



**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT  
and NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** Wednesday, February 14, 2018  
**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Paul Lorenzen, 1-800-438-3367

**DENR Seeks Comments on Waterbody Report, and the  
National 303(d) Program Vision**

PIERRE – The state Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is seeking public comments on the draft Integrated Report. Required under the federal Clean Water Act, this report is used by the state to identify impaired waterbodies in South Dakota. The draft Integrated Report also includes the National 303(d) Program Vision.

Public comments from the general public and interested parties and organizations will be accepted through March 19. Comments can be submitted online at DENR’s One-Stop Public Notice page at <http://denr.sd.gov/public/default.aspx>, emailed to Paul Lorenzen at [Paul.Lorenzen@state.sd.us](mailto:Paul.Lorenzen@state.sd.us), or submitted in writing to:

Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
Surface Water Quality Program  
523 East Capitol Avenue – Joe Foss Building  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3181

A copy of the draft 2018 Integrated Report is available by visiting DENR’s One-Stop Public Notice page at: <http://denr.sd.gov/public/default.aspx>. Those persons desiring to only review the Vision can access the document individually at the same address. Copies of the 2018 Integrated Report can also be obtained by emailing Paul Lorenzen at [Paul.Lorenzen@state.sd.us](mailto:Paul.Lorenzen@state.sd.us), or by contacting DENR at the above address, or by phone at 1-800-438-3367.

The draft 2018 Integrated Report contains an assessment of the surface water quality of South Dakota’s waters, a description of South Dakota’s water quality monitoring programs, pollutants causing impairments of the water bodies and identification of waters targeted for total maximum daily load development. A Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is a determination of the amount of pollution a waterbody can receive and still maintain water quality standards.

“Because this list drives state water quality programs, it is important that people in South Dakota see the draft report and provide us comments before it is finalized and sent to EPA for approval,” said DENR Secretary Steve Pirner.

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The draft 2018 report lists 152 waterbodies or waterbody segments needing a total maximum daily load. Of those listed, 90 are stream or river segments and 62 are lakes that periodically do not meet water quality standards.

The National 303(d) Program Vision is a tool used by EPA and the states to more effectively restore and protect waters by using a systematic process of prioritizing TMDL development and implementing alternative approaches and protection activities. Six elements of the Vision are discussed and include: engagement of stakeholders and the public; the TMDL prioritization process; protection activities; integrating the Vision into other programs; alternatives to developing TMDLs; and assessment activities used in the Vision. The Vision was revised this reporting cycle to accommodate changes in TMDL priority for certain waterbodies.