to the 2016 version until the correct description is identified, designated uses are verified, and the listing can be corrected in the next standards review.

#### Greene Wash

2016 version: Greene Reservoir at to the Tohono O'odham Indian Reservation boundary Rescind 2019 version: Santa Cruz River to the Tohono O'odham Indian Reservation boundary Why: We need to verify GIS linework and determine what the most appropriate description should be. We will rescind the change and revert to the 2016 version until the correct description and designated uses are identified and the listing can be corrected in the next standards review.

#### Blacktail Pond

2016 version: Fort Huachuca Military Reservation at 31°24"13"/110°17'23"

Rescind 2019 version: Fort Huachuca Military Reservation at 31°31"04"/110°24'47", headwater lake in Blacktail Canyon

Why: The location of the pond needs to be verified and uses need to be assigned based on the new location. We will rescind the change and revert to the 2016 version until the correct description and designated uses are verified and the listing can be corrected in the next standards review.

## Camp Creek

2016 version: Headwaters to confluence with the Verde River

Rescind 2019 version: Headwaters to confluence with the Sycamore Creek

Why: This was an error and this waterbody does flow to the Verde River. There is another Camp Creek in the same watershed that does flow to Sycamore Creek, and is not currently listed on Appendix B. Camp Creek, Headwaters to confluence with the Sycamore Creek, requires additional work before being listed on Appendix B. We will not pursue changes to this listing of Camp Creek any further.

## Palisade Canyon

2016 version: Headwaters to confluence with unnamed tributary at 32°21'59"/110°46'16" Rescind 2019: Headwaters to confluence with unnamed tributary at 32°22'33"/110°45'31"

Why: The proposed description is incorrect and this change will cause a downgrade in designated uses. We will rescind the change and revert to the 2016 version until the correct description and designated uses are verified and the listing can be corrected in the next standards review.

# Palisade Canyon

2016 version: Below unnamed tributary to confluence with Sabino Canyon Creek

Rescind 2019: Below 32°22'33"/110°45'31" to unnamed tributary of Sabino Canyon

Why: The proposed description is incorrect and this change will cause a downgrade in designated uses. We will rescind the change and revert to the 2016 version until the correct description and designated uses are verified and the listing can be corrected in the next standards review.

Santa Rosa Wash (EDW)

2016 version: Palo Verde Utilities WWTP outfall at 33°04'20"/112°01'47" to the Gila River Indian Reservation

Rescind 2019: Palo Verde Utilities CO-WRF outfall at 33°04'20"/ 112°01'47" to the Ak Chin Indian Reservation

Why: This was an error. We will not pursue this further unless Palo Verde Utilities requests a name change from Palo Verde Utilities WWTP to Palo Verde Utilities CO-WRF.

## Verde River

2016 version: From confluence of Chino Wash and Granite Creek to Bartlett Lake Dam Rescind 2019: From headwaters at confluence of Chino Wash and Granite Creek to Bartlett Lake Dam

Why: This was an error. The original description is also incorrect. We will rescind the change and revert to the 2016 version until the correct description is verified and the listing can be corrected in the next standards review.

Additionally, ADEQ hereby withdraws the Ammonia Aquatic & Wildlife Ephemeral Dependent Water (A&Wedw) criteria proposed in Tables 15 and 16 in the 2019 Triennial Review. The EPA noted the proposed A&Wedw criteria did not include an option for Unionid mussels present. ADEQ will investigate further and provide justification to address this issue in a future Triennial Review.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 602-771-2321.

Regards,

DocuSigned by:

Trevor Baggiore, Director

Water Quality Division

Ellen Blake USEPA REGION 9 75 Hawthorne Street Mail Code: WTR-2 San Francisco, CA 94105

# RE: Withdrawal of select ADEQ 2019 Triennial Review Appendix B proposed changes

Ellen,

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) hereby withdraws the following proposed Appendix B proposed changes in the 2019 triennial review from any further action or consideration by the EPA. ADEQ is aware these changes are not approvable by the EPA and is committed to resolving the issues, if necessary, in a future triennial review package. The timeline for submission will be developed with input from our federal partners.

# Hassayampa River

- 2016 version: Headwaters to confluence with unnamed tributary at 34°26'09"/112°30'32"
  - o Rescind proposal: Headwaters to confluence with Copper Creek
- 2016 version: Below confluence with unnamed tributary to confluence with unnamed tributary at 33°51"52"/112°39'56"
  - Rescind proposed: Below confluence with Copper Creek to the confluence with Blind Indian Creek
- 2016 version: Below unnamed tributary to the Buckeye Irrigation Company Canal
  - Rescind proposal: Below confluence with Blind Indian Creek to the Buckeye Irrigation Company Canal

These three changes are related. Each of the three reaches of the Hassayampa River have a different designated use for aquatic and wildlife and the last one listed has a different designated use for recreation than the first two. The proposed changes would downgrade the designated uses for aquatic and wildlife and recreation for parts of the reaches. ADEQ will investigate further and provide justification for any changes, if needed, in a future triennial review.

## Martinez Creek

- 2016 version: Martinez Creek, Headwaters to confluence with Hassayampa River
  - Rescind proposal: Martinez Wash, Headwaters to confluence with Hassayampa River

ADEQ recognizes Martinez Wash and Martinez Creek are two separate waters and any proposed changes need to reflect that. ADEQ will investigate further and provide justification for changes in a future triennial review.

#### Santa Cruz River

• 2016 version: Nogales International WWTP outfall to Tubac Bridge

- o Rescind proposal: Nogales WWTP outfall to the Josephine Canyon
- 2016 version: Tubac Bridge to Agua Nueva WRF outfall at 32°17'04"/111°01'45"
  - o Rescind proposal: Josephine Canyon to Agua Nueva WRF outfall at 32°17'04"/111°01'45"

The resulting proposed changes listed above inadvertently downgraded designated uses protective of aquatic and wildlife by about 5 miles in an effluent dependent reach of the river. ADEQ will investigate further and provide justification for changes, if needed, in a future triennial review.

# Del Monte Gulch (EDW)

- 2016 version: City of Cottonwood WWTP outfall 002 at 34°43'57"/112°02'46" to confluence with Verde River
  - o Rescind proposal: City of Cottonwood WWTP outfall 002 at 34°43'57"/112°02'46" to confluence with Blowout Creek

ADEQ needs to conduct further investigation into the confluence of Del Monte Gulch and Blowout Creek, as well as the location of the WWTP outfall. ADEQ will investigate further and provide justification for any changes, if needed, in a future triennial review.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 602-771-2321.

Regards,

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Trevor Baggiore Water Quality Division

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality