

# WELCOME DIVISION OF WATER REGULATORY FORUM

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# MEET THE Division of Water Staff

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**Sarah Jon Gaddis, P.G., Director**  
Kentucky Division of Water  
Department for Environmental Protection

# **DIVISION OF WATER**

## **MISSION:**

*“To manage, protect, and enhance the quality and quantity of the Commonwealth’s water resources for present and future generations through voluntary, regulatory, and educational programs”*

# **DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

**Sarah Jon Gaddis, P.G., Director**  
**John Webb, Assistant Director**

John Carlton, Administrative Specialist Senior  
Carole Catalfo, Policy Specialist

Melanie Arnold, Environmental Scientist Consultant II  
Jory Becker, Environmental Engineer Consultant  
Josiah Frey, Environmental Scientist Consultant II



# PROGRAM PLANNING & SUPPORT BRANCH

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**Heather Baker, Branch Manager**

Grants Management Section

Michele Howard, Supervisor

Resource Planning Section

Maggie Lee, Supervisor



# PROGRAM PLANNING & SUPPORT BRANCH

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## Major Accomplishments:

- Currently manages ~80 grants issued between 2016 and 2024
- Funds administered annually ~\$195 Million originating from EPA, FEMA, and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, etc.
- Administratively support projects including City of Southshore (PFAS) in the amount of \$9.4 Million and Herrington Lake Watershed construction in the amount of \$1.5 Million
- Supports all programs of DOW with procurement, grants, and other resources

# **WATER RESOURCES BRANCH**

## **Shawn Hokanson, Branch Manager**

Kaycie Carter, Environmental Scientist Advisor  
Alex VanPelt, Environmental Scientist Advisor

### **401 Water Quality Certification Section**

Samantha Vogeler, Supervisor

### **Dam Safety Section**

Glen Alexander, Supervisor

### **Floodplain Management Section**

David Coe, Supervisor





# **WATER RESOURCES BRANCH**

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## **Major Accomplishments:**

- Flood recovery allowing FEMA reimbursement through repair approvals for more than 9,000 bridge, road and utility line/infrastructure sites
- Assisting communities/individuals by permitting 528 FEMA structure buyouts and 505 structure/bank stabilization permits
- \$17M project to bring the state-owned Bullock Pen Lake Dam into full compliance without impacting Bullock Pen Water System operations
- Timely permitting and water quality certification issuance in support of economic development projects



# **SURFACE WATER PERMITS BRANCH**

## **Jason Hurt, Branch Manager**

Barry Elmore, Environmental Engineer Consultant I

Greg Goode, Environmental Engineer Consultant I

Robin Snider, Resource Management Analyst

## **Industrial Section**

Andrew Parish, Supervisor

## **Municipal Section**

Bryan Parker, Supervisor

## **Permit Support Section**

Jerry Milburn, Supervisor

## **Stormwater Section**

Amy Van Horne, Supervisor

# **SURFACE WATER PERMITS BRANCH**

## **Major Accomplishments:**

- Began implementing Nutrient Optimization permit requirements for major Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs)
- Renewed the KYR10 General Permit for Discharges from Construction Activities in January 2025
- Renewed the KYG04 General Permit for Discharges from Coal Mining Activities in February 2025
- Added an Environmental Engineer Technologist to the branch to work on PFAS issues with wastewater discharges

# **WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BRANCH**

Joanna Ashford, Branch Manager

Paulette Akers, Environmental Scientist Consultant 1

Bill Caldwell, Environmental Scientist Consultant 1

Caroline Chan, Environmental Scientist Consultant 1

Ben Currens, Environmental Scientist Consultant 1

Jill Wilhelm, Administrative Specialist Senior

## **GIS & Data Analysis Section**

Jo Blanset, Supervisor

## **Groundwater Section**

Adam Smith, Supervisor

## **Nonpoint Source & Basin Team Section**

Michaela Lambert, Supervisor

## **Water Supply Section**

Allan Shingleton, Supervisor

# WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BRANCH

## Major Accomplishments:

- Completed 18 Bathymetry Studies across the State

*Working with local communities to complete a baseline bathymetry study on all drinking water reservoirs in the Commonwealth.*

- Completed 62 Drone Flights

*Pilot Studies are underway to identify new uses with Thermal Drones.*

- Created the Monthly Water Resource Report

*Created an archive of monthly water quantity data. New editions are released on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.*

- Over 10,000 people reached by our River Basin Team!

*Our River Basin Team works with all communities and age groups to increase Nonpoint Source and Watershed education. Email [BasinCoordinators@ky.gov](mailto:BasinCoordinators@ky.gov) to invite them to your next event.*



# WATER QUALITY BRANCH

## **Nick Reif, Branch Manager**

Ann Fredenburg, Environmental Scientist Consultant I

Katie McKone, Environmental Scientist Consultant I

## Intensive Surveys & Wetlands Section

Jessica Schuster, Supervisor

## Monitoring Section

Jacob Culp, Supervisor

## TMDL, Data Management & Standards Support Section

Lara Panayatoff, Supervisor



# WATER QUALITY BRANCH

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## Major Accomplishments:

2024 303(d)/305(b) Integrated Report approved  
October 2024

- *Data from 993 sampling locations; 780 assessed waterbodies*

## Applications/Databases/Public Communication Tools

- *Water Health Portal – added Nonpoint Source Implementation project information for HUC12 watersheds*
- *Improved Special Waters information management system in development*

## TMDLs and TMDL Alternatives:

- *Floyds Fork (Nutrients, Organic Enrichment) – in progress*
- *Statewide Bacteria TMDL update (211 waterbodies) – in progress*
- *Banklick Creek TMDL Alternative (E. coli) completed March 2025*

# WATER QUALITY BRANCH

## Major Accomplishments:

Ongoing upkeep of comprehensive surface water monitoring strategy

- 2,061 sampling events
- 466 monitoring locations

Activities	FY2024
Water Chemistry Samples	1,803
Quality Control Samples (Water Chemistry)	197
Field Measurements & Observations	1,872
Macroinvertebrate Community Surveys	119
Fish Community Surveys	71
Fish Tissue Sampling Events	30



# **WATER INFRASTRUCTURE BRANCH**

## **Hollie Delaney, Branch Manager**

Lissa Doss, Program Coordinator

Lori Dials, Environmental Scientist Advisor

### **Clean Water Engineering Section (New Section)**

Ken Melton, Supervisor

### **Drinking Water Engineering Section**

Terry Humphries, Supervisor

### **Municipal Planning Section**

Jason Lambert, Supervisor

### **Infrastructure Funding Section**

Amber Vaughn, Supervisor

# **WATER INFRASTRUCTURE BRANCH**

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## **Major Accomplishments:**

- Reorganized branch to streamline permitting process, included hiring a new supervisor and 3 staff engineers
- Significantly reduced backlog of CW collection and treatment construction permits, and DW treatment and distribution construction approvals
- Completed review and ranking of record number of projects (over 400!) submitted for FY26 DW/CW SRF

# **DRINKING WATER BRANCH**

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## **VACANT, Branch Manager**

Elizabeth Dowling, Environmental Scientist Consultant I

Jackie Logsdon, Environmental Scientist Consultant I

Eileen Miller, Environmental Scientist Advisor

Hui Chen, Environmental Scientist Advisor

### **Compliance Section**

Ethan Givan, Supervisor

### **Laboratory Certification Section**

Kevin Stewart, Supervisor

### **Technical Assistance Section**

Joe Uliasz, Supervisor

# **DRINKING WATER BRANCH**

## **Major Accomplishments:**

- 99.9% compliance with Initial Service Line Inventory of the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions
- 129 water systems (68%) have completed the initial monitoring requirement for PFAS
- Implemented revisions to the Consumer Confidence Report Rule & Cyber Security report requirement
- Will finish an overhaul of the Monthly Operating Report (MOR), including a new data management system, by September 2025
- Have hired 6 new staff for lead (including 4 new technical assistants), and one for PFAS. In the process of hiring one more staff for PFAS and one more for lead

# FIELD OPERATIONS BRANCH

## Shannon McLeary, Branch Manager

Bill Baker, Environmental Scientist Consultant I

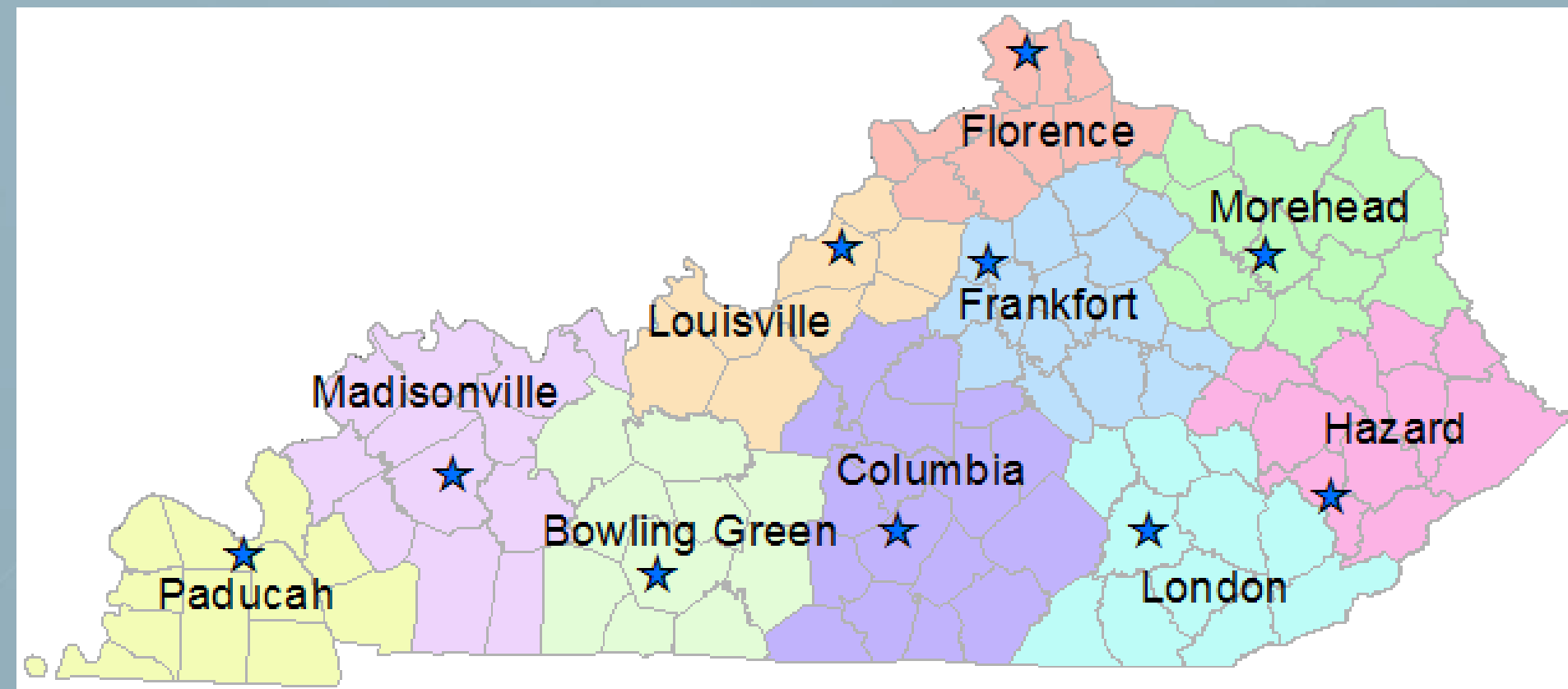
Brian Crump, Environmental Scientist Consultant I

Stefanie Osterman, Environmental Scientist Advisor

Lorrie Rhodes, Program Coordinator

Andrew Wooldridge, Environmental Scientist III / Complaints Coordinator

## Regional Offices



# **FIELD OPERATIONS BRANCH cont.**

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## **Regional Offices**

### Bowling Green

Bruce Hatcher, Supervisor

### Columbia

Jason Stephens, Supervisor

### Florence

Matt Gross, Supervisor

### Frankfort

Rob Daniell, Supervisor

### Hazard

Ashton Johnson, Supervisor

### London

Rob Miller, Supervisor

### Louisville

Todd Giles, Supervisor

### Madisonville

Lindsey Bibbee, Supervisor

### Morehead

Danny Fraley, Supervisor

### Paducah

Madeline Traylor, Supervisor



# **FIELD OPERATIONS BRANCH cont.**

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## **Major Accomplishments:**

- Will finish the Drinking Water PFAS Sampling Project in 2025 – Initial and follow-up sampling at over 200 drinking water systems beginning in 2022
- Added 2 Environmental Scientist Consultants to the branch to work on PFAS issues related to wastewater and to provide wastewater technical assistance
- Conducted reporting to the State Emergency Operations Center during major weather events – flooding, tornadoes, freeze/thaw, droughts
- Completed 3,767 inspections and 1,429 complaint investigations in the 2024 calendar year



# Coming up...

10:15am–10:30am

# Networking Break