



State of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality TMDL Priorities and Schedule

For Oregon's 2022 Integrated Report Submittal May 2022

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TMDL Priorities: As required by the federal Clean Water Act and implementing regulations [CWA § 303(d)(1)(A) and 40 CFR § 130.7(b)(4)], Oregon Department of Environmental Quality identified impaired waters needing development of a Total Maximum Daily Load as Category 5 on the draft 2022 Section 303(d) list and established a priority ranking for such waters, taking into account the severity of the pollution and the uses to be made of such waters.

For each Category 5 listed assessment unit or AU (formerly called segments), DEQ established a priority ranking (High, Medium or Low), which are specified in the accompanying spreadsheet. To provide more detailed information on DEQ's priority rankings, the spreadsheet identifies High and Medium ranked AUs that are grouped together within the geographic extent of each TMDL project area. Table 1 presents these High and Medium ranked TMDL Project Names, along with the geographic extent, Category 5 AUs covered (as well as Category 2, 3, 4 and unassessed AUs that are planned for inclusion) and the listed pollutants for which TMDLs will be developed for each project area.

DEQ based the TMDL priority ranking on a multi-level evaluation consistent with Oregon Administrative Rule 340-042-0040(3). As guided by Clean Water Act and regulatory requirements to consider severity of pollution and use of waters, DEQ first considered water quality-specific factors, including: number of Category 5 AUs in a watershed; significance of impairment; whether there are multiple listed pollutants; the impaired beneficial uses (especially public health impacts); if a watershed has other TMDLs; and scale of point and nonpoint source discharge. Next, DEQ considered additional factors, including: input from tribes and the public; level of DEQ TMDL resources; cross-program and cross-agency funding priorities; TMDL projects with deadlines established via court order; size and complexity of geographic area and size and participation of affected public.

High priority for development was assigned to TMDL projects with multiple, overlapping water quality-specific factors and that were further constrained by consideration of multiple additional factors. TMDL projects identified as High priority are targeted for development in the next two years, or by April 2024.

Medium priority for development was assigned to TMDL projects with fewer, overlapping water quality-related factors and constraints due to additional factors.

Low priority for development was assigned to TMDL projects that were not ranked High or Medium.

TMDL Schedule: DEQ's TMDL priority rankings are intended to inform DEQ's schedule of TMDL development, as well as the biennial submission to EPA of TMDLs that DEQ will have in development within the coming two years, as required by 40 CFR § 130.7(d)(1). In alignment with EPA guidance, TMDLs "in development" may include those with review of existing information, data evaluation, data collection, data analysis, model development, draft of plan, proposal of a TMDL for public comment, public outreach or other instances agreed to by the EPA region.

DEQ intends to have all High priority TMDL projects in development within the next two years, or by April 2024, and all Medium priority TMDL projects in development by April 2030. DEQ expects that several High and Medium priority TMDL projects will be completed and submitted for EPA action before those milestone dates, particularly those with court-ordered timelines. As High and Medium priority TMDL projects are completed, Medium and Low priority TMDL projects will begin to move up in priority and into development.

Table 1. 2022 TMDL priority ranking

Priority	TMDL Project Name(s)	Geographic Extent (with HUCs)	Cat 5 AUs Covered	Other AUs Covered	Listed Pollutants
High	Coquille Subbasin	17100305 - Coquille Subbasin The Temperature TMDL excludes the area covered by the Upper South Fork Coquille Temperature TMDL	87	571	Dissolved Oxygen, E. coli, Fecal Coliform, pH, Temperature
High	Powder, Burnt, and Brownlee Subbasins	17050201 - Brownlee Reservoir Subbasin 17050202 - Burnt Subbasin 17050203 - Powder Subbasin (Extent excludes Snake River and Brownlee Reservoir)	7	397	E. coli, Fecal Coliform
High	Sandy Subbasin	17080001 - Lower Columbia-Sandy (Subbasin extent excludes Columbia River)	36	22	Temperature
High	Upper Yaquina Watershed	1710020401 - Upper Yaquina River Watershed	6	21	Dissolved Oxygen, E. coli, Fecal Coliform
High	Lower Willamette and Clackamas Subbasins	17090011 - Clackamas Subbasin 17090012 - Lower Willamette Subbasin (Excludes the rivers included in the Willamette River Mainstem and Major Tributaries TMDL)	42	84	Temperature
High	Middle Willamette Subbasins	17090005 - North Santiam Subbasin 17090006 - South Santiam Subbasin 17090007 - Middle Willamette Subbasin 17090009 - Molalla-Pudding Subbasin (Excludes the rivers included in the Willamette River Mainstem and Major Tributaries TMDL)	98	228	Temperature
High	Southern Willamette Subbasins	17090001- Middle Fork Willamette Subbasin 17090002 - Coast Fork Willamette Subbasin 17090003 - Upper Willamette Subbasin 17090004 - McKenzie Subbasin (Excludes the rivers included in the Willamette River Mainstem and Major Tributaries TMDL)	153	242	Temperature

Priority	TMDL Project Name(s)	Geographic Extent (with HUCs)	Cat 5 AUs Covered	Other AUs Covered	Listed Pollutants
Med	Willamette River Mainstem and Major Tributaries	Willamette River and major tributaries downstream of the dams. The project area is located within the Willamette Basin (HUC 170900) and only includes the following rivers and extents: Willamette River including all side channels from the confluence of the Columbia River to the confluence of Coast Fork of the Willamette and Middle Fork of the Willamette Rivers; Multnomah Channel; Clackamas River downstream of River Mill Dam; Santiam River; North Santiam River downstream of Detroit Dam; South Santiam River downstream of Foster Dam; Long Tom River downstream of Fern Ridge Dam; McKenzie River downstream of the South Fork McKenzie River; South Fork McKenzie River downstream of Cougar Dam; Blue River downstream of Blue River Dam; Middle Fork Willamette River downstream of Dexter Dam; Fall Creek downstream of Fall Creek Dam; Coast Fork Willamette River downstream of Cottage Grove Dam; Row River downstream of Dorena Dam.	39	12	Temperature
(Willamette Basin totals)			(332)	(566)	(Temperature)
Med	John Day River Basin	170702 - John Day Basin	190	285	Temperature
Med	Lower Deschutes, Crooked, Beaver - South Fork, and Trout Subbasins	17070303 - Beaver - South Fork Subbasin 17070304 - Upper Crooked Subbasin 17070305 - Lower Crooked Subbasin 17070306 - Lower Deschutes Subbasin 17070307 - Trout Subbasin	136	2580	Chlorophyll-a, Dissolved Oxygen, E. coli, Harmful Algal Blooms, pH, Phosphorus, Temperature
Med	Lower Grande Ronde, Imnaha, and Wallowa Subbasins	17060102 - Imnaha Subbasin 17060105 - Wallowa Subbasin 17060106 - Lower Grande Ronde Subbasin	62	140	Temperature

Priority	TMDL Project Name(s)	Geographic Extent (with HUCs)	Cat 5 AUs Covered	Other AUs Covered	Listed Pollutants
Med	Malheur River Subbasins	17050115 - Middle Snake-Payette Subbasin 17050116 - Upper Malheur Subbasin 17050117 - Lower Malheur Subbasin 17050118 - Bully Subbasin 17050119 - Willow Subbasin (Extent excludes Snake River)	36	176	Temperature
Med	Middle Columbia-Hood, Miles Creeks	1707010502 - Eightmile Creek Watershed 1707010503 - Fifteenmile Creek Watershed 1707010504 - Mill Creek-Columbia River Watershed 1707010511 - Mosier Creek-Columbia River Watershed	25	10	Temperature
Med	North Umpqua Subbasin	17100301 - North Umpqua Subbasin	71	40	Temperature
Med	Powder, Burnt, and Brownlee Subbasins	17050201 - Brownlee Reservoir Subbasin 17050202 - Burnt Subbasin 17050203 - Powder Subbasin (Extent excludes Snake River and Brownlee Reservoir)	15	606	Dissolved Oxygen, pH, Phosphorus
Med	Rogue River Basin	17100307 - Upper Rogue Subbasin 17100308 - Middle Rogue Subbasin 17100309 - Applegate Subbasin 17100310 - Lower Rogue Subbasin 17100311 - Illinois Subbasin (Extent of biocriteria TMDLs is the Rogue River and Little Butte Creek Watershed (1710030708))	36	2411	BioCriteria, Chlorophyll-a, Dissolved Oxygen, Harmful Algal Blooms, pH, Phosphorus
Med	Rogue River Basin	17100307 - Upper Rogue Subbasin 17100308 - Middle Rogue Subbasin 17100309 - Applegate Subbasin 17100310 - Lower Rogue Subbasin 17100311 - Illinois Subbasin	199	290	Temperature
Med	Schooner Creek	171002040708 - Schooner Creek Subwatershed	1	1	Turbidity
Med	Siletz River	1710020404 - Upper Siletz River Watershed 1710020405 - Middle Siletz River Watershed	1	19	Turbidity
Med	Snake River - Hells Canyon	Snake River, Brownlee Reservoir, Oxbow Reservoir, and Hells Canyon Reservoir	12	3	Methylmercury
Med	Snake River - Hells Canyon	Snake River, Brownlee Reservoir, Oxbow Reservoir, and Hells Canyon Reservoir	15	0	Temperature

Priority	TMDL Project Name(s)	Geographic Extent (with HUCs)	Cat 5 AUs Covered	Other AUs Covered	Listed Pollutants
Med	South Umpqua and Umpqua Subbasins	17100302 - South Umpqua Subbasin 17100303 - Umpqua Subbasin	186	200	Temperature
Med	Upper Deschutes and Little Deschutes Subbasins	17070301 - Upper Deschutes Subbasin 17070302 - Little Deschutes Subbasin	71	719	Chlorophyll-a, Dissolved Oxygen, Harmful Algal Blooms, pH, Temperature
Med	Walla Walla Subbasin	17070102 - Walla Walla Subbasin	7	23	Temperature
Med	Willow Creek Subbasin	17070104 - Willow Subbasin	5	35	Temperature
Notes: HUC = USGS Hydrologic Unit Code; AU = Assessment Unit; Other AU categories include 2, 3, 4 and unassessed					

Alternative formats

DEQ can provide documents in an alternate format or in a language other than English upon request. Call DEQ at 800-452-4011 or email deqinfo@deq.state.or.us.