

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) seeks written and oral comments from interested persons on the development of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for the South Fork Holston River, Bishop Branch, Grosses Creek, and Slemp Creek in Washington and Smyth Counties. These streams are listed on the 2012 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report as impaired due to violations of the State's water quality standards for bacteria.

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the State Water Control Law requires DEQ to develop TMDLs for pollutants responsible for each impaired water contained in Virginia's 303(d) Priority List and Report.

The impaired segments include: 36.7 miles of the South Fork Holston River from the headwaters downstream to the backwaters of South Holston; 0.48 miles of Bishop Branch from the confluence with the South Fork Holston River upstream to the confluence with Parker Branch; 4.00 miles of Grosses Creek from the headwaters downstream to the confluence with the South Fork Holston River; 3.85 miles of Slemp Creek from the headwaters downstream to the confluence with the South Fork Holston River.

The first public meeting on the development of the TMDL to address the bacteria impairments for these segments will be held on March 3, 2015 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Chilhowie Town Hall, 325 East Lee Highway, Chilhowie, VA 24319. In the event of inclement weather, the meeting will be held at the same location on March 9 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The public comment period will begin on March 3, 2015 and end on April 3, 2015. An advisory committee to assist in development of this TMDL will be established. Persons interested in assisting should notify the DEQ contact person by the end of the comment period and provide their name, address, phone number, email address and the organization you represent (if any). Notification of the composition of the panel will be send to all applicants.

A component of a TMDL is the Waste Load Allocations (WLAs); therefore, this notice is provided pursuant to §2.2-4006.A.14 of the Administrative Process Act for any future adoption of the TMDL's associated WLAs. Information on the development of the TMDLs for these impairments is available upon request. Questions or information requests should be addressed to:

Martha Chapman  
DEQ – Southwest Regional Office, 355-A Deadmore Street, Abingdon, VA 24210, (276) 676-4800, [martha.chapman@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:martha.chapman@deq.virginia.gov).

Please note, all written comments should include name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments and should be sent to DEQ contact person:

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