



January 16, 2020

Re: Water Quality Data Request in Support of the 303(d) List

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Water Quality Control Division (division) is requesting surface water quality data for the development of the 2022 303(d) List of Impaired Waters (Regulation #93). This effort requires a compilation of recent water quality parameters including biological, physical, chemical, and other related data. These data will be utilized by the division to develop recommendations to the Water Quality Control Commission (commission) regarding the identification of impaired waterbodies. For biological data submissions, please see the *Instructions for Submitting Bioassessment Data* document that is attached to this email.

To focus division resources, the division typically requests data for specific watershed basins in preparation for specific basin standards rulemaking hearings. However, next year (2021), the division will be updating Regulation #31, basic standards, and so there is not a basin of focus for this data call. Therefore, the division is only requesting data for cases in which you or your agency has a specific interest in having water quality data assessed in this cycle. The division is requesting data that was collected during the last five years (10/1/2014 - 12/31/2019). Older data may be used on a case-by-case basis if they are still representative or if the older data are used with newer data to determine trends.

Data Submission Details	
Submission Deadline	April 15, 2020
Email data to	cdphe_wqcd_surfacewaterdata@state.co.us
Email subject	2021 Data Call
Sampling Period of Record	10/1/2014 to 12/31/2019

Data received after the deadline will not be utilized for the development of the 2022 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. The data should follow the credible evidence guidelines described below:

1. Information to describe the methods used for sample collection and field or laboratory analysis.
2. Information and data to indicate that the measurement represents existing conditions.
3. For physical and biological assessments, confirmation that data was collected by an observer who has training and experience in performing such observations, and that recorded observations adequately account for seasonal variation.





The following parameters are of particular interest to the division, although other parameters or analytical techniques are welcomed:

Parameters of Interest	
• Flow Rate	• Total Ammonia (NH ₃ and NH ₄) as N
• pH	• Hardness (total as CaCO ₃)
• Water Temperature (deg C)	• Calcium
• Dissolved Oxygen	• Magnesium
• Specific Conductivity	• Total Phosphorous
• Arsenic (dissolved and total recoverable)	• Sulfate as SO ₄
• Cadmium (dissolved)	• Nitrite as N
• Chromium III and VI	• Nitrate as N
• Copper (dissolved)	• NO ₃ +NO ₂ (Nitrate + Nitrite) as N
• Iron (dissolved and total recoverable)	• Total Nitrogen as N
• Lead (dissolved)	• Kjeldahl Nitrogen as N
• Manganese (dissolved)	• <i>E. Coli</i> (per 100 ml)
• Mercury (total)	• Aquatic life data (fish, macroinvertebrates, algae, macrophytes)
• Nickel (dissolved)	• Periphyton data
• Selenium (dissolved)	• Aquatic life habitat data
• Silver (dissolved)	• Fish tissue residue data
• Zinc (dissolved)	• Organic chemicals and/or pesticides
• Uranium (dissolved and total)	• Sediment data
Additional Parameters of Interest for Lakes & Reservoirs	
• Depth profiles including pH, temperature and dissolved oxygen	
• Secchi depth	• Chlorophyll <i>a</i>

The division has defined formats for data submittals. They are available for download: <https://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/rivers-lakes-and-streams-data>. Data submissions should include the following information:

- Name and contact information of the party submitting the data;
- Location of each sample station in decimal latitude and longitude with the associated reference datum, e.g., North American Datum 1983, etc.;
- Waterbody name, sampling location description, and sample location type, e.g. stream;
- The sample date;
- The parameter or condition measured and the value;
- The unit of measurement, e.g. mg/L;
- For non-detect or non-quantifiable data, report values that are less than the reporting limit (RL) as <RL (e.g. <0.5 where 0.5 is the RL) or, if the result is less than the method detection limit (MDL), as <MDL (e.g. <0.1 where 0.1 is the MDL);





- The method used to measure the pollutant;
- For continuous temperature data, submit raw data without the Daily Maximum (DM), and the Weekly Average Temperature (WAT) calculated.

Entities that submit data to the division to fulfill other requirements such as discharge permit generation, water quality certifications for 401 permits, or Regulation #85 should resubmit the data through this data call process.

The division receives data submissions directly from the Colorado Data Sharing Network (CDSN), for willing data providers. If you utilize the CDSN and would like your data used by the division in this process, please begin working with CDSN no later than February 5, 2020. Additionally, please also inform the division by March 1, 2020, and provide a list of sites and the period of record for the data that CDSN will be submitting for you. This will help to ensure that the division has received all of the data. To learn more about how CDSN supports the division's data call, go to <http://www.coloradowaterdata.org>.

If files are too large for email or you have additional questions or concerns, please contact the division at cdphe_wqcd_surfacewaterdata@state.co.us or call Skip Feeney at 303-691-4928 or Arne Sjodin at 303-692-3522. Information submitted to the division through this process will be available for public review after July 1, 2020.

The division uses an email distribution list from the commission's office. Please contact the commission's office at <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/op/wqcc/> or 303-692-3463 if you would like to be removed, or know of any individuals or organizations that should be added.

Sincerely,

Sarah Wheeler
Environmental Data Unit Manager
Water Quality Control Division

