

# **Illinois Environmental Protection Agency**

## **Draft Illinois Integrated Report and Section 303(d) List, 2024**

### **Appendix E - Responsiveness Summary**

Regarding

June 18, 2024 – July 17, 2024

Public Notice

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

October 2, 2024



# **Bureau of Water**

## **Draft Illinois Integrated Report and Section 303(d) List, 2024 - Appendix E,**

### **Responsiveness Summary**

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# ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## Draft Illinois Integrated Water Quality Report and Section 303(d) List, 2024

### **Background Information**

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA or Agency) issued a public notice on June 18, 2024, for public comments on the Bureau of Water draft Illinois Integrated Water Quality Report and Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters (2024 Integrated Report). On June 18, 2024, the draft 2024 Integrated Report was posted on the Illinois EPA website with a public comment period from June 18, through July 17, 2024.

The draft 2024 Integrated Report identifies Illinois waters that do not meet applicable water quality standards and designated uses. The assessment and evaluation of State waters are required under Sections 303(d), 305(b) and 314 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA).

Waters that are deemed impaired for specific chemical constituents are identified in the draft 2024 Integrated Report in accordance with Section 303(d). Consequently, additional future loadings of those constituents/pollutants to these waters may be restricted. In addition to possible restrictions on future loadings of those constituents/pollutants to these listed water bodies, waters identified in the Section 303(d) list are subject to the development of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs).

A TMDL is a total allowable amount of a single pollutant that a water body can receive from all contributing sources and still meet water quality standards to protect designated water uses. In Illinois, a TMDL may take the form of a watershed study in which the chemical constituent causing impairment to that water body is evaluated.

# Public Notice Record

The Illinois EPA issued a public notice and opened a public comment period for the draft 2024 Integrated Report on June 18, 2022. The public comment period closed on July 17, 2024. During the public comment period, Illinois EPA received three comment letters via electronic correspondence from the public. Additionally, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) submitted electronic comments during the public comment period.

This Responsiveness Summary provides the Illinois EPA responses to questions and issues raised during the public comment period.

## Agency Responses to Questions, Concerns, and Comments

Questions, concerns, and comments are in regular type. **Agency responses are in bold type.**

### General Questions:

1. The Sierra Club & Prairie Rivers Network (PRN) have reviewed the draft 2024 303(d)/305b lists and applaud the efforts that went into this document. The commentors wish that the maps that are necessary to identify properly the impaired segments were made available to the public during the public comment period.
  - 1a. The Sierra Club & Prairie Rivers Network (PRN) believe, moreover, that there are important omissions from the document. The Sierra Club & Prairie Rivers Network (PRN) are not in a position to identify all of those omissions but believe that at a minimum, waters should be listed as impaired for recreational uses if there have been incidents of toxic levels of microcystin or other toxins caused by cyanobacteria fueled by nutrients in the water.
  - 1b. In particular, portions of the Illinois River known to be used for water skiing and other forms of recreation have repeatedly been identified by IEPA and the Illinois Department of Public Health as dangerous to people and their pets that come into contact with the Illinois River.
  - 1c. The Sierra Club & Prairie Rivers Network (PRN) realize that the science and monitoring regarding per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) is in the development stage, we believe that a greater effort should be made to identify drinking water and fish consumption impairments that may be caused by PFAS.
  - 1d. The Sierra Club & Prairie Rivers Network (PRN) look forward to continuing to work with IEPA to improve water quality in Illinois' rivers, lakes, and streams.

**Response:**

- 1a. **Illinois EPA has developed maps and have been included in the final 2024 Integrated Report.**
  - 1b. **Illinois EPA does not have numeric water quality standards for cyanotoxins. Illinois EPA is investigating options to make determinations using cyanotoxins in future Integrated Reporting cycles.**
  - 1c. **USEPA published a new PFAS rule in April 2024, establishing Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) for 5 PFAS compounds, and 1 hazard index. Illinois EPA anticipates that the Illinois Pollution Control Board (IPCB) will adopt this rule identical in substance by April 2025. Under this rule, Community Water Supplies will be required to complete initial monitoring by April 2027, begin routine monitoring after April 2027, and comply with the MCLs by April 2029. Although science and monitoring are still developing, Illinois EPA is committed to enhancing the efforts in this area and will aim to incorporate PFAS analysis as part of the fish contaminant monitoring program in future cycles of the Integrated Report.**
  - 1d. **Illinois EPA looks forward to continuing to work with others on these issues.**
2. The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) has reviewed the draft 2024 Integrated Report and 303(d) list and noticed that several of the reaches in the Chicago area water ways now have Nickel listed as a cause of impairment. For all of these reaches (listed below), the MWRD monthly ambient data found no violation of the soluble Nickel acute water quality standard after it was calculated using the hardness value. Is there another data set that found the standard was exceeded or is there another value that should be applied? MWRD also noticed that most of these same reaches are listed in Appendix A as being Indigenous Aquatic Life Use (IALU) Waters which MWRD thinks this is incorrect since the only IALU water now is Bubbly Creek.

IL\_HCCA-04 North Shore Channel  
IL\_HCC-02, IL\_HCC-08 North Branch Chicago River  
IL\_HCB-01 Chicago River  
IL\_GI-03, IL\_GI-06, ILGI-02 Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal  
IL\_GOA-01 Higgins Creek

**Response:**

**The exceedances were based on the chronic water quality standard for Nickel, not the acute standard. Illinois EPA made necessary corrections to Appendix A-1 to indicate Bubbly Creek (South Fork South Branch Chicago River) is the only reach designated as Indigenous Aquatic Life Use (IALU). Illinois EPA has also updated the categorization to Chicago Area Waterway System for other reaches listed in Appendix A-1.**

3. Public and food processing water supply use: USEPA continues to encourage the Illinois EPA to enhance its methodology for assessing the public and food processing water supply use with additional contaminants that threaten water quality (e.g., bromides, harmful algal blooms (HABs)). The EPA is open to continuing to have a dialogue with the Illinois EPA about other possible future enhancements to the methodology for assessing the public and food processing water supply use. We appreciated the previous discussion related to this issue.

**Response:**

**Illinois EPA is also open to continuing the discussion. While harmful algal blooms (HABs) were not chosen for this triennial review, Illinois EPA will review HABs and other parameters during the next triennial review.**

4. Groundwater assessments: The EPA encourages the Illinois EPA to continue including groundwater assessments in the Integrated Report (IR). The Illinois EPA used to include groundwater assessments in the IR. Groundwater assessments are important and relevant to include in the IR, because groundwater quality impacts designated uses where there are surface and ground water connections.

**Response:**

**Illinois EPA was including Groundwater Assessment in previous IR Cycles. However, USEPA's Summary of Water Quality Required Elements of an Integrated Report, found in Table 3-11 of: *The Guidance for 2006 Assessment Listing Requirements Pursuant to Sections 303(d), 305(b) and 314 of the Clean Water Act*, list groundwater assessments as recommended, not a required element.**

5. Beaches: The EPA recommends that the Illinois EPA use available beach advisory/closure, HAB, and pathogen data to assess beaches (e.g., including inland lakes) for the primary contact (recreational) use. EPA is encouraged that Illinois EPA continues to work on this issue.

**Response:**

**Illinois EPA has developed Bacteria TMDL for Illinois Lake Michigan Beaches (Shoreline Segments) and in other inland lakes (e.g., Upper Fox River/Chain O'Lakes, and Upper Fox River/Flint Creek Watersheds) to address impairments due to primary contact recreational use. Illinois EPA will continue to address this issue as new monitoring and assessment data becomes available.**

**Illinois EPA does not have numeric water quality criteria for harmful algal blooms (HABs). Illinois EPA is investigating options to make determinations using cyanotoxins in future Integrated Reporting cycles.**

6. Cyanotoxins: The EPA recommends that the Illinois EPA include in the 2024 Integrated Report Illinois EPA's plans for using cyanotoxin data in assessments going forward.

**Response:**

**Illinois EPA does not have numeric water quality criteria for cyanotoxins. Illinois EPA is open to a discussion as to how to assess cyanotoxins for the Integrated Report going forward.**

7. The comments and questions below reference: (1) the documents/spreadsheets Illinois EPA posted for public comment: <https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/watershed-management/tmdls/303d-list.html> and (2) ATTAINS: 2024 – Organization Public Comment (Snapshot).

Why are the Delistings “removed” in ATTAINS instead of changed to another assessment category (e.g., category 2)? [Appendix C-4](#) includes a list of waterbodies that will be changed to category 2 for the 2024 cycle, but these categories do not appear in ATTAINS—that is, the “PARAMETER\_STATUS\_NAME” of the waterbodies has been “removed,” and the “EPA\_PARAM\_IR\_CATEGORY\_ID” is blank instead of showing category 2.

**Response:**

**The Delistings marked as “removed” in ATTAINS was an error, this has been corrected, and the waterbodies have now been appropriately changed to Category 2.**

8. The “Delisting” heading in the file sent to Illinois EPA on July 17, 2024, named “IL\_2024\_PN-Revised-Comments\_20240717.docx,” didn’t include a list of all the waterbodies delisted during both the 2020/2022 and 2024 cycles for the same parameter in ATTAINS. Therefore, this question should be revised to:

IL\_CA-03 | Skillet Fork | Manganese | Aquatic Life  
IL\_DT-22 | Fox River | Fecal coliform | Primary contact  
IL\_GB-11 | DuPage River | Chloride | Aquatic life  
IL\_GBK-09 | West Branch DuPage River | Chloride | Aquatic life  
IL\_GL-09 | Salt Creek | Dissolved oxygen | Aquatic life  
IL\_GL-10 | Salt Creek | Chloride | Aquatic life  
IL\_HBD-04 | Thorn Creek | Dissolved oxygen | Aquatic life  
IL\_HBDA-01 | North Creek | Dissolved oxygen | Aquatic life  
IL\_HCCD-09 | Skokie River | Chloride | Aquatic life  
IL\_IIHA-31 | North Fork Cox Creek | Sulfate | Aquatic life  
IL\_N-11 | Big Muddy River | Fecal coliform | Primary contact

There are 266 waterbodies delisted during both the 2020/2022 and 2024 cycles for the same parameter in ATTAINS, including the examples provided above (see the “REVISED Delistings ‘22 and ‘24” worksheet in the attached spreadsheet dated 7/24/2024). Please explain why the 266 waterbodies are showing as delisted for the same parameters for both cycles. For example, IL\_CA-03 (Skillet Fork) was delisted for manganese in 2020/2022, because it was moved to category 2, and this parameter was removed in 2024. And IL\_DT-22 (Fox River) was delisted for fecal coliform in 2020/2022, because it was moved to category 4A, and this parameter was removed in 2024.

**Response:**

**Delistings from the 2020/2022 cycle marked as “removed” in ATTAINS for the 2024 cycle was an error, this has been corrected, and the data is now accurately reflected in ATTAINS.**

9. IL\_SDL | Mauvaise Terre | Dissolved oxygen, fluoride, and hexachlorobenzene

These parameters (dissolved oxygen, fluoride, and hexachlorobenzene) are delisted for this waterbody (IL\_SDL/Mauvaise Terre) in ATTAINS. Why isn't this waterbody included in [Appendix C-4](#) (removed segments/causes), too? And what is/are the designated uses?

**Response:**

**The exclusion of IL\_SDL with delisted parameters dissolved oxygen, fluoride, and hexachlorobenzene from Appendix C-4 was in error, and this has been corrected by adding the Delistings to Appendix C-4.**

**Category 4A:**

10. IL\_OKA-01 | North Fork Kaskaskia River | Atrazine and terbufos | Aquatic life use

East Fork Kaskaskia River and Farina Lake Watershed TMDLs: EPA approved two TMDLs—1 atrazine TMDL and 1 terbufos TMDL—in the East Fork Kaskaskia River and Farina Lake Watershed on March 18, 2024, for the aquatic life use for AUID IL\_OKA-01 (North Fork Kaskaskia River).

- a. This waterbody is in category 5 instead of 4A in ATTAINS and [Appendix C-2](#) (303(d) list) for these two impairments—atrazine and terbufos. (*Note*: EPA may need to make this change in ATTAINS; we'll check this and follow-up with Illinois EPA.)
- b. This waterbody should have the Action ID IL-2024-003 associated with it in ATTAINS for these two impairments—atrazine and terbufos. (*Note*: EPA may need to make this change in ATTAINS; we'll check this and follow-up with Illinois EPA.)

**Response:**

**10a. A TMDL for atrazine and terbufos for North Fork Kaskaskia River waterbody segment (IL\_OKA -01) was approved by USEPA on March 18, 2024, and a TMDL Action ID (IL-2024-003) has been assigned for these waterbodies, and this has been shown as Category 4A, in Appendix C-4. In addition, the waterbody segments have been removed from the Low Priority list in Appendix C-1, and Appendix C-2 as a TMDL has been approved.**

**10b. The Action ID IL-2024-003 for atrazine and terbufos (IL\_OKA-01) has been addressed per discussion with USEPA, and the parameters are now associated in ATTAINS.**

11. IL\_DK-13 | Mackinaw River | Fecal coliform | Primary contact use  
IL\_DK-17 | Mackinaw River | Nitrogen (nitrate) | Public water and food processing supply use

Mackinaw River Watershed TMDLs: EPA approved two TMDLs—1 fecal coliform TMDL for AUID IL\_DK-13 and 1 nitrate TMDL for AUID IL\_DK-17—in the Mackinaw River on September 13, 2023, for the primary contact and public water and food processing supply uses, respectively.

- a. This waterbody—IL\_DK-13 (Mackinaw R.)—is in category 5 instead of 4A in ATTAINS and [Appendix C-2](#) (303(d) list) for the fecal coliform impairment addressed by this TMDL. (*Note*: EPA may need to make this change in ATTAINS; we'll check this and follow-up with Illinois EPA.) There also appear to be two fecal coliform assessments in Appendix C-2, one of which may be a duplicate.
- b. The nitrate impairment for this waterbody—IL\_DK-17 (Mackinaw R.) - has been removed instead of being moved to category 4A in ATTAINS. This nitrate impairment appears in [Appendix C-4](#) (segments/causes



removed from the 2020/2022 303(d) list) as category 2. Please provide information about the status of this impairment and the correct assessment category.

- c. These waterbodies (IL\_DK-13 and IL\_DK-17) should have the Action ID IL-2023-001 associated with them in ATTAINS for these two impairments addressed by the TMDL—fecal coliform and nitrate, respectively. (*Note:* EPA may need to make this change in ATTAINS; we’ll check this and follow-up with Illinois EPA.)

**Response:**

- 11.a **A fecal coliform TMDL for Mackinaw River waterbody segment (IL\_DK-13) was approved by USEPA on September 13, 2023, and a TMDL Action ID (IL-2023-001) has been assigned and this has been shown as Category 4A in Appendix C-4. In addition, the parameter has been removed from the “Low Priority” list in Appendix C-1, and Appendix C-2 as a TMDL has been approved.**
  - 11b. **A nitrogen-nitrate TMDL for Mackinaw River waterbody segment (IL\_DK-17) was approved by USEPA on September 13, 2023, and a TMDL Action ID (IL-2023-001) has been assigned and this has been shown as Category 4A in Appendix C-4. In addition, the parameter has been removed from the “Low Priority” list in Appendix C-1, and Appendix C-2 as a TMDL has been approved.**
  - 11c. **The Action ID IL-2023-001 for Fecal Coliform (IL\_DK-13) and for Nitrogen-Nitrate (IL\_DK-17) has been addressed per discussion with USEPA, and the parameters are now associated in ATTAINS.**
12. IL\_DGZR | South Branch of the La Moine River | Ammonia | Aquatic life use  
**IL\_DGLC-01 | Drowning Fork Creek | Chloride | Aquatic life use**  
**IL\_DGO-01 | Rock Creek | Dissolved oxygen | Aquatic life use**  
**IL\_DGP-01 | La Harpe Creek | Dissolved oxygen | Aquatic life use**  
IL\_DGZN-01 | Prairie Creek | Dissolved oxygen | Aquatic life use  
IL\_DGZR | South Branch of the La Moine River | Dissolved oxygen | Aquatic life use  
IL\_RLE | Carthage Lake | Total phosphorus | Aesthetic quality use

Upper La Moine River Watershed TMDLs: EPA approved seven TMDLs for the aquatic life (six) and aesthetic quality (one) uses in the Upper La Moine River Watershed on March 23, 2021. The Action ID associated with this TMDL is IL-2021-003. The following questions are about the above segments in **bold** font.

- a. This waterbody—IL\_DGLC-01 (Drowning Fork Cr.)—is in category 2 instead of 4A in ATTAINS for the chloride impairment addressed in the TMDL. Please explain. (*Note:* EPA may need to make this change in ATTAINS; we’ll check this and follow-up with Illinois EPA.)
- b. These waterbodies—IL\_DGO-01 (Rock Creek) and IL\_DGP-01 (La Harpe Cr.)—are in category 2 and not 4A for the dissolved oxygen impairment addressed in the TMDL. Please explain. (*Note:* EPA may need to make this change in ATTAINS; we’ll check this and follow-up with Illinois EPA.)

**Response:**

- 12a. **A chloride TMDL for Drowning Fork waterbody segment (IL\_DGLC-01) was approved by USEPA on March 23, 2021, and a TMDL Action ID (IL-2021-003) has been assigned and this will be reflected as Category 4A in Appendix C-4. In addition, the waterbody segment will be shown as “Low Priority” in Appendix C-1, and Appendix C-2 as a TMDL has been developed.**

- 12b. A dissolved oxygen TMDL for Rock Creek waterbody segment (IL\_DGO-01), and La Harpe Creek waterbody segment (IL\_DGP-01) was approved by USEPA on March 23, 2021, and a TMDL Action ID (IL-2021-003) has been assigned for these waterbodies, and this will be reflected as Category 4A in Appendix C-4. In addition, the waterbody segments will be shown as “Low Priority” in Appendix C-1, and Appendix C-2 as a TMDL has been developed.

**Category 4C:**

13. Many of the waterbodies in [Appendix C-2](#) (303(d) list) appear to be duplicates—that is, the assessment unit ID and cause combinations appear to be repeated for many waterbodies

**Response:**

**Although some of the waterbodies have identical Assessment Unit IDs (AUIDs) in Appendix C-1 and C-2, these waterbodies are in different Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC). The AUID reporting is based on HUC-10 while the waterbodies may extend beyond the HUC-10 boundaries.**

14. The algae assessments below appear in ATTAINS. Why are these algae impairments assessed as category 4C? In addition, these algae assessments are not included in [Appendix A-1](#)

IL\_ATE-05 | Eagle Creek | Algae | Aesthetic quality use  
IL\_ATF-05 | North Fork Saline River | Algae | Aesthetic quality use  
IL\_BED-01 | Big Creek | Algae | Aesthetic quality use  
IL\_BERB-01 | Hackett Branch | Algae | Aesthetic quality use  
IL\_FA-01 | Prairie Creek | Algae | Aesthetic quality use  
IL\_FB-01 | Forked Creek | Algae | Aesthetic quality use  
IL\_FFB-01 | South Branch Rock Creek | Algae | Aesthetic quality use  
IL\_FKA-01 | Exline Slough | Algae | Aesthetic quality use  
IL\_FLID-02 | Mud Creek-West | Algae | Aesthetic quality use  
IL\_HB-01 | Little Calumet River South | Algae | Aesthetic quality use

**Response:**

**The algae impairments listed above were categorized in category 4C as non-pollutant impairments. Going forward, Illinois EPA will reevaluate and ensure that any algae impairments linked to underlying pollutants, such as phosphorus, are categorized appropriately (e.g., Category 5 if a pollutant is involved). These algae assessments are included in Appendix A-1.**

15. There are 788 AUID/parameter combinations (rows) in category 4C in ATTAINS, and there are 85 AUID/parameter combinations (rows) in category 4C in [Appendix C-7](#) (waters in 4C). (See “Cat 4C -- ATTAINS” worksheet of the attached spreadsheet for the list of waterbodies in category 4C in ATTAINS.) Please provide an explanation.

There are several waterbodies that aren’t in the Appendix C-7 (waters in 4C) that are in category 4C in Appendices A-1 and A-2. See the “Cat 4C -- Appendix A-1” and “Cat 4C -- Appendix A-2” worksheets of the above spreadsheet.

**Response:**

**Appendix C-7 includes only AUIDs in category 4C, which explains the discrepancy in the numbers. Illinois EPA has included the waterbodies previously left off Appendix C-7 from Appendices A-1 and A-2.**

**Category 5:**

**16. IL\_QZO | Waukegan Harbor | Temperature | Aquatic life**

This waterbody/parameter combination appears in ATTAINS in category 5 and doesn't appear in [Appendices C-1 or C-2](#) (303(d) lists). This waterbody is listed for "cause unknown" for the aquatic life use in both Appendices C-1 and C-2, but it is not listed for temperature. In addition, this waterbody is listed for temperature for the aquatic life use in [Appendix A-3](#) (Lake Michigan assessments); therefore, the appendices aren't consistent with one another.

**Response:**

**The inconsistency noted is due to an error. The listing of "cause unknown" for Waukegan Harbor has been changed to temperature. This has been corrected in Appendices C-1 and C-2 to reflect that temperature is an impairment for aquatic life use.**

**17. IL\_ATGC-01 | Bankston Fork | Fecal coliform | Primary contact use  
IL\_ATH-02 | South Fork Saline River | Fecal coliform | Primary contact use  
IL\_ATHS-01 | Brier Creek | Iron | Aquatic life use**

When comparing the data in ATTAINS (2024 – Organization Public Comment Snapshot) to [Appendix C-2](#) (303(d) list), many of the waterbody (assessment unit ID or AUID) and cause combinations that appear in Appendix C-2 do not appear in category 5 in ATTAINS, but they do appear in category 4A in ATTAINS. The above AUID/cause combinations are included as examples.

- a. Does the Illinois EPA 303(d) list include waterbodies both in category 4A, as well as category 5?
- b. In addition, the waterbodies in category 4A have a low priority in Appendix C-2. Does low priority in Appendix C-2 mean low priority for TMDL development? If so, these waterbodies in category 4A do not need a priority status to be assigned. See the "Cat 5 -- ATTAINS" worksheet in the attached "[IL\\_ATTAINS-Parameter-Comparison-2022-2024\\_20240724.xlsx](#)" spreadsheet.

**Response:**

- 17a. Waterbody segments that have approved, ongoing or proposed TMDLs are given "Low Priority" ranking and are included in Appendices C-1 and C-2. Once, a TMDL is approved the waterbody will be placed in Appendix C-4 as Category 4A.**

- 17b. As outlined in the Draft 2024 IR - Prioritization of the Illinois Section 303(d) List (page 61/67, pdf page 64/70), the ranking is as follows:

**Step 1- A high priority is given to waters where public water supply use is impaired by atrazine, simazine, or nitrate. For those waters, TMDLs will be developed based on the entire watershed, whether smaller or larger than a ten-digit Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC).**

**Step 2- Watersheds with no approved or ongoing TMDLs were given medium priority. Ranking within this group is based on the total number of potential causes in each watershed that require TMDL development. The more potential causes of impairment identified, the higher the priority given to the watershed.**

**Step 3- Watersheds that have approved or ongoing TMDLs are given low priority.**

### Additional Questions

18. 2024 Integrated Report (IR):

- a. The 2024 IR references a 1994 Quality Assurance Project Plan at the beginning of Part C: Surface Water Monitoring and Assessment. Does this reference need to be updated? The sentence reads, “Field, laboratory, and data-management procedures are explained in the Illinois EPA Bureau of Water’s ‘Quality Assurance Project Plan’ (Illinois EPA 1994).”
- b. The reference to Section C-1 on p. 60 of the 2024 IR under the “Section 303(d) List” heading in the following sentence appears to be incorrect; the correct reference may be to Section C-2, Assessment Methodology: “The development of this list is based on the assessment methodology for determining attainment of designated uses for each water body segment as described previously in **Section C-1**.”

#### **Response:**

**18a. The reference should remain, as the Surface Water Monitoring and Assessment, including field work, laboratory, and data management procedures are still conducted as outlined in the 1994 Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP). Illinois EPA has updated Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) found within the 1994 QAPP. The updated SOPs take precedent over the original QAPP for Surface Water Monitoring and Assessments.**

**18b. The Assessment Methodology referenced on page 60 of the Draft 2024 IR under "Section 303(d) List, has been corrected to read as "Section C-2".**

19. Why does the ACTION\_ORGANIZATION field say “Wyoming” for some waterbodies in ATTAINS? (See the “REVISED Delistings ‘22 and ‘24” worksheet in the attached spreadsheet, for example - refer to Attachment 2).

#### **Response:**

**Per USEPA (R5), the comment noted above will be addressed by USEPA (HQ) -ATTAINS TEAM and their Contractor.**

## Acronyms and Abbreviations

Agency or Illinois EPA or IEPA	Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
ATTAINS	Assessment and, Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Tracking and Implementation System
AUID	Assessment Unit Identification
CWA	Clean Water Act
HABs	Harmful Algal Blooms
HUC	Hydrologic Unit Code
IALU	Indigenous Aquatic Life Use
IPCB	Illinois Pollution Control Board
IR	Integrated Report
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Levels
PFAS	per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
WBP	Watershed-Based Plan

# Distribution of Responsiveness Summary

A letter announcing the completion of this Responsiveness Summary and its availability on the Agency website was mailed or emailed to all on the contact list for the draft 2024 Integrated Report and to all who submitted comments. Additional copies of this Responsiveness Summary are available from Ditarsha S. Robinson, Illinois EPA, e- mail [Ditarsha.S.Robinson@Illinois.gov](mailto:Ditarsha.S.Robinson@Illinois.gov), phone 217-782-3362.

## Agency Staff Who Can Answer Your Questions

Questions about the 2024 Integrated Report Nicole Vidales .....	217-782-3362
Questions about Legal Procedures Stefanie Diers .....	217-782-5544

The full 2024 Integrated Report (including appendices, Appendix E is this Responsiveness Summary), and other documents associated with the report are available on the Illinois EPA’s website:

<https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/watershed-management/tmdls/303d-list.html>

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