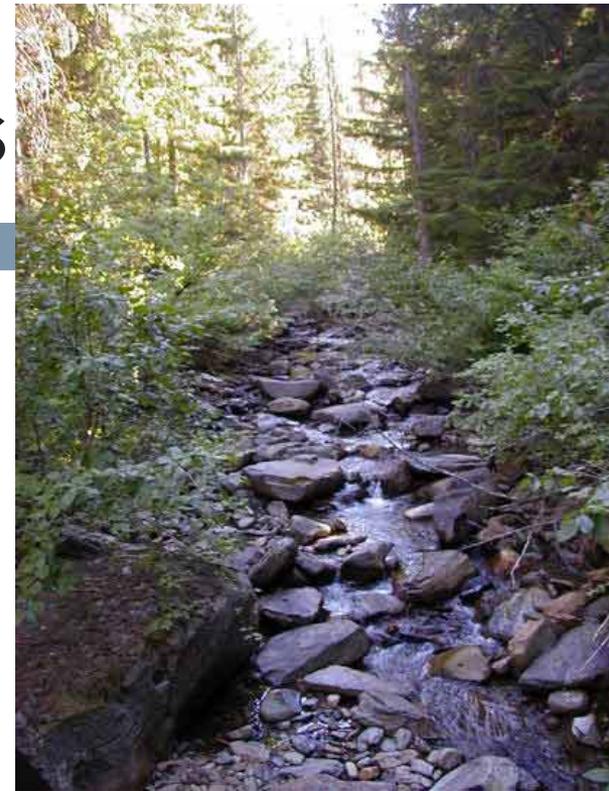
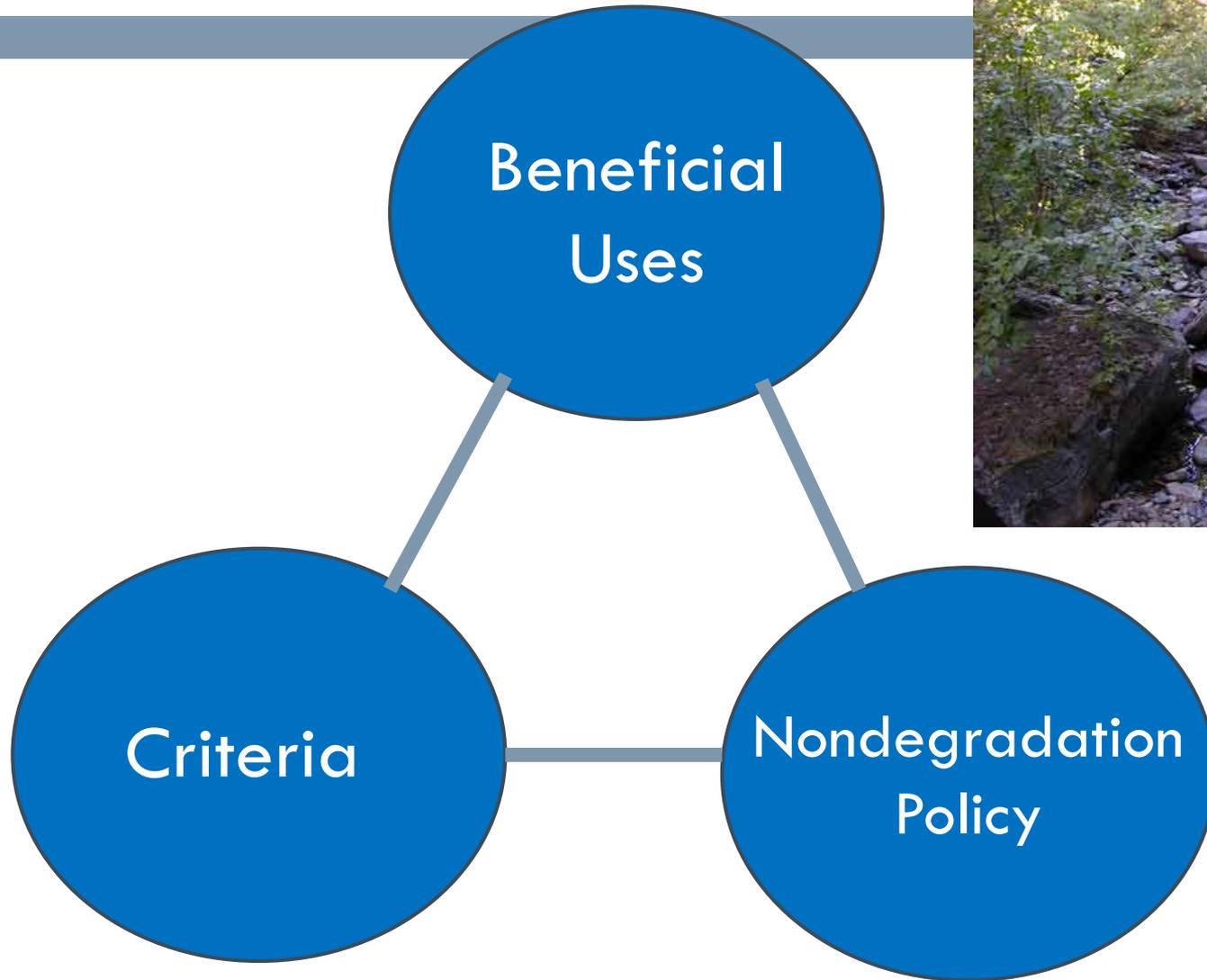


WATER QUALITY STANDARDS: TRIENNIAL REVIEW



Water Quality Standards



Who do the standards apply to?



Who do the standards apply to?

Everyone



Who do the standards apply to?

Everyone

Permit required to discharge

- ▣ Industrial
- ▣ Publicly owned
- ▣ CAFOs
- ▣ Stormwater
- ▣ Etc.



Who do the standards apply to?

Everyone

Permit required to discharge

- ▣ Industrial
- ▣ Publicly owned
- ▣ CAFOs
- ▣ Stormwater
- ▣ Etc.

No permit required to discharge

- ▣ Agriculture
- ▣ Forestry
- ▣ Etc.



Beneficial Uses



- Surface Water

- ▣ Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.30 subchapter 6

- ▣ Include aquatic life, recreation, drinking water, etc.

- Ground Water

- ▣ ARM 17.30 subchapter 10

- ▣ Include drinking water, irrigation, livestock watering, etc.



Criteria

Narrative Criteria

- ARM 17.30 subchapters 6 and 10
- Examples: pH, temperature, color

Numeric Criteria

- ARM 17.30 subchapters 6 and 10 *and* DEQ Circulars 7 and 12, which are referenced in both chapters
- There are over 250 numeric criteria
- Examples: benzene, total residual chlorine, mercury

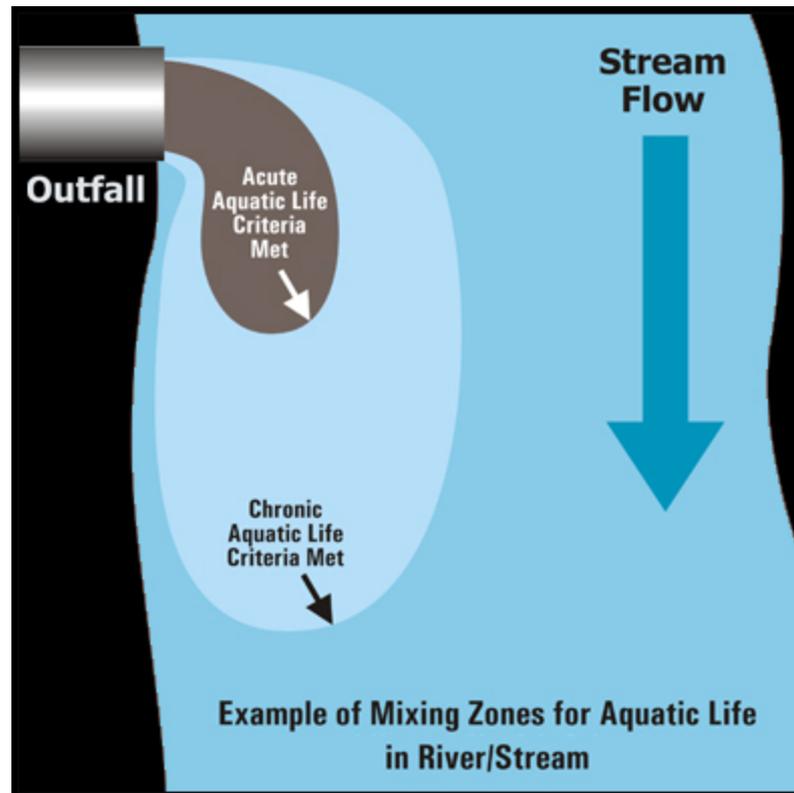
Nondegradation

- Implemented in discharge permits for new or increased sources
- ARM 17.30 subchapter 7
- Protects existing uses of all state waters and limits or prohibits changes in water quality of high quality and outstanding resource waters, respectively



Mixing Zones

- ARM 17.30 subchapter 5
- Implemented in discharge permits when applicable



Triennial Review

- Requirement of Montana Code Annotated 75-5-301, “classification and standards for state waters:”
 - ▣ “The board shall...(3) review, from time to time at intervals of not more than 3 years and, to the extent permitted by this chapter, revise established classifications of waters and adopted standards of water quality;”
- Montana’s last triennial review ended in October 2012

Outreach

- Request the Board of Environmental Review to invite comments on Montana's water quality standards in the Montana Administrative Register (also public hearing)
- Publish same request in newspapers across the state
- Mail request to water quality standards stakeholder lists



Then What?

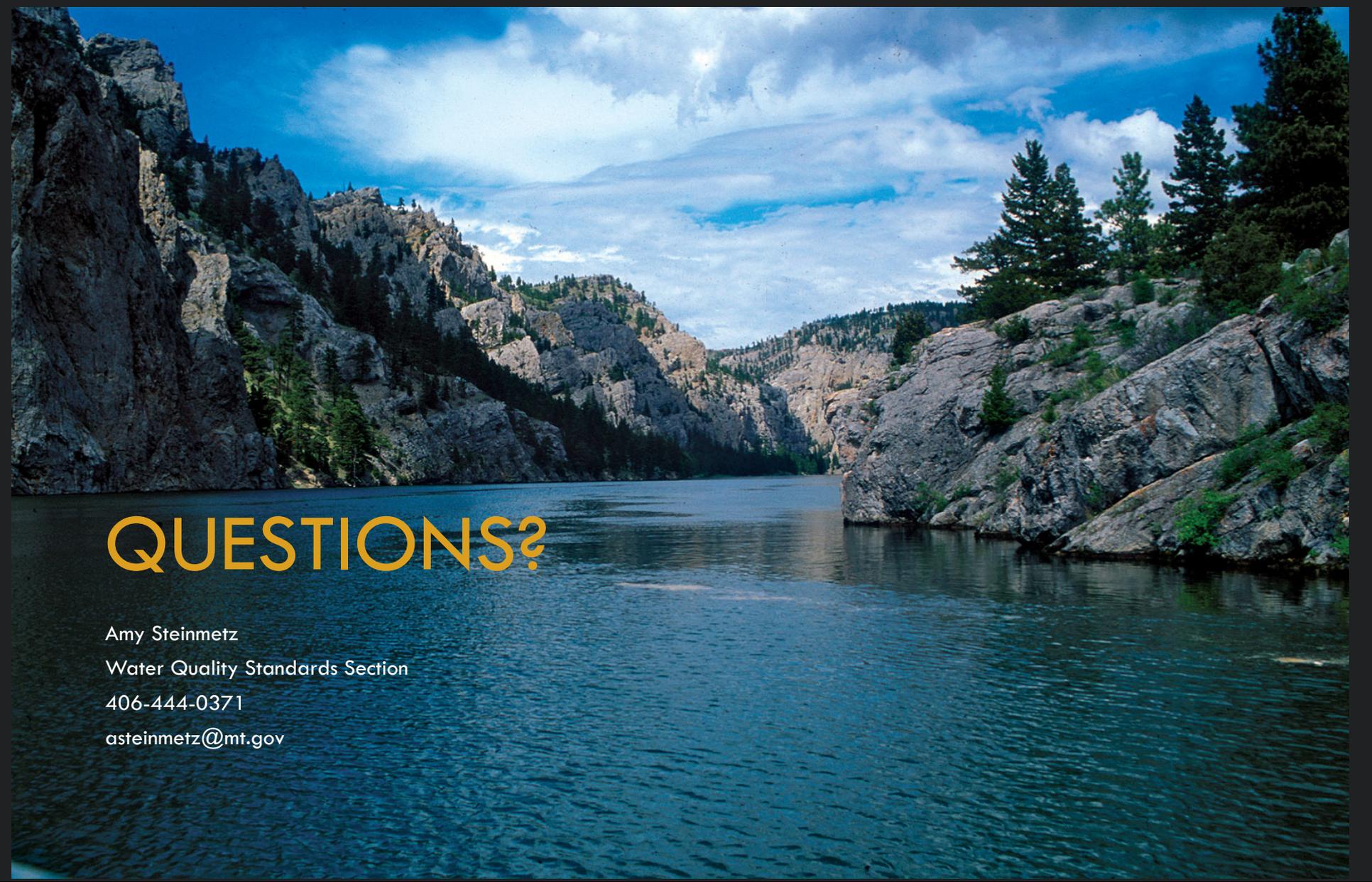
- Review and respond to comments
- Where appropriate, revise water quality standards in response to comments
- Go back to WPCAC/BER and request initiation of rulemaking for those revisions



Examples

- Remove “water supply intake” from water use class descriptions and replace with appropriate lat/long
- Adopt new pesticide drinking water criteria per the Montana Agricultural Chemical Groundwater Protection Act
- Correction of typographical errors in DEQ-7





QUESTIONS?

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