



State of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality TMDL Priorities and Schedule

For Oregon's Draft 2024 Integrated Report April 2024

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TMDL Priorities: As required by the federal Clean Water Act and implementing regulations [CWA § 303(d)(1)(A) and 40 CFR § 130.7(b)(4)], Oregon Department of Environmental Quality identified impaired waters needing development of a Total Maximum Daily Load as Category 5 on the draft 2024 Section 303(d) list and established a priority ranking for such waters, taking into account the severity of the pollution and the uses to be made of such waters.

For each Category 5 listed assessment unit or AU, DEQ established a priority ranking (High, Medium or Low), as specified in the accompanying spreadsheet. To provide more detailed information on DEQ's priority rankings, the spreadsheet identifies High and Medium ranked AUs that are grouped together within the geographic extent of each TMDL project area. Table 1 presents these High and Medium ranked TMDL Project Names, geographic extents, counts of AUs covered (Category 5 and all other Category 2, 3, 4 and unassessed AUs planned for inclusion), and the listed pollutants for which TMDLs will be developed for each project area.

DEQ based the TMDL priority rankings on a multi-level evaluation consistent with Oregon Administrative Rule 340-042-0040(3). As guided by Clean Water Act and regulatory requirements to consider severity of pollution and use of waters, DEQ first considered water quality-specific factors, including: number of Category 5 AUs in a watershed; significance of impairment; whether there are multiple listed pollutants; the impaired beneficial uses (especially public health impacts); if a watershed has other TMDLs; and scale of point and nonpoint source discharge. Next, DEQ considered additional factors, including: input from tribes and the public; level and availability of DEQ TMDL resources; cross-program and cross-agency funding priorities; TMDL projects with deadlines established via court order; size and complexity of sources and geographic area and size and participation of affected public.

DEQ assigned High priority for development to TMDL projects relative to multiple factors including water quality, geography, and litigation. TMDL projects identified as High priority are targeted for development in the next two years, or by April 2026.

DEQ assigned Medium priority for development to TMDL projects with fewer, overlapping water quality-related factors and constraints due to additional factors.

DEQ assigned Low priority for development to TMDL AUs that were not included in High or Medium ranked projects (see attached spreadsheet).

DEQ's TMDL priority rankings are intended to inform DEQ's schedule of TMDL development, as well as biennial submission to EPA of TMDLs that DEQ will have in development within the coming two years, as required by 40 CFR § 130.7(d)(1). In alignment with EPA guidance, TMDLs "in development" may include those with review of existing information, data evaluation, data collection, data analysis, model development, draft of plan, proposal of a TMDL for public comment, public outreach or other instances agreed to by the EPA region.

TMDL Schedule: Consistent with 40 CFR § 130.7(d)(1) and EPA guidance (EPA, 2005), DEQ is submitting the schedule in Table 1 below to clarify when DEQ plans to complete all high and medium priority TMDLs and submit to EPA for action. DEQ prepared this submission schedule to help EPA and the public understand Oregon’s priorities and work planning. This schedule is based on the best information currently available, however, the schedule may be subject to revision as logistical efficiencies, data availability, court-ordered timelines or other circumstances that may affect the order or timing of when high, medium or low priority TMDLs are ultimately established. DEQ anticipates reviewing and updating the TMDL submission schedule, in coordination with EPA, during preparation of the next Integrated Report.

Table 1. 2024 TMDL priority ranking

Priority	TMDL Project Name(s)	Geographic Extent (with HUCs)	Cat 5 AUs Covered	Other AUs Covered	Listed Pollutants	Submission Schedule
High	Powder, Burnt, and Brownlee Subbasins	17050201 - Brownlee Reservoir Subbasin 17050202 - Burnt Subbasin 17050203 - Powder Subbasin (Extent excludes Snake River and Brownlee Reservoir)	6	200	E. coli	Submitted by August 2024
High	Lower Columbia-Sandy Sandy Subbasin	17080001 - Lower Columbia-Sandy (Subbasin extent excludes Columbia River)	39	58	Temperature	Submitted by September 2024
High	Willamette Subbasins	17090001 - Middle Fork Willamette Subbasin 17090002 - Coast Fork Willamette Subbasin 17090003 - Upper Willamette Subbasin 17090004 - McKenzie Subbasin 17090005 - North Santiam Subbasin 17090006 - South Santiam Subbasin 17090007 - Middle Willamette Subbasin 17090009 - Molalla-Pudding Subbasin 17090011 - Clackamas Subbasin 17090012 - Lower Willamette Subbasin (Excludes the rivers included in the Willamette River Mainstem and Major Tributaries TMDL)	315	886	Temperature	Submitted by September 2024
High	Willamette River Mainstem and Major Tributaries	The following rivers and extents within the Willamette Basin (HUC 170900): Willamette River including all side channels from the confluence of the Columbia River to the confluence of Coast Fork of the Willamette and Middle Fork of the Willamette Rivers; Multnomah Channel; Clackamas River downstream of River Mill Dam; Santiam River; North Santiam River downstream of Detroit Dam; South Santiam River downstream of Foster Dam; Long Tom River downstream of Fern Ridge Dam; Middle Fork Willamette River downstream of Dexter Dam; Fall Creek downstream of Fall Creek Dam; Coast Fork Willamette River downstream of Cottage Grove Dam; Row River downstream of Dorena Dam.	32	31	Temperature	Submitted by February 2025

Priority	TMDL Project Name(s)	Geographic Extent (with HUCs)	Cat 5 AUs Covered	Other AUs Covered	Listed Pollutants	Submission Schedule
High	Umpqua River Basin	17100301 - North Umpqua Subbasin 17100302 - South Umpqua Subbasin 17100303 - Umpqua Subbasin	275	640	Temperature	Submitted by February 2025
High	Coquille Subbasin	17100305 - Coquille Subbasin The Temperature TMDL excludes the area covered by the Upper South Fork Coquille Temperature TMDL	83	659	Dissolved Oxygen, E. coli, Fecal Coliform, pH, Temperature	Submitted by April 2026
High	John Day River Basin	170702 - John Day Basin	193	627	Temperature	Submitted by April 2026
High	Rogue River Basin	17100307 - Upper Rogue Subbasin 17100308 - Middle Rogue Subbasin 17100309 - Applegate Subbasin 17100310 - Lower Rogue Subbasin 17100311 - Illinois Subbasin	210	621	Temperature	Submitted by April 2026
Med	Lower Grande Ronde, Imnaha, and Wallowa Subbasins	17060102 - Imnaha Subbasin 17060105 - Wallowa Subbasin 17060106 - Lower Grande Ronde Subbasin	61	315	Temperature	Submitted by June 2027
Med	Middle Columbia-Hood, Miles Creeks	1707010502 - Eightmile Creek Watershed 1707010503 - Fifteenmile Creek Watershed 1707010504 - Mill Creek-Columbia River Watershed 1707010511 - Mosier Creek-Columbia River Watershed	25	20	Temperature	Submitted by June 2027
Med	Snake River - Hells Canyon	Snake River, Brownlee Reservoir, Oxbow Reservoir, and Hells Canyon Reservoir	15	1	Temperature	Submitted by June 2027
Med	Snake River - Hells Canyon	Snake River, Brownlee Reservoir, Oxbow Reservoir, and Hells Canyon Reservoir	12	0	Methylmercury	Submitted by April 2027

Priority	TMDL Project Name(s)	Geographic Extent (with HUCs)	Cat 5 AUs Covered	Other AUs Covered	Listed Pollutants	Submission Schedule
Med	Malheur River Subbasins	17050115 - Middle Snake-Payette Subbasin 17050116 - Upper Malheur Subbasin 17050117 - Lower Malheur Subbasin 17050118 - Bully Subbasin 17050119 - Willow Subbasin (Extent excludes Snake River)	38	185	Temperature	Submitted by May 2028
Med	Walla Walla Subbasin	17070102 - Walla Walla Subbasin	10	36	Temperature	Submitted by May 2028
Med	Willow Creek Subbasin	17070104 - Willow Subbasin	5	35	Temperature	Submitted by May 2028
Med	Upper Deschutes and Little Deschutes Subbasins	17070301 - Upper Deschutes Subbasin 17070302 - Little Deschutes Subbasin	78	612	Chlorophyll-a, Dissolved Oxygen, Harmful Algal Blooms, pH, Temperature	Submitted by April 2030
Med	Lower Deschutes, Crooked, Beaver - South Fork, and Trout Subbasins	17070303 - Beaver - South Fork Subbasin 17070304 - Upper Crooked Subbasin 17070305 - Lower Crooked Subbasin 17070306 - Lower Deschutes Subbasin 17070307 - Trout Subbasin	141	1851	Chlorophyll-a, Dissolved Oxygen, E. coli, Harmful Algal Blooms, pH, Phosphorus, Temperature	Submitted by April 2030
Med	Powder, Burnt, and Brownlee Subbasins	17050201 - Brownlee Reservoir Subbasin 17050202 - Burnt Subbasin 17050203 - Powder Subbasin (Extent excludes Snake River and Brownlee Reservoir)	14	572	Dissolved Oxygen, pH, Phosphorus	Submitted by April 2030
Med	Rogue River Basin	17100307 - Upper Rogue Subbasin 17100308 - Middle Rogue Subbasin 17100309 - Applegate Subbasin 17100310 - Lower Rogue Subbasin 17100311 - Illinois Subbasin (Extent of biocriteria TMDLs is the Rogue River and Little Butte Creek Watershed (1710030708))	54	1418	BioCriteria, Chlorophyll-a, Dissolved Oxygen, Harmful Algal Blooms, pH, Phosphorus	Submitted by April 2030

Priority	TMDL Project Name(s)	Geographic Extent (with HUCs)	Cat 5 AUs Covered	Other AUs Covered	Listed Pollutants	Submission Schedule
Med	Schooner Creek	171002040708 - Schooner Creek Subwatershed	1	1	Turbidity	Submitted by April 2030
Med	Siletz River	1710020404 - Upper Siletz River Watershed 1710020405 - Middle Siletz River Watershed	1	19	Turbidity	Submitted by April 2030
Notes: HUC = USGS Hydrologic Unit Code; AU = Assessment Unit; Other AU categories include 2, 3, 4 and unassessed. Temperature and dissolved oxygen AU assessments have separate results for year-round or spawning criteria. Therefore, the AU counts for these parameters may have two listings counted on the same AU where both year-round and spawning apply.						

References:

EPA. 2005. Memorandum: Guidance for 2006 Assessment, Listing and Reporting Requirements Pursuant to Sections 303(d), 305(b) and 314 of the Clean Water Act. From: Diane Regas, Director Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds. July 29, 2005.

Attachment:

Integrated Report TMDL Priorities spreadsheet

Non-discrimination statement

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