

# Get Involved with Water Quality

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2016 Arkansas Watershed Conference

27-28 October 2016

Eureka Springs, Arkansas

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Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality

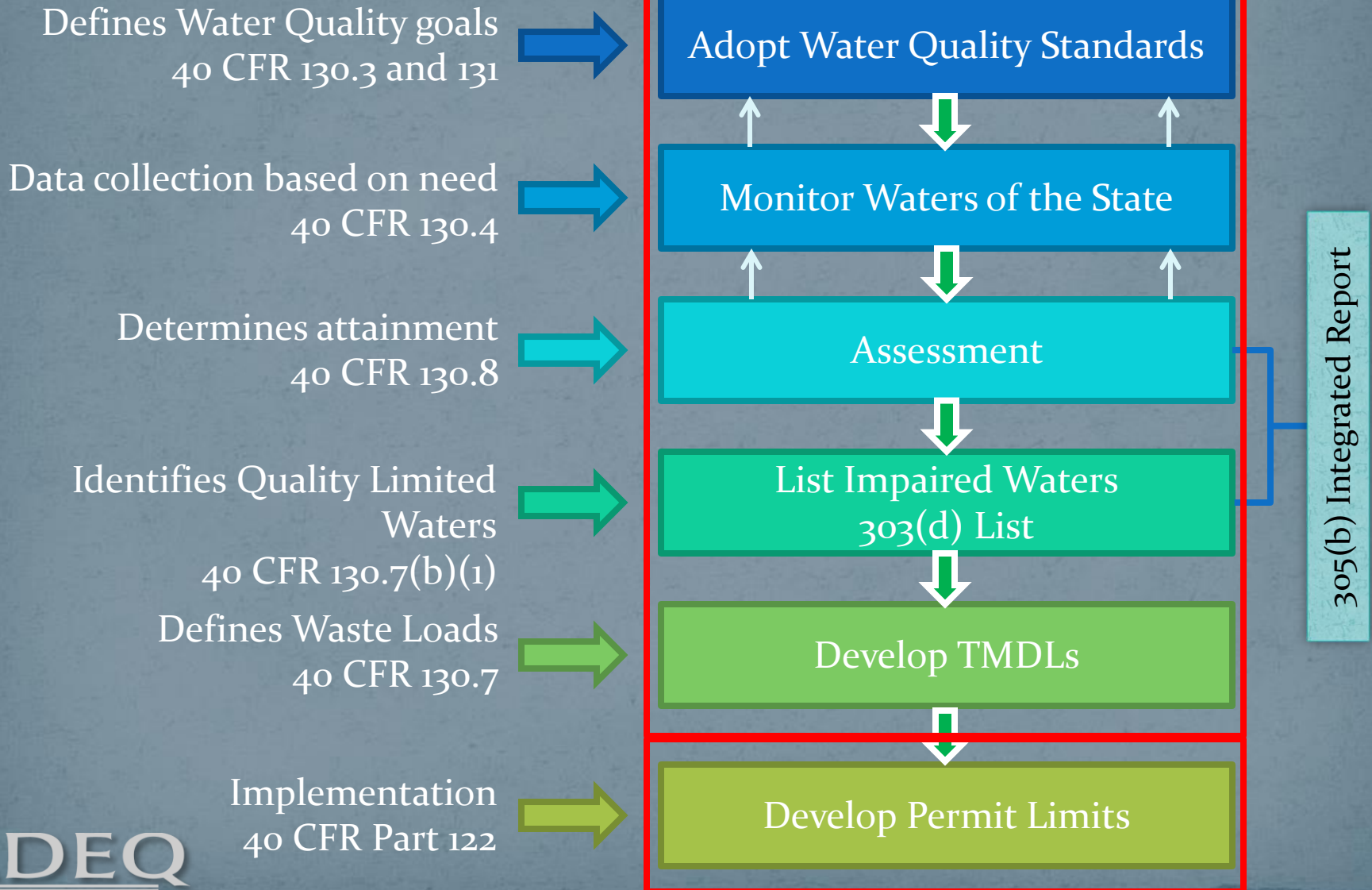
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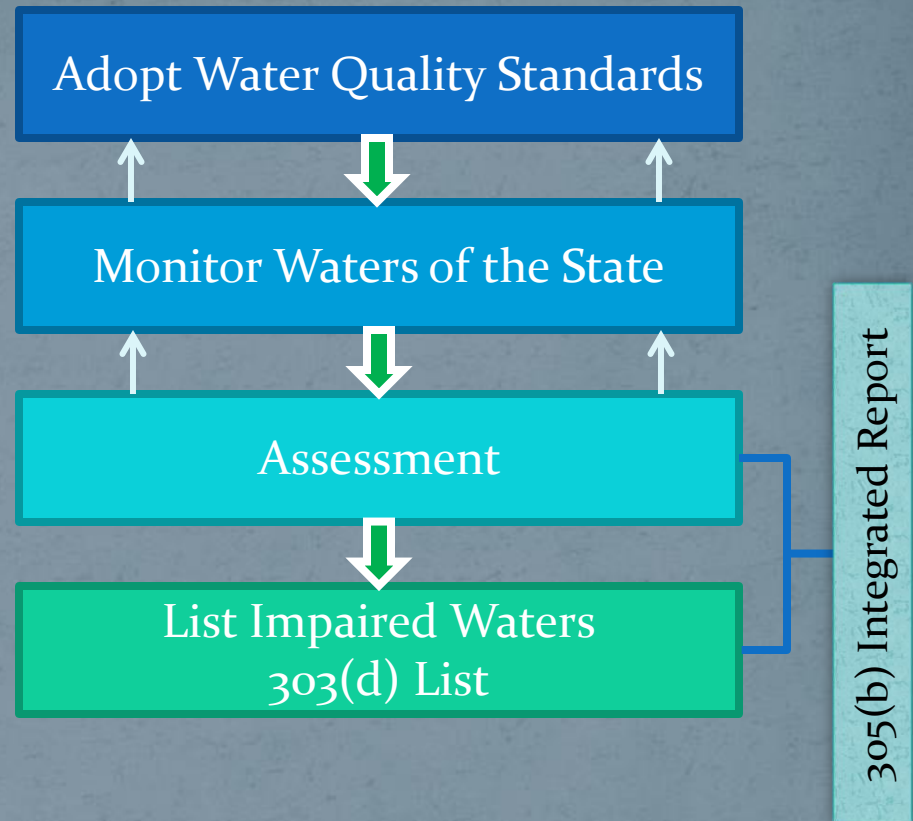


# Clean Water Act Requirements



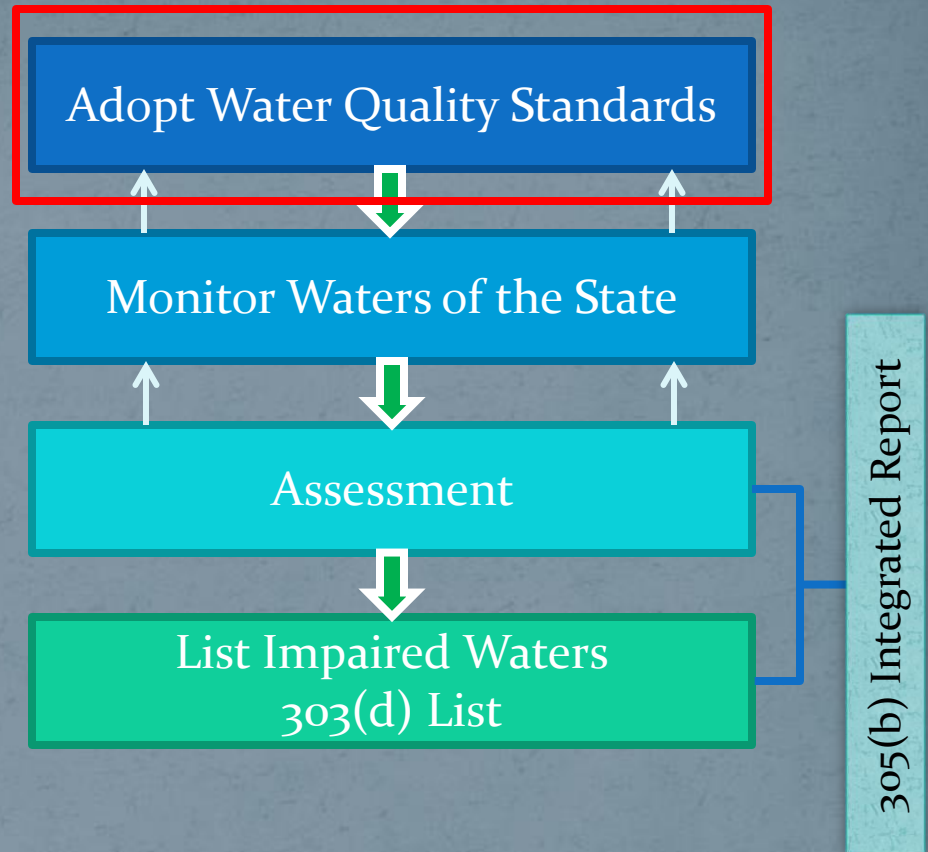
# Outline

- Upcoming Ways to Get Involved
  - Clean Water Act Requirements
  - Beautiful Buffalo River Action Committee
- Tools to Help You Get Involved
  - AquaView



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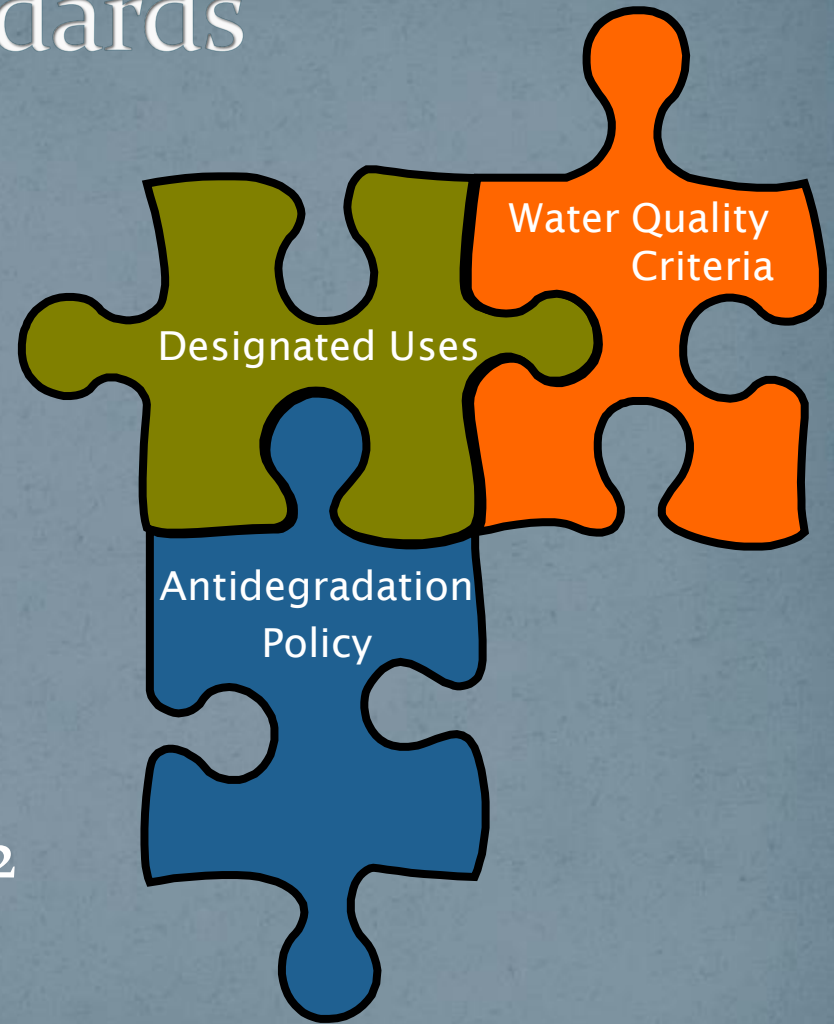
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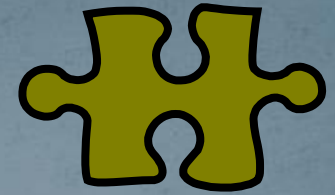
# Water Quality Standards

“A water quality standard defines the water quality goals of a water body, or portion thereof, by designating the use or uses to be made of the water and by setting criteria necessary to protect the uses.”

40 CFR 131.2

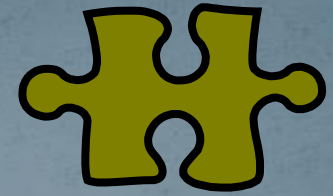


# Designated Uses



- CWA 101(a)(2) – fishable/swimmable uses
  - “...protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife and provides for recreation in and on the water...”
- CWA 303(c)(2)(a) – other uses
  - “...public water supplies, propagation of fish and wildlife, recreational, agricultural, industrial and other purposes, and...navigation...”

# Designated Uses

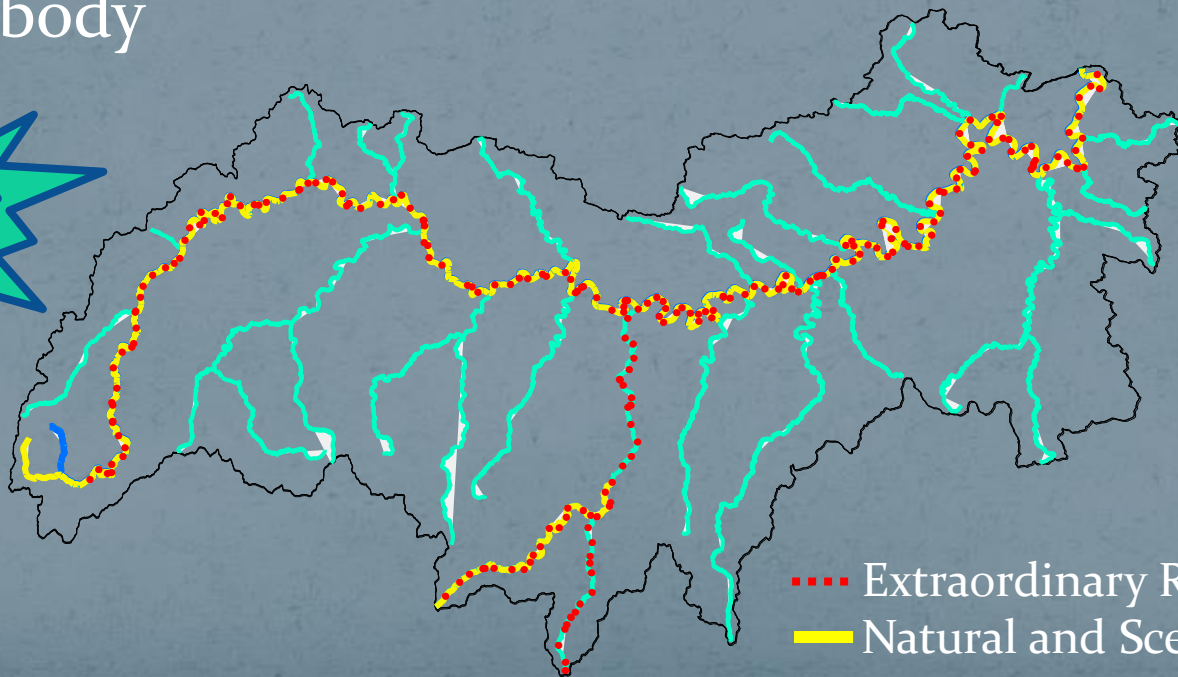


- Regulation 2.302
  - Extraordinary Resource Waters
  - Ecologically Sensitive Waterbody
  - Natural and Scenic Waterways
  - Primary Contact Recreation
  - Secondary Contact Recreation
  - Aquatic Life
  - Domestic Water Supply
  - Industrial Water Supply
  - Agricultural Water Supply



# Designated Uses

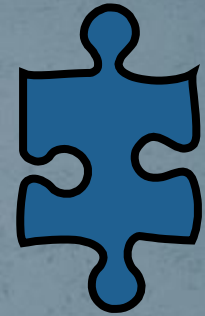
- Regulation 2.311 – Procedure for the **Addition** of the Designated Use of **Extraordinary Resource Water**, or **Ecologically Sensitive Waterbody**, or **Natural and Scenic Waterway** to a Waterbody or Segment of a Waterbody



- Extraordinary Resource Waters
- Natural and Scenic Waterways



# Antidegradation



- Policy
  - 40 CFR 131.12(a)
    - Existing Instream Uses (Tier I)
    - High Quality Waters (Tier II)
    - Outstanding Resource Waters (Tier III)
- Implementation Procedures
  - 40 CFR 131.12(b) – States must develop **methods for implementing antidegradation policy** and provide opportunity for **public involvement** during development and revisions

# Antidegradation

- Implementation Procedures
  - 40 CFR 131.12 Revision
    - Identification of High Quality Waters (Tier II)
      - Parameter-by-parameter
      - Waterbody-by-waterbody
    - Analysis of Alternatives
    - Public Involvement
  - ADEQ's Continuing Planning Process
    - 2017



40 CFR 131.12 Revision

<https://www.epa.gov/wqs-tech/final-rulemaking-update-national-water-quality-standards-regulation>

ADEQ's Continuing Planning Process (CPP)

[https://www.adeq.state.ar.us/water/planning/pdfs/2000\\_cpp.pdf](https://www.adeq.state.ar.us/water/planning/pdfs/2000_cpp.pdf)



# Water Quality Criteria

- Purpose – Protect Designated Uses
  - Protect **most sensitive** use
  - Based on sound scientific rationale
- Narrative
  - Reg. 2.410 – Oil and Grease – “Oil, grease, or petrochemical substances shall not be present in receiving waters to the extent that they produce globules or other residue or any visible, colored film on the surface, or coat the banks and/or bottoms of the watercourses or adversely affect any of the associated biota.”
- Numeric
  - Reg. 2.504 – pH between 6.0 and 9.0 standard units are the applicable standards for streams

# Water Quality Criteria



- Third-Party Rulemaking
  - Reg. 8.809 - Any person may petition the Commission for the issuance, amendment, or repeal of any regulation
  - Reg. 8.808 thru 8.815 – Procedures
- Reg. 2.308 – Site Specific Criteria
  - Reg. 2.509(b)

## (B) Site Specific Nutrient Standards

Lake	Chlorophyll a (ug/L)**	Secchi Transparency (m)***
Beaver Lake*	8	1.1

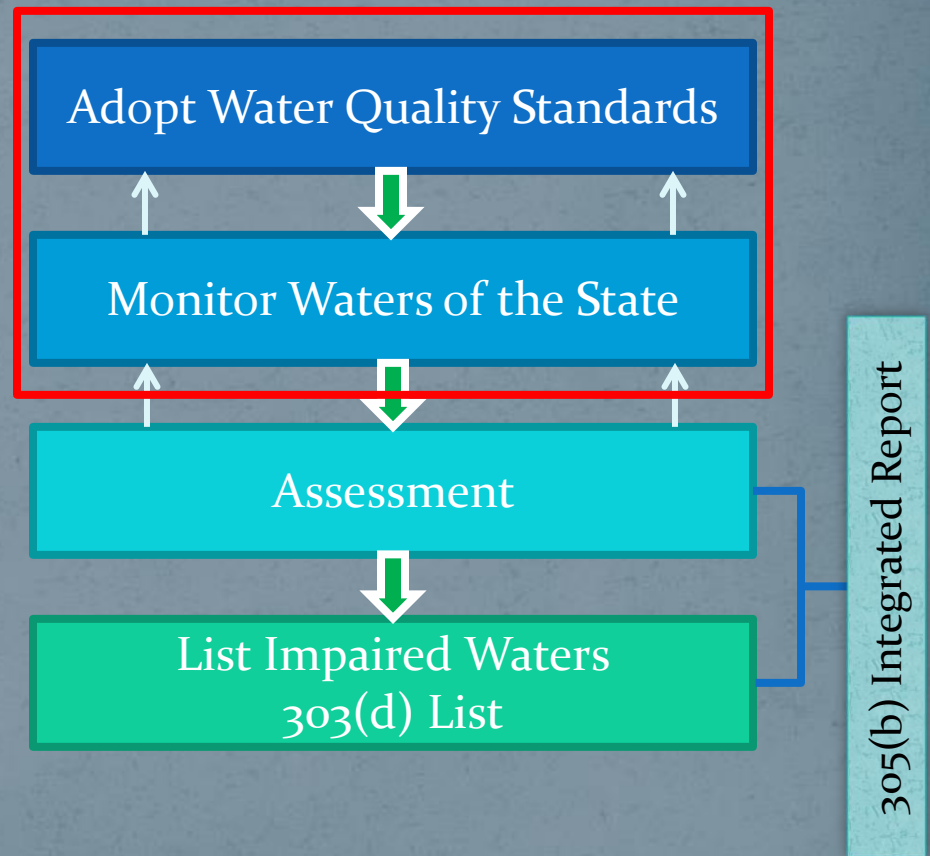
\*These standards are for measurement at the Hickory Creek site over the old thalweg, below the confluence of War Eagle Creek and the White River in Beaver Lake.

\*\*Growing season geometric mean (May - October)

\*\*\*Annual Average

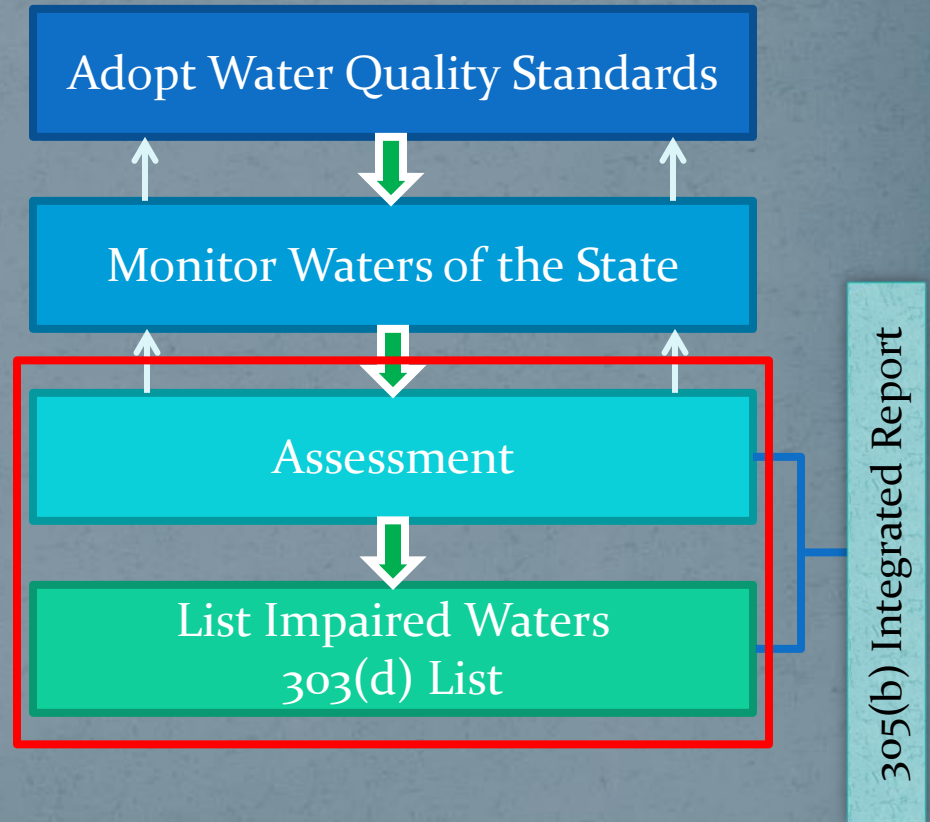
# Triennial Review of Reg. 2 - WQS

- Public Participation
- Coming Spring 2017
- 40 CFR 131 Revision
  - *Consider new or updated 304(a) recommendations*
- Listserv



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# Integrated 305(b) and 303(d) Report

- Clean Water Act 305(b) – biennial report of current condition of all waters
- Clean Water Act 303(d) – list of waterbodies not meeting water quality criteria and/or designated uses
  - Regulation 2 – Water Quality Standards
  - Assessment Methodology

# Integrated 305(b) and 303(d) Report

## *Tentative Dates*

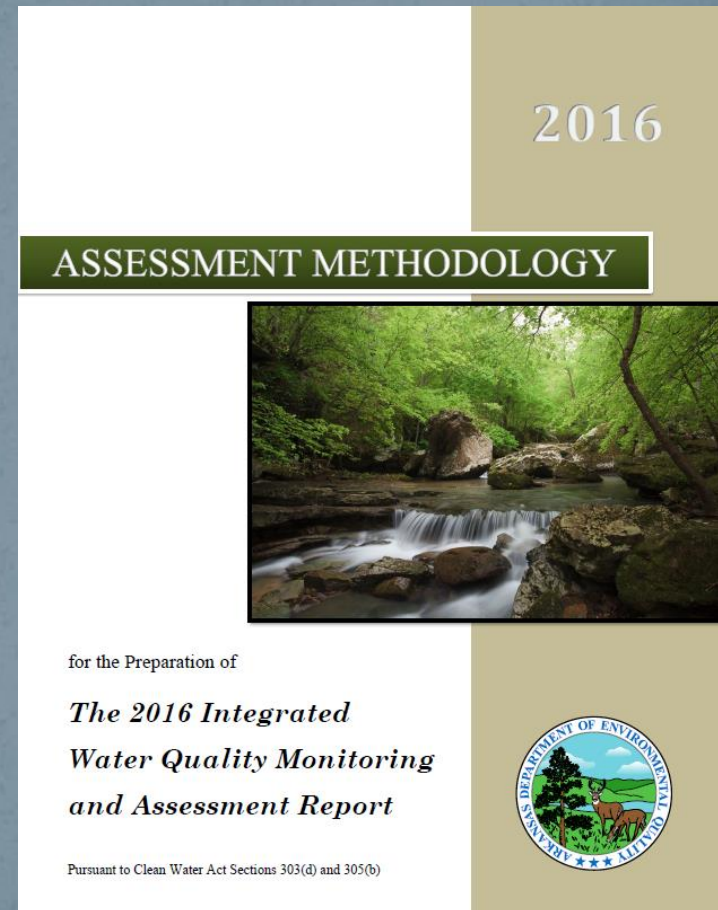
- Assessment Methodology Comments – 31 October 2016
- Draft 2018 Assessment Methodology – *March 2017*
- Request for Outside Data – *May 2017*
- Draft 2018 303(d) list – *January 2018*
- 2018 303(d) Public Hearing – *March 2018*
- Submit Integrated Report to EPA – 1 April 2018





# Assessment Methodology

- Data Considerations
  - Data Quality
  - Data Quantity
  - Representativeness
  - QA/QC
  - Period of Record
- Duration
- Frequency
- Magnitude – Reg. 2 WQS



# 2018 Assessment Methodology Review

- Phase I
  - Listening session 11 October 2016
  - Submit input for Stakeholder Workgroup consideration by 4:30 p.m. (CST), **31 October 2016**.
- Phase II
  - 2-4 Stakeholder Workgroup meetings
- Phase III
  - Draft Public Notice (**March 2017**)
  - Final 2018 Assessment Methodology (**May 2017**)



<https://www.adeq.state.ar.us/water/planning/integrated/assessment/default.aspx>

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# Beautiful Buffalo River Action Committee

- Develop an Arkansas-led approach to identify and address potential issues of common concern in the Buffalo River Watershed to protect Buffalo National River



<https://www.adeq.state.ar.us/water/bbri/bbrac/>

# Beautiful Buffalo River Action Committee



- Year 1 Priorities

- Initiate Watershed Management Plan
- Develop Stakeholder Forum
- Identify Early Actions to “Jump-Start” Improvements
- Prioritize Future Research Needs

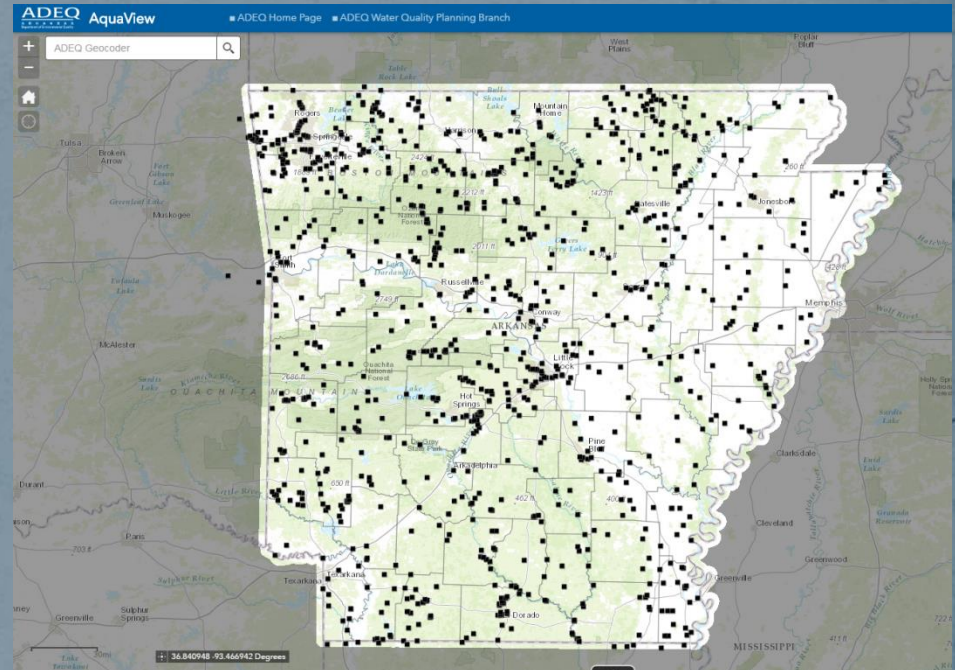


- ANRC
- December 8th! Sign up for listserv to get involved.
- Voluntary Incentive Programs
- Technical Advisory Subcommittee

[www.harrisonarkansas.org](http://www.harrisonarkansas.org)

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# AquaView

- **Water Quality Related Data**
  - Water Quality Monitoring Stations
  - Fish
  - Macroinvertebrates
- **Permitted Facilities**
  - NPDES
  - State Permits Branch
- **Assessment Related Data**
  - Mercury Advisories
  - Category 4a Impaired Waterbodies
  - Category 5 Impaired Waterbodies
- **Designated Uses**
  - Extraordinary Resource Waters
  - Ecologically Sensitive Waterbodies
  - Natural and Scenic Waterways
  - Trout Waterbodies
  - Use Attainability Analysis Segments
- **Geographic Data**
  - Ecoregions
  - ADEQ Planning Segments
  - Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC 8)
  - ADEQ Base Water Layer

# AquaView

- Tutorial
  - <https://www.adeg.state.ar.us/>



# Questions?

