



May 12, 2023

Dear Interested Party,

The Montana Water Quality Act and Federal Clean Water Act require the State of Montana at least every three years to review and, as appropriate, modify adopted standards of water quality. In 2023, the Department of Environmental Quality (Department) is opening a public comment period and holding a public hearing for the purpose of reviewing Montana's water quality standards.

Montana's water quality standards include the Administrative Rules of Montana Title 17, Chapter 30, subchapters 5 (mixing zones), 6 (water quality standards), 7 (nondegradation), and 10 (groundwater protection), and Department Circulars DEQ-7 and DEQ-12A.

Beginning on May 12, 2023, the Department is soliciting comments from all interested persons regarding potential revision to any aspect of Montana's water quality standards. You are invited to submit data, views, or arguments concerning water quality standards orally or in writing. Comments should identify the water quality standard at issue, any suggested revision to the standard, and the basis for the suggested revision, including technical information.

On June 28, 2023, the Department will hold a public hearing to hear comments on water quality standards at 11:00 am in room 111 of the Metcalf Building at 1520 E 6th Avenue, Helena, Montana. More information, including instructions for attending the public hearing remotely via Zoom, is available on the Department website at <https://deq.mt.gov/public/publicmeetings>. Data, views, or arguments may be submitted in writing no later than 5:00 pm on June 28, 2023, online at <https://deq.mt.gov/public/publiccomment>, by email to deqwqtriennialreview@mt.gov, or by mail to Katie Makarowski; Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, Montana, 59620-0901.

The Department will make reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in this public hearing or need an alternative accessible format for this notice. If you require accommodation, please advise the Department of the nature of the accommodation that you need no later than 5:00 p.m., June 19, 2023, by contacting Katie Makarowski at Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, Montana 59620-0901; phone (406) 444-2639; or email kmkarowski@mt.gov.

We thank you for your interest in Montana's water quality standards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katie Makarowski", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Katie Makarowski
Standards and Modeling Section Supervisor
(406) 444-3639
kmkarowski@mt.gov