

Justifications why data was not used for assessments during the 2018 assessment cycle

Period of Record – Data received that was outside the 4/1/12 – 3/31/2017 period of record was not used for assessments.

Sample Location Information – Data received without specific and accurate sampling location information, including latitude longitude was not used for assessments. ADEQ followed up with data submitters where location information was unclear. There were some instances where sample location information discrepancies could not be rectified.

Sample Location Type – An Assessment Methodology had not been developed for water quality data from springs and other types of groundwater, therefore data from springs was not used for assessments.

Primary Contact Recreation – Data received in a watershed less than 10 square miles without primary contact recreation verification as per Regulation No. 2 was not used for bacteria assessments.

Data that was received as a PDF report without any accompanying tabular data was not used for assessments.

Duplicate samples – Per Assessment Methodology Section 3.3.2, multiple samples taken at the same time within the same location will not be combined. Instead, only the most protective data point will be used for that time/location. Duplicate samples were common across data sets. In these situations, the less protective data points were not used for assessments.

Minimum data requirement not met – All parameters require a minimum amount of data in order to make an attainment decision. AUs that did not meet this requirement were assessed as Category 3: not enough data. Too little data was a common occurrence across data sets. This includes short-term continuous datasets with only one deployment or where deployments were less than 72 hours. This includes long-term continuous datasets that did not meet the 10 out of 12 months of the year requirements.

Data distribution not met – Some parameters have “seasons” that cover certain parts of the year and some parameters are considered “year round.” Regardless of partial year or year-round status, data must be relatively evenly distributed across the proper temporal range. Data must not be “clumped” into a small range within the season. Some data could not be used because it did not meet the distribution requirements for the parameter.

Quality Control/Quality Assurance procedures lacking – Some data did not meet or exceed ADEQ’s QAPP requirements. This included some data that met the submitter’s QA/QC requirements but not ADEQ’s. When this happened, data could not be used for assessment purposes and was not used for assessments. This includes data that was received as “provisional”.

Assessment of Trout Water specific water quality standard was limited to designated Trout Water rivers and streams. According to Christy Graham with The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, AGFC no longer stocks trout into the following Arkansas reservoirs: Bull Shoals Lake, Greers Ferry Lake, and Ouachita Lake. The last stocking of Rainbow Trout occurred in Bull Shoals Lake in 2013 and in Ouachita Lake in 2003. According to the AGFC Hatchery Database (1986-present), no Rainbow Trout have been stocked in Norfolk or Greers Ferry lakes. Lake trout stockings were discontinued in Greers Ferry and Bull Shoals lakes in 1988 and 1986, respectively.