

# 2018 ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY Public Listening Session

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ADEQ Office of Water Quality  
Planning Branch



Arkansas Dept. of  
Parks and Tourism

# Listening Session Goals

- Gather input regarding the 2016 Assessment Methodology;
- Which will be shared with a Stakeholder Workgroup; and
- Considered for modification of the Assessment Methodology for the 2018 303(d) assessment cycle.

# What is the Assessment Methodology?

- Every two years ADEQ must assess the waters of the State to determine if they are:
  - supporting designated uses
  - attaining water quality criteria
- The Assessment Methodology contains procedures for this assessment



# What is the Assessment Methodology?

- Prepared by ADEQ staff
- Must be consistent with Reg. 2
- Must be scientifically based
- Assessment outcomes determine:
  - Attainment
  - Non-Attainment

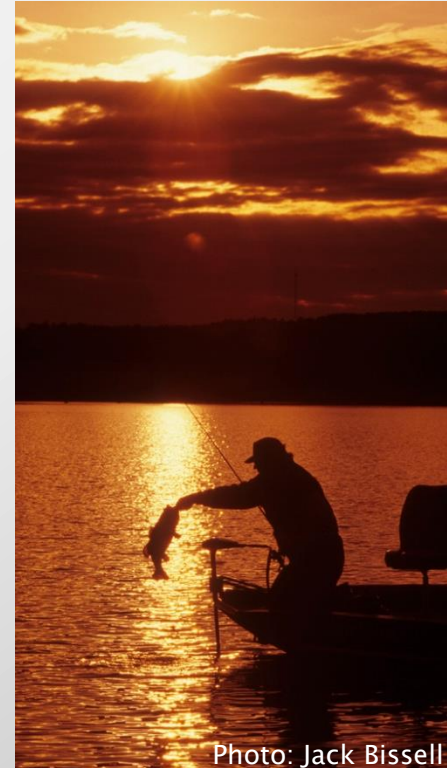
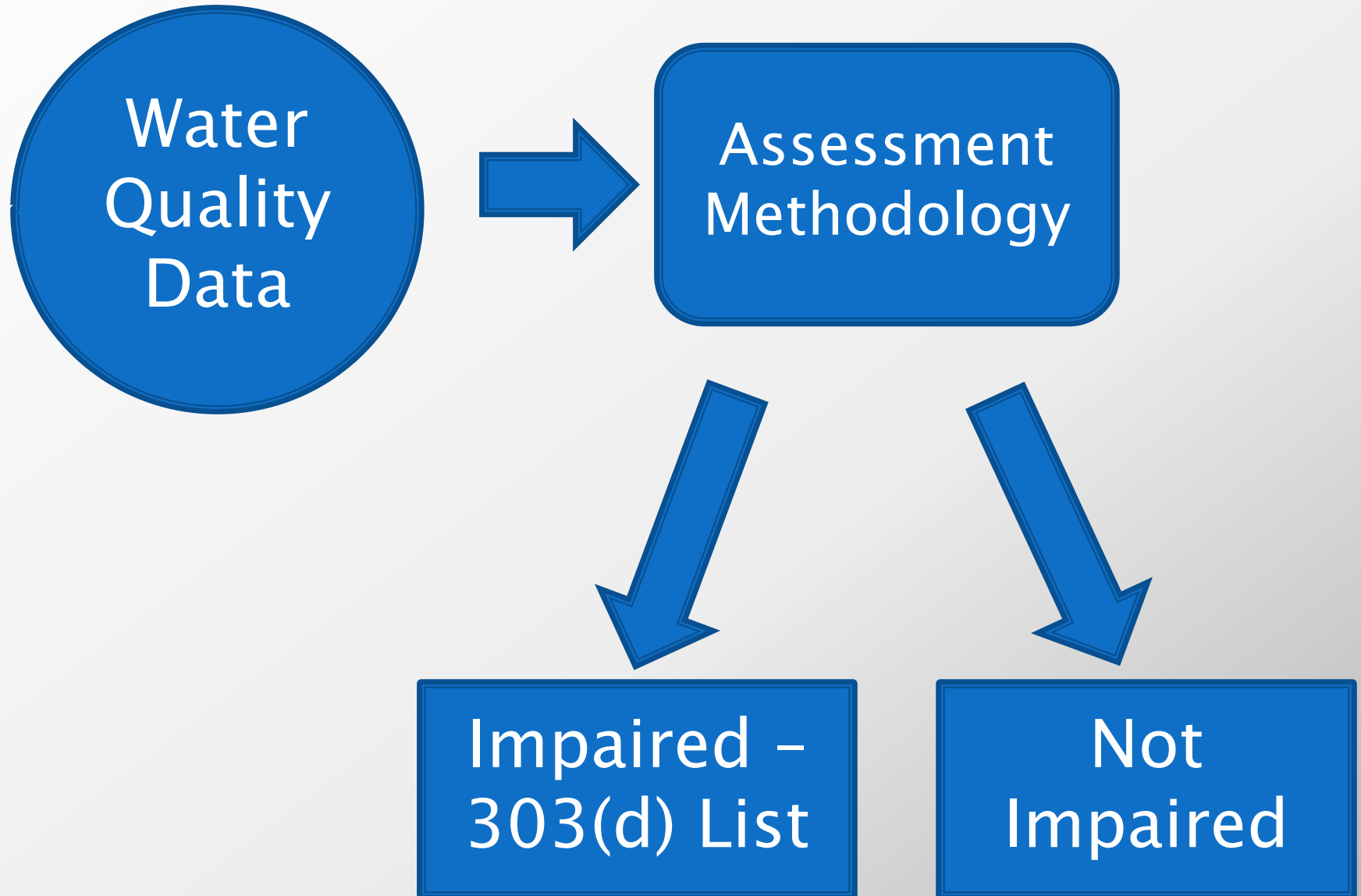
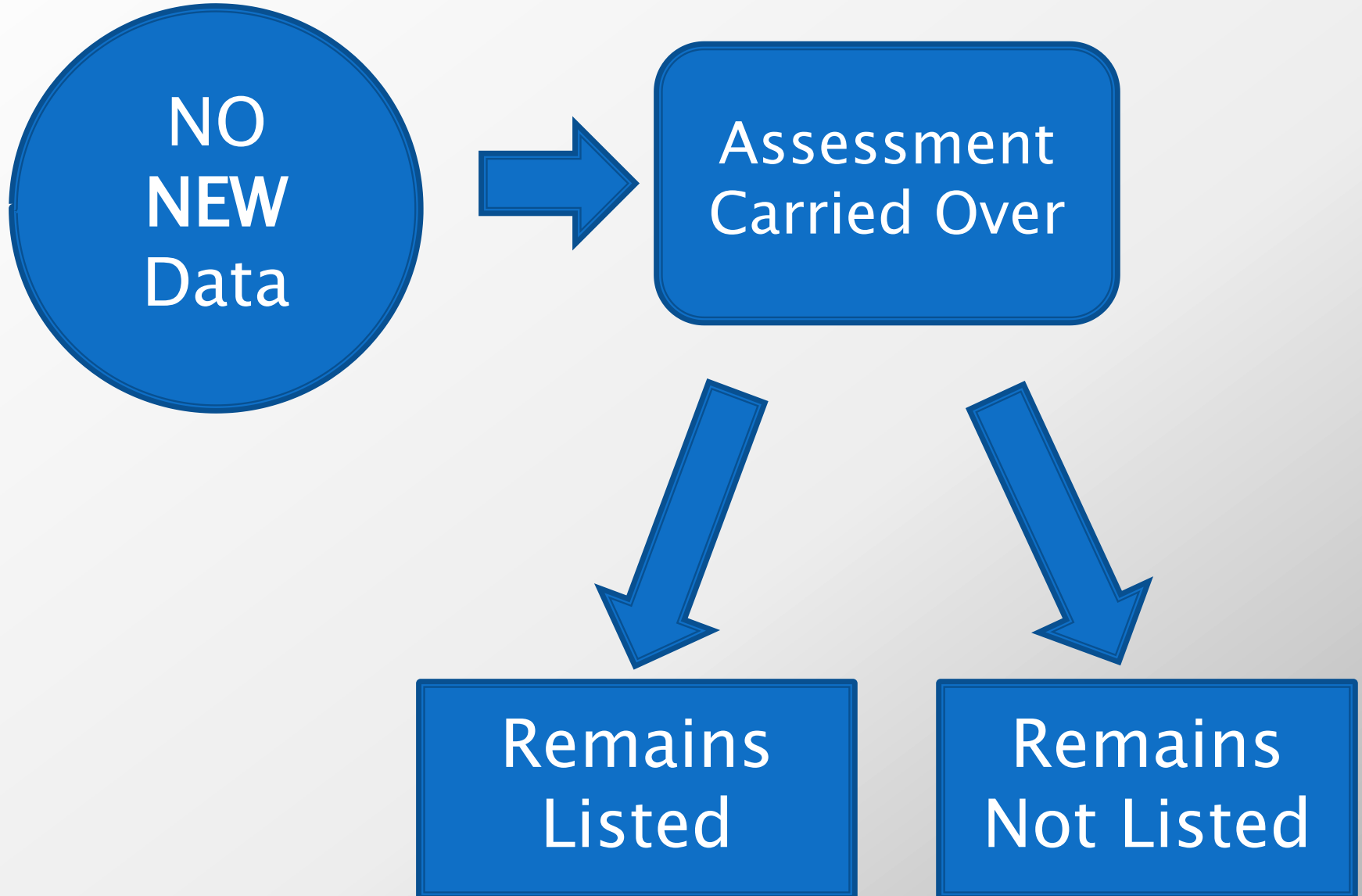


Photo: Jack Bissell

# Assessment Process

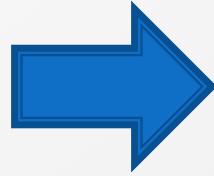


# What if no NEW data?

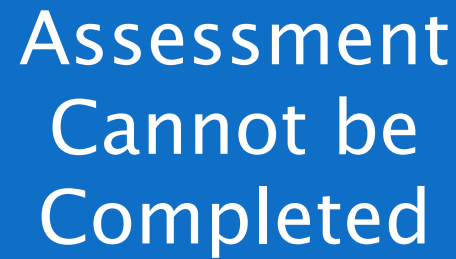


# What if NO data?

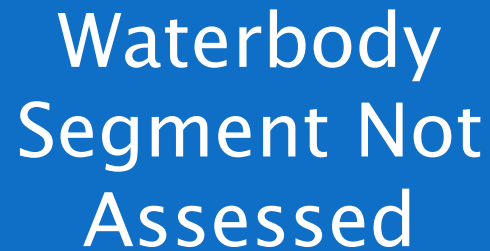
**NO  
Water  
Quality  
Data**



**Assessment  
Cannot be  
Completed**



**Waterbody  
Segment Not  
Assessed**



# Assessment Example: pH

- pH Standard in Reg. 2.504
  - *pH between 6.0 and 9.0 standard units are the applicable standards for streams.*
- Assessment Methodology
  - Stream ...segments will be listed as non-support ... when a variance from the pH standard ... (occurs) in more than 10% of the total samples within the period of record.



# Assessment Example: pH

- Example Data Set

Date	pH Result
2/12/2014	6.3
4/15/2014	5.7
6/18/2014	6.0
8/11/2014	6.2
10/14/2014	5.5
12/16/2014	5.4
2/10/2015	6.7
4/8/2015	6.3
6/13/2015	6.4
8/14/2016	6.0

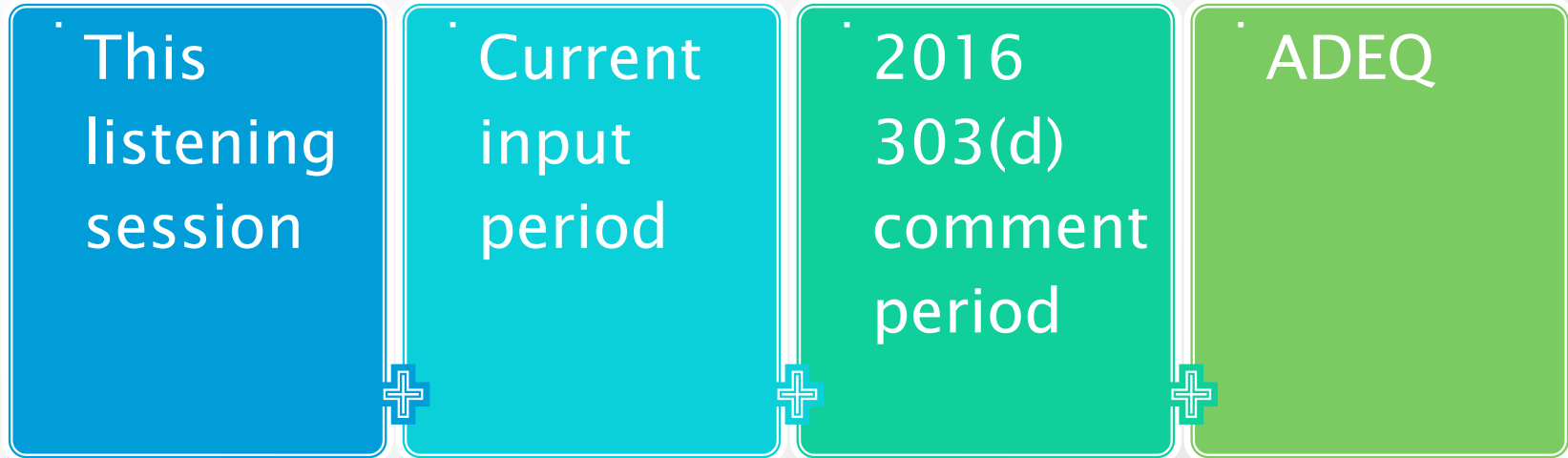
- The pH water quality criterion is 6.0–9.0.
- 3 of the 10 (greater than 10%) samples are outside the criterion.
- If these were the only qualifying data available for this waterbody, it would be listed on the 303(d) List of Impaired Waterbodies.

# Timeline for Revision

- Public Listening Session Oct 11, 2016
- Input Period Closes Oct 31, 2016
- Provide Summary of Input Nov 2016
- Stakeholder Workgroup Dec–Jan 2017
- Provide Summary of Input Feb 2017
- Public Notice March 2017
- Response to Comments April 2017
- Finalize Methodology May 2017

# Stakeholder Workgroup Goals

- Review and discuss input from:



- Provide ADEQ with recommendations for revising the 2018 Assessment Methodology

# Stakeholder Members

- Local, State, and Federal Government entities
- Industrial, Municipal, and Utility entities
- Conservation and Environmental entities



# Get Involved

Website devoted to the 2018  
Assessment Methodology review

- Sign up for listserv
- Keep up to date with review timeline
- Find press releases
- Review 2016 Assessment Methodology
- Submit input
- Access relevant documents



# https://www.adeq.state.ar.us/water/planning/integrated/assessment/

The screenshot displays the ADEQ website interface. At the top is a dark brown navigation bar with links: Home, Databases, Divisions, Inspectors, Licensing, Permits, Regulations, and Contact Us. Below this is a breadcrumb trail: Home / Divisions / Water / Planning / Integrated / Assessment.

The left sidebar contains several menu items: Water Division (with sub-links for Resource Library, Acronyms & Definitions, Water Quality Planning, AquaView, Reports & Data, Presentations, and Publications (Variety)), Regulation 2 - Water Quality Standards, Criteria Development, Surface Water Monitoring Program, Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Report (including 305(b), 303(d), and TMDLs), 2018 Assessment Methodology Review (with sub-links for Arkansas's 303(d) List Overview, Final/Draft - 303(d) List by Year, and Arkansas TMDLs), Groundwater Protection Program, and Instream Certification/Authorizations (STAA and 401).

The main content area features the heading "2018 Assessment Methodology Review". The text explains that Section 305(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act requires states to perform a comprehensive assessment of water quality every two years. It details the assessment's focus on water quality, protection of fish and wildlife, and pollution control measures. It also notes that Arkansas' waters are evaluated against standards and designated uses under Regulation 2, with monitoring data assessed for compliance. ADEQ follows specific requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 130.7-130.8 to determine reporting categories.

On the right side, there is a "List serve" callout (a green arrow pointing left) and an "Email Updates" section with a "Subscribe" button. Below the main text is a "Related Documents" section with a "Drop Down Menu" callout (a green arrow pointing left) and a link to "2016 Assessment Methodology". Underneath, it says "Coming Soon: Phase I" and lists a "Public Listening Session Press Release" for the period of September 22 to October 31, 2016.

The bottom right corner features the ADEQ logo: "ADEQ ARKANSAS Department of Environmental Quality".

# Questions about the review process?

Photo: Marysia Jastrzebski



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A R K A N S A S  
Department of Environmental Quality