

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF POLLUTION CONTROL & ECOLOGY

IN THE MATTER OF:

BASIN-WIDE INITIATIVE FOR THE  
BUFFALO RIVER WATERSHED

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICE

This Administrative Notice constitutes a statement of policy which will be followed by the Department in exercise of its authority under the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act, A.C.A. §8-4-201 et seq.

FINDINGS

1. The Buffalo River is one of the State's and the nation's treasures. The Buffalo was the first stream to be designated as National River. Arkansas Water Quality Standards classify the Buffalo as a Natural and Scenic Waterway and an Extraordinary Resource Water. Section 3(C) of the Regulation No. 2: Water Quality Standards directs the Department to protect such high quality waters using, among other means, "pursuit of land management protective of the watershed."

2. In general, the water quality of the Buffalo River is excellent. Recent data, however, indicates impairment of aquatic biota in tributaries to the Buffalo which could reasonably be expected to affect the Buffalo in the future if the cause is not discovered and abated. In order to preserve the outstanding quality of the Buffalo, the Department has determined it necessary to invoke its authority under Section 3(C) of Regulation No. 2.

3. The Department will perform an extensive survey of the