

**Topic #1 – How ADEQ could improve stream reach descriptions, lake categories or designated uses in the water quality standards regulations (e.g., R18-11, Appendix B) to be more accurate?**

**Background:** The Appendix B workgroup was tasked with reviewing A.A.C., Title 18, Chapter 11, Appendix B: Surface Waters and Designated Uses.

Appendix B is organized by watershed, surface water name, segment description and location, lake category (as appropriate), and corresponding designated uses. Throughout the regulatory history of Appendix B, several revisions were promulgated to improve user accuracy. For example, in 2002, a 5,000 foot elevation was added as a predictive model for cold or warm water aquatic life use designations, and latitude and longitude coordinates were added to the segment description and location for many surface waters. In 2008, lake categories, i.e., deep, igneous, shallow, sedimentary, and urban were added, and a list of 36 effluent dependent waters were moved from Chapter 11, subsection (d) to Appendix B. And as recently as 2016, numerous revisions were finalized to improve the use of GIS mapping coordinates for identifying specific stream segments, stream names were modified to conform to U.S. Geological Survey naming conventions, unnamed surface waters were deleted if a discharging facility no longer existed, and the use of the term “urban lake” as part of a segment description and location was eliminated as it was redundant to lake category.

During the workgroup sessions, several participants asked questions or provided content on the process ADEQ uses to acquire data for listing (or deleting) surface waters and/or designated uses; the scope and function of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers CWA §404 program and its relationship to the water quality standards program; the current definition of “surface water” (R18-11-101(41)) and the fact that additional water features are included in the definition that exceed the federal definition of waters of the United States; and general water quality regulation implementation issues. There was general agreement that these subjects were outside the scope of the workgroup Charter, and that comments independent of the workgroup can be submitted during the Triennial Review.

One action item was immediately addressed during the workgroup process. Water quality staff received a request from several participants to add the list of Appendix B waters to the eMaps tool. Staff completed this request before the conclusion of the workgroup process.

**Recommendation:** The workgroup came to a consensus that the structure and scope of Appendix B does not warrant additional revisions.

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