



ENVIRONMENTAL LAW INSTITUTE®

AN INDEPENDENT, NON-PARTISAN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND POLICY RESEARCH CENTER.

2021 NATIONAL CWA 303(d) AND DATA MANAGEMENT TRAINING WORKSHOP

THOUGHTFUL STEPS ON THE PATH AHEAD

June 7 - 10, 2021

VIRTUAL TRAINING WORKSHOP AGENDA

**This project made possible through a cooperative agreement with the
United States Environmental Protection Agency**

PURPOSE OF THE TRAINING WORKSHOP

To provide state, tribal, and territorial water quality program staff with an opportunity to learn about and contribute to strategies for improving the process, products, and outcomes of Clean Water Act Section 303(d) listing and TMDL programs and beyond

TRAINING WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

- Learn about and contribute to the **process for developing** the next iteration of the CWA 303(d) Program Vision
- Learn about and contribute to the **ideas and methods for better incorporating environmental justice and climate change considerations** into water quality data management, assessment, and restoration and protection activities
- Learn and contribute **techniques for collaborating** across jurisdictional boundaries and with other programs, agencies, and organizations
- Develop **technical skills** in information management
- Learn about **tools and approaches for communicating** water quality information, including with regard to the 50th Anniversary of the CWA
- Receive **updates on research, materials, and legal developments** relevant to the CWA 303(d) Program
- Expand and improve **communication among the states, tribes, and territories and with EPA Regions and Headquarters** by enhancing the network of water quality data management, listing, and TMDL professionals

OUTPUT

A final report summarizing the proceedings of the training workshop, which may assist in Vision planning and serve as a reference for program personnel implementing their responsibilities consistent with the Vision

AGENDA

(All Times Eastern Daylight)

Monday, June 7

- 1:00 pm – 1:30 pm **Welcome**
- 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm **Session #1: CWA 303(d) Program Implementation – Present and Future**
EPA and state staff will provide key CWA 303(d) Program updates before focusing on the future, including a summary of state recommendations (via ACWA's research) for the next iteration of the CWA 303(d) Vision and the process ahead for developing it.
Presenters: Jim Havard, EPA HQ; Traci Iott, Connecticut; Jeff Berckes, Iowa; Rosaura Conde, EPA HQ
- 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm Break
- 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm **Session #2: Environmental Justice**
EPA staff will provide an overview of what environmental justice is, why it is important, some of the key terms, the focus of the new administration, and initiatives at the EPA, followed by a panel of state, tribal, and NGO staff discussing how they are advancing environmental justice in their water quality work.
Presenters: Bonita Johnson, EPA Region 4; Charles Lee, EPA Office of Environmental Justice; Nettie McMiller, EPA HQ; Herb Lee, Pacific American Foundation; Kari Hedin, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa; Helen Waquiu, Minnesota; Ken Weaver, Florida

Tuesday, June 8

- 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm **Session #3: Climate Change**
EPA staff will provide an overview of the new administration's focus regarding climate change, what the EPA Office of Water is doing, and various ways that climate is affecting CWA 303(d) Program work, followed by presentations by state staff on how they are incorporating climate considerations into their water quality work.
Presenters: Miranda Chien-Hale, EPA HQ; Stephanie Santell, EPA HQ; Justin Williams, Virginia; Kristy Fortman, Montana; Kevin Kirsch, Wisconsin
- 2:30 pm – 3:00 pm Break

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Session #4: Climate Change and Environmental Justice Discussions and Trainings

Training workshop participants will attend one of the following webinars.

- Environmental Justice and Water Quality Data Management Tools
- Tools for Environmental Justice: EJSCREEN and EnviroAtlas
- Considering Climate Change and Environmental Justice through the Recovery Potential Screening Tool and Watershed Index Online
- Accounting for Climate Change: Approaches and Lessons
- Prioritizing Waters in Light of Climate Change and Environmental Justice Considerations
- Environmental Justice and Standards, Monitoring, and CWA 303(d) Listing
- Climate Change and Standards, Monitoring, and CWA 303(d) Listing
- Environmental Justice and TMDL Development and Implementation
- Climate Change and TMDL Development and Implementation

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Virtual Reception

Wednesday, June 9

Various Times

Regional Breakouts for Regions 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Session #5: Breakouts I

Training workshop participants will attend one of the following webinars.

- ATTAINS: A Training on TMDL Entry
- How to Answer Common Questions with Available Data Tools
- How Tribes Can Use the CWA to Protect their Water Resources
- Litigation on CWA 303(d) Listing and TMDLs
- Continuing Planning Process and Water Quality Management Plan Requirements: Perspectives of EPA Region 6, New Mexico & Texas
- Storytelling for Impact
- Updates on Protection

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Break

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Session #6: Breakouts II

Training workshop participants will attend one of the following webinars.

- ATTAINS: A Secret Sauce Training Focused on Batch Uploads
- Open Source Tools for Automating Water Quality Data Discovery and Analysis
- CWA 303(d) TAS and Insights on Managing a TMDL Program
- Cross-Program Collaboration
- Alternative Restoration Plans (ARP) and Category 5-Alt
- Data Visualization

Various Times

Regional Breakouts for Regions 9 and 10

Thursday, June 10

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Session #7: Breakouts III

Training workshop participants will attend one of the following webinars.

- Assessment Unit Segmentation Practices
- Regional Monitoring Networks: Continuous Data Tools and Management
- Prioritizing Waters with Improved Approaches
- Understanding the Different Types of Plans Available for the CWA 303(d) Program
- Implementable TMDLs
- Model Types and Model Selection

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Break

3:00 pm – 3:45 pm

Session #8: Communications around the CWA 50th Anniversary

EPA and state staff will identify some important contributions that the CWA 303(d) and data management programs can provide, some of the stories that can be told of the programs in the life of the Clean Water Act, ways of telling those stories, and the importance of this moment for communication.

Presenters: Eric Monschein, EPA HQ; Dwane Young, EPA HQ; Tom Stiles, Kansas

3:45 pm – 4:30 pm

Wrap-Up and Send Off