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Draft 2022 303(d) List at Public Notice, February 21, 2023

The Kentucky Division of Water has opened a 60-day comment period on the draft 2022 303(d) list of impaired waters as required by KRS 224.70-150. Comments received by email or mail must be dated or postmarked no later than April 22, 2023. Comments on the draft 303(d) list may be sent:

- Via email (*preferred method*) to TMDL@ky.gov (Subject line: "303(d) List")
- Via U.S. Mail to: Water Quality Branch (ATTN: 303(d) List)
Kentucky Division of Water
300 Sower Blvd., 3rd Floor
Frankfort, KY 40601

The Division has developed a dedicated [public notice site](#) to view the draft 303(d) list, new listings, proposed delistings, waters with completed total maximum daily loads (TMDLs), and the 305(b) list. Spreadsheets and interactive maps with video tutorials are available through this site. Links to assessment summaries and TMDL documents are available through the map dashboards or in the provided spreadsheets.

Section 305(b) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) requires states to report to Congress every two years on the health of waters in the state, and whether the water quality of individual waterbodies is sufficient to support their designated uses. In Kentucky, these designated uses include primary contact recreation, secondary contact recreation, aquatic life, domestic water supply, fish consumption, and outstanding state resource waters. The determination of designated use attainment is based on water quality sampling and assessment methodologies developed by the state and approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Section 303(d) of the CWA requires states to identify impaired waters, the pollutant(s) causing the impairment, and to develop a TMDL for each of those pollutants. Section 303(d) also requires states to prioritize waters for TMDL development. The TMDL, which is a daily maximum allowance for a pollutant, supports plans and strategies for restoring water quality.

The 2022 reporting cycle focuses on the following Basin Management Units (BMU) sampled by DOW's Ambient Rivers program: Big and Little Sandy Rivers and Tygarts Creek BMU, Kentucky River BMU, Salt and Licking Rivers BMU, and Upper Cumberland and Four Rivers BMU. Data collected by the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission (ORSANCO) were used to update assessments along the Ohio River. Data collected by other internal programs and external data contributors provide updates throughout the state.

Assessment results from the [2018-2020 Integrated Report](#) can be accessed at the [Kentucky Water Health Portal](#). Upon EPA approval of the 2022 303(d) list, the Water Health Portal will be updated with the 2022 305(b) assessment information.