

OKLAHOMA WATER QUALITY STANDARDS 2015-2016 TRIENNIAL RULEMAKING

Oklahoma Water Resources Board
1st Informal Public Meeting
August 26, 2015

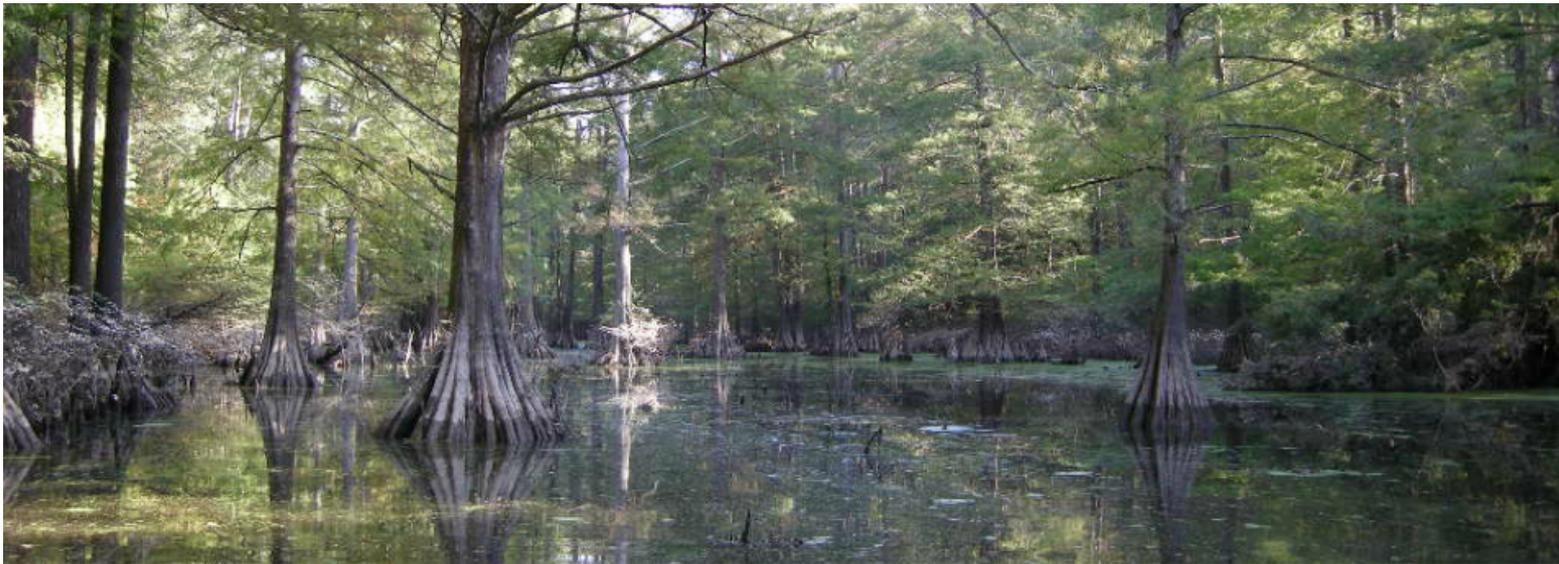
Today's Meeting

- Provide brief overview of Water Quality Standards (WQS)
- Provide briefing on several actions planned for the 2015-16 Rulemaking
 - Aquatic Life Criteria Updates (today)
 - Appendix B Updates (today)
 - Appendix A Updates (October 1)
 - Sensitive Water Supply – Reuse (October 1)
- Opportunity for Public Solicitation of Revision Topics

Appendix B Updates

Appendix B Update

- Under Oklahoma's antidegradation policy, areas given additional protection to:
“New discharges or increased loading from existing discharges to Appendix B waters may be allowed under such conditions that ensure that the recreational and ecological significance of these waters will be maintained”
- Appendix B Includes 2 Tables:
 - Areas of special interest include national/state parks and forests, wildlife management areas and refuges
 - Areas and waters which contain federally listed, threatened, or endangered species



Appendix B Update

- Previous update was in 2006
- Revision performed in collaboration with:
 - Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation
 - US Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Oklahoma Department of Tourism
 - Forestry Services
- Have or will solicit input from these agencies



Appendix B Update

What we need to know:

- New opened state parks or closures?
- Expanded wildlife management areas or refuges?
- New critical habitat designations?
- Newly listed species?
- Will provide a staff report to the website before the October 27 Informal Public Meeting

Public Solicitation

- Part of the triennial revision is to more fully engage the public in the revision process
- Staff actively solicit public concerns with and needed revisions to the WQS through mail, meetings, and at each informal stakeholder meeting
- Topics may or may not be fully reviewed and added for the 2015 revision but will be considered for future interim revisions

REVISION TIMELINE

Preparatory Activities for Standards Revisions	Dates
→ Stakeholder meetings	August 26 & October 1, 2015
→ Informal public meeting	October 27, 2015
Notice of Rulemaking Intent (NRI) submitted to Office of Administrative Rules	November 25, 2015
NRI & proposed text submitted to Governor & Cabinet Secretary	November 25, 2015
NRI published in the Oklahoma Register & draft text available for review	December 15, 2015
Rule Impact Statement (RIS) published on web page	December 15, 2015
→ Draft Proposed Rules for Public Inspection	December 15, 2015
Notice distribution to stakeholders	"On or around " December 15, 2015
→ Comment period – minimum 45 days	December 15, 2015–January 31, 2016
→ Formal Hearing at OWRB Board meeting to receive public comments	January 19 or February 16, 2016
Comment Responsiveness Summary prepared for Board	February – March, 2016
→ Final Proposed Rules Prepared for Board Vote	February – March 2016
Board Action to Adopt revised OWQS	February or March 2016
Agency Rule Report submitted to Legislature and Governor	February or March 2016
Legislative review & approval	Spring 2016
Gubernatorial review	Spring 2016
→ Final State Rule Promulgated & Published	September 2016
Attorney General Certification	September – November 2016
→ Submittal to EPA Region 6 (within 30 days of Attorney General Certification)	September – November 2016
→ EPA Review & Approval: 60-90 days	November 2016 – January 2017

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR WOULD JUST LIKE TO DISCUSS WQS...

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