

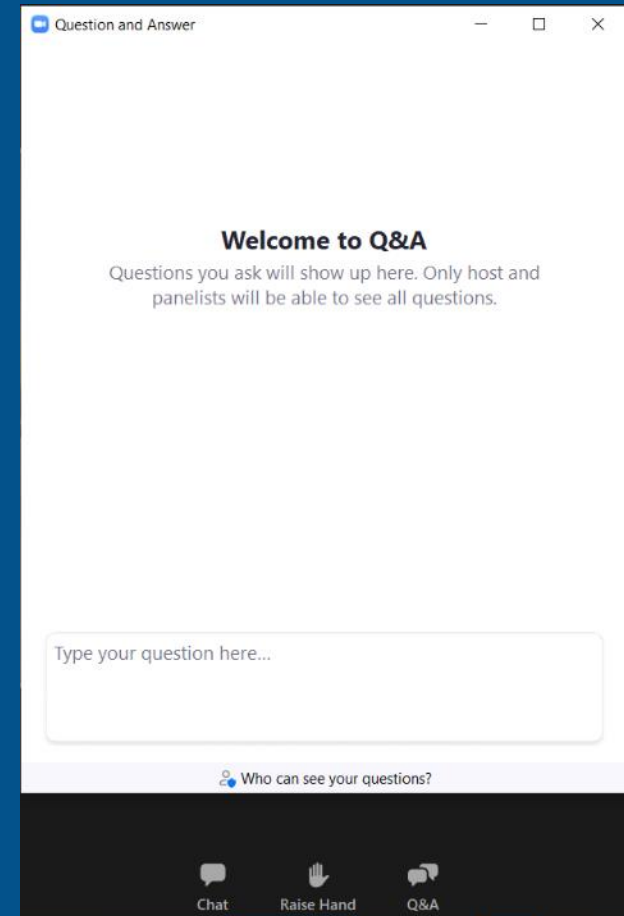


Nutrient Work Group

May 17, 2023

Welcome!

- This meeting is a webinar
- NWG members will be panelists
- Members of the public can raise their hand or use the Q&A feature to ask questions during the public comment portion of the meeting
- *9 raises your hand if you're on the phone
- State your name and affiliation before providing your comment



Unmute

Chat

Raise Hand

Q&A

Leave

Agenda

Meeting Goal: Discuss remaining tasks and give an approximate timeline for completion. Determine future meeting schedule.

Preliminaries

- Nutrient Work Group Roll Call

DEQ Updates

- Staff Updates

Draft Rules, Circular and Guidance Updates

- Topics to Refine
 - Approximate timeline
 - Tools for permittees

Future NWG Meetings

- Schedule
- List of Future Topics

Public Comment & Close of Meeting

- Public Comment

Roll Call

Nutrient Work Group Members

Interest Group	Representative	Substitute
Point Source Discharger: Large Municipal Systems (>1 MGD)	Louis Engels	
Point Source Discharger: Middle-Sized Mechanical Systems (<1 MGD)	Shannon Holmes	
Point Source Discharger: Small Municipal Systems with Lagoons	Rika Lashley	
Point Source Discharger: Non-POTW	Alan Olson	
Municipalities	Kelly Lynch	
Mining	Matt Vincent	
Farming-Oriented Agriculture	Rachel Cone	
Livestock-Oriented Agriculture	Raylee Honeycutt	
Conservation Organization - Local	Kristin Gardner	
Conservation Organization – Regional	Sarah Zuzulock	
Conservation Organization – Statewide	David Brooks	
Environmental Advocacy Organization	Guy Alsentzer	
Water or Fishing-Based Recreation	Pete Cardinal	
Federal Land Management Agencies	Andy Efta	
Federal Regulatory Agencies	Tina Laidlaw	
State Land Management Agencies	Jeff Schmalenberg	None
Water Quality Districts / County Planning Departments	Nick Banish	
Soil & Water Conservation Districts – West of the Continental Divide	Samantha Tappenbeck	
Soil & Water Conservation Districts – East of the Continental Divide	Dan Rostad	
Wastewater Engineering Firms	Scott Buecker	
Timber Industry	Julia Altemus	



Message from Director Dorrington



DEQ Updates

DEQ Updates

- Staff Updates

Key Points

- DEQ intends to initiate rulemaking in the fall
- DEQ recognizes modifications are needed for more clarity in the Rule, Circular, and Guidance documents
- DEQ has met with dischargers and environmental advocacy groups throughout the state to talk through the process and received constructive feedback
- AMP is just one tool in the toolbox, allowing for flexibility
 - Variance
 - Traditional Compliance Schedule
 - Meeting the limit



Draft Rules, Circular and Guidance Document Updates

Remaining Actions

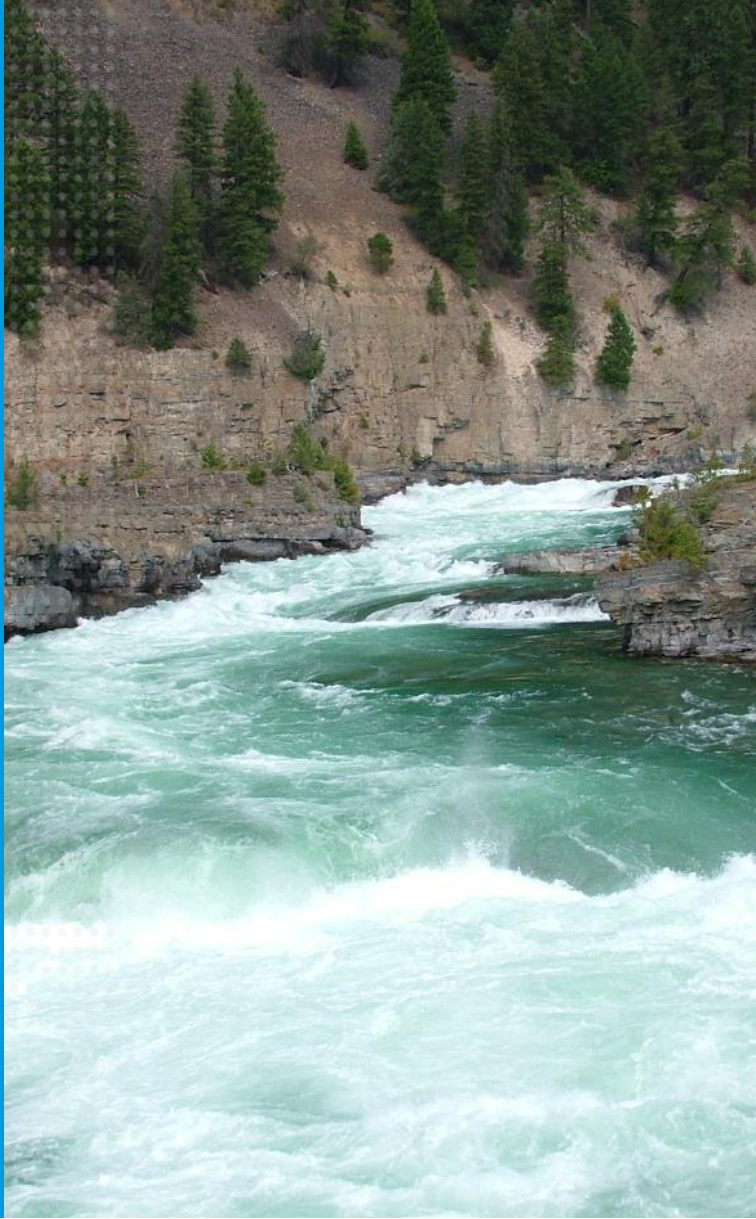
- Incorporate interim permit limits and compliance schedules into the AMP
- Define point of compliance; incorporate downstream protections and lake/reservoir considerations
- Finalize response variable thresholds for DO Δ and macroinvertebrate metrics
- Describe options for addressing nitrogen while prioritizing phosphorus
- Clarify:
 - multiple options for achieving compliance (AMP, compliance schedule, variances)
 - most opportunities to pursue nutrient reductions to achieve compliance occur at facility or upstream; downstream reductions are less likely outside of trading
 - application of ecoregional ranges for TN and TP and process for selecting a permit limit from the range of values

Remaining Actions (Cont'd)

- Refine and finalize Rule, Circular, and Guidance documents
- Distinguish between required vs. voluntary monitoring; clarify how various data will be applied to decision-making
- Finalize Reasonable Potential Analysis Guidance document
- Develop:
 - AMP training strategy
 - Variance for lagoons
 - Fee structure
- Specify procedures and mandatory requirements for AMP application/submittal and reporting
- Compile technical resources for permittees on DEQ website

Remaining Actions (Cont'd)

- Repeal DEQ-12A
- Modify nondegradation rule to return to narrative nutrient standard interpretation
- Updates/changes to AMPs
- Permit reopener language



Future NWG Meetings

Tentative Schedule

- Wednesday June 14, 2023 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
- Thursday July 20, 2023 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
- Wednesday August 16, 2023 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
- Thursday September 14, 2023 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Future Topics

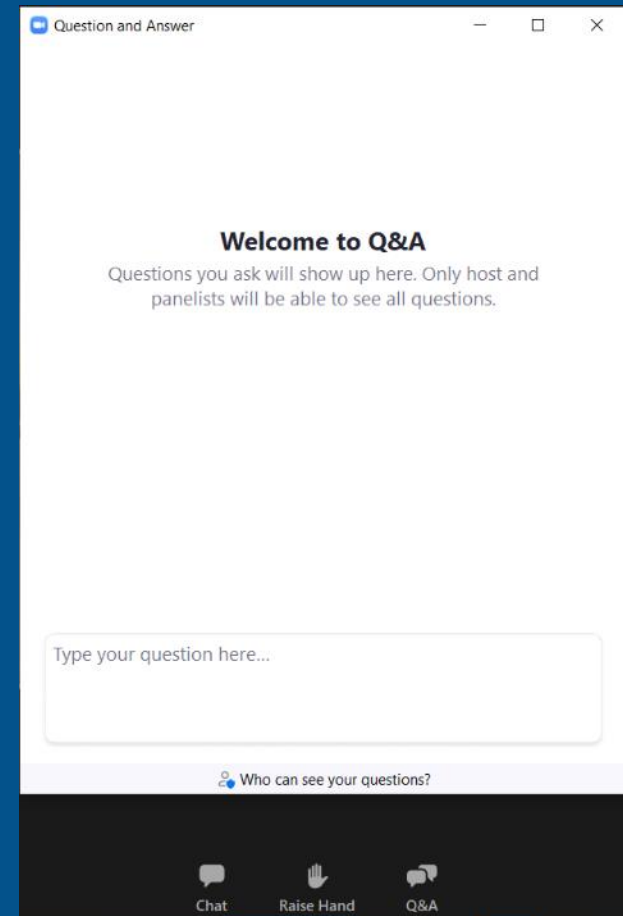
- How to select approvable nonpoint source projects/BMPs
- Eligibility requirements and how to determine when to submit the AMP
- DEQ resources and costs
- Incentives
- Interim permit limits
- Training strategy
- Fee structure
- Updates on remaining tasks and document revisions



PUBLIC COMMENT

Questions/ Comments

- Raise hand (*9 if on the phone) or type questions into the Q&A
- DEQ will unmute you if you wish to provide your comment orally
- If calling by phone, press *6 to unmute
- State your name and affiliation before providing your comment



Unmute

Chat

Raise Hand

Q&A

Leave

Meeting Summary

- Intention to initiate rulemaking in the fall
- Meeting monthly
- Meetings will cover remaining topics
- DEQ will make modifications for more clarity to rule, circular and guidance

Thanks for Joining Us

Contact:

Kyle Milke

kyle.milke@mt.gov

To submit comments or questions



<https://deq.mt.gov/water/Councils>

