

# 2018 ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY Stakeholder Workgroup Session 1

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ADEQ Office of Water Quality  
Planning Branch

December 1, 2016



Arkansas Dept. of  
Parks and Tourism

# Welcome

- Welcome to the first of a series of Stakeholder Workgroups to review the Assessment Methodology for the 2018 assessment cycle.
- After a short presentation we will begin our discussions.

# Housekeeping

- Bathrooms are to either side of elevator when you first enter the building
- In case of fire, use side door
- Coffee is provided in back of room, please dispose of trash appropriately
- Meeting from 9:00–12:00; we'll need to conclude on time
- Sign in and sign out at front desk

# Please be Courteous

- Be on time, for start and breaks
- Keep discussions relevant to the topic at hand
- Remain respectful of all opinions
- Silence cell phones and take emergency calls in hallway

# So that all can hear

- Please use microphones
- Speak one at a time
- Avoid side conversations
- Announce your name before you speak for participants calling in



# 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

# 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





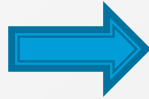
# Clean Water Act Requirements

Defines Water Quality goals  
40 CFR 130.3 and 131



Adopt Water Quality Standards

Data collection based on need  
40 CFR 130.4



Monitor Waters of the State

Determines attainment  
40 CFR 130.8



Assessment

Identifies Quality Limited Waters  
40 CFR 130.7(b)(1)



List Impaired Waters  
303(d) List

Defines Waste Loads  
40 CFR 130.7



Develop TMDLs

Implementation  
40 CFR Part 122

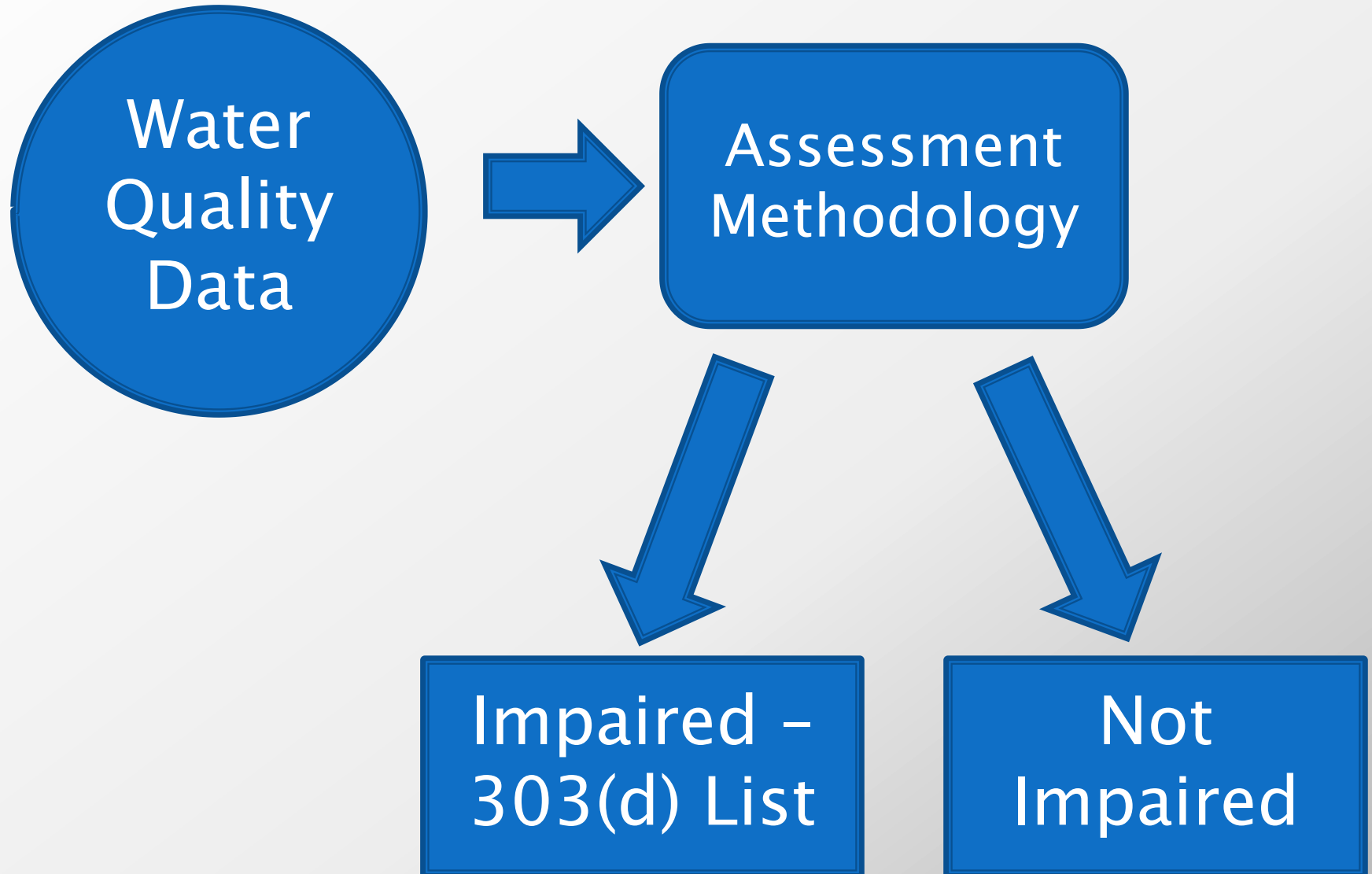


Develop Permit Limits

305(b) Integrated Report



# Assessment Process



# 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.

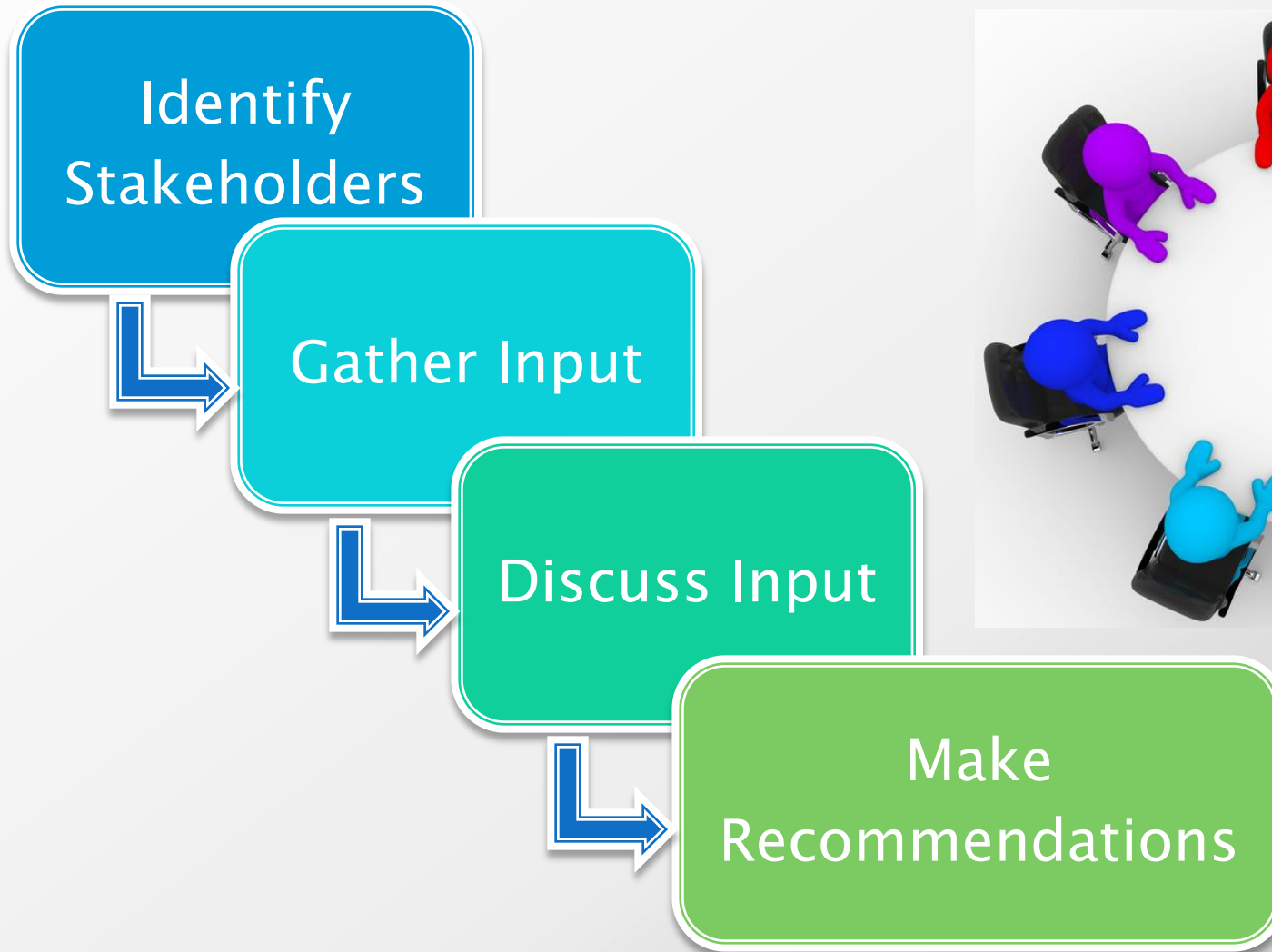
# Assessment Example: pH

- 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.

# The Stakeholder Process



# The Stakeholder Process

## Identify Stakeholders

- ADEQ sought stakeholders from:
  - Local, State, and Federal Government entities
  - Industrial, Municipal, and Utility entities
  - Conservation and Environmental entities

# The Stakeholder Process

## Gather Input

- Input period September 22 – October 31, 2016
- Listening Session October 11, 2016
- ADEQ compiled relevant comments from the previous listing cycle



# The Stakeholder Process

## Discuss Input

- Discussions will follow the current layout of the Assessment Methodology
- Should remain on topic and relevant
- Stakeholder input is critical to achieving process goals

# The Stakeholder Process

Make  
Recommendations

- Stakeholder group should provide ADEQ with recommendations for revising the 2018 Assessment Methodology
- Recommendations can be changes, clarifications, additions, or deletions to the current methodology

# Stay Involved

Website devoted to the 2018  
Assessment Methodology review

- Sign up for listserv
- Keep up to date with review timeline
- Review 2016 Assessment Methodology
- 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.

**Left Sidebar:**

- Water Division**
  - Resource Library
  - Acronyms & Definitions
- Water Quality Planning**
  - AquaView
  - Reports & Data
  - Presentations
  - Publications (Variety)
- Regulation 2 - Water Quality Standards**
- Criteria Development**
- Surface Water Monitoring Program**
- Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Report** (highlighted)
  - including 305(b), 303(d), and TMDLs
  - 2018 Assessment Methodology Review** (highlighted)
  - Arkansas's 303(d) List Overview
  - Final/Draft – 303(d) List by Year
  - Arkansas TMDLs
- Groundwater Protection Program**
- Instream Certification/Authorizations**
  - STAA and 401

**Main Content Area:**

## 2018 Assessment Methodology Review

Section 305(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (hereinafter “Clean Water Act”) requires states to perform a comprehensive assessment of the state’s water quality to be reported to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) every two years. This assessment provides information on the quality of the state’s waters; the extent to which state waters provide for the protection and propagation of a balanced population of fish, shellfish, and wildlife, and allow recreational activities in and on the water; and how pollution control measures are leading to water quality standards attainment.

Arkansas’ waters are evaluated in terms of whether their assigned water quality standards and designated uses, as delineated in the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission’s (APC&EC) Regulation 2, are being attained. Monitoring data are assessed for compliance with APC&EC Regulation 2 to determine impairment and designated use support, based upon the frequency, duration, and/or magnitude of water quality standard exceedances as delineated in the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality’s (ADEQ) Assessment Methodology.

ADEQ follows the specific requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 130.7-130.8. ADEQ’s Assessment Methodology constitutes the process that the State of Arkansas employs to determine to which of the five integrated reporting categories a monitoring segment belongs. EPA’s most current 305(b) reporting and 303(d) listing requirements and guidance are considered when developing this assessment methodology.

**Right Sidebar:**

- Assessment Methodology Review Contact**
  - Sarah Clem**  
501-682-0660
  - [Questions or Comments?](#)
- Email Updates**
  - Subscribe to the email list to receive announcements and reminders regarding the review process for ADEQ’s Assessment Methodology for impaired waters (303(d) list)
  - [Subscribe](#)

**Bottom Section:**

### Related Documents

**2016 Assessment Methodology**

*Coming Soon:*

**Phase I**

- [Public Listening Session Press Release](#)
- Public Listening Session Comment Period: **September 22 - October 31, 2016**



# Questions about today?

Photo: Marysia Jastrzebski



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