



State of Oregon
Department of Environmental Quality

Assessing Water Quality Conditions in Oregon

2022 Integrated Report Assessment Methodology

Presentation to the Environmental Quality Commission
Sept. 30, 2021

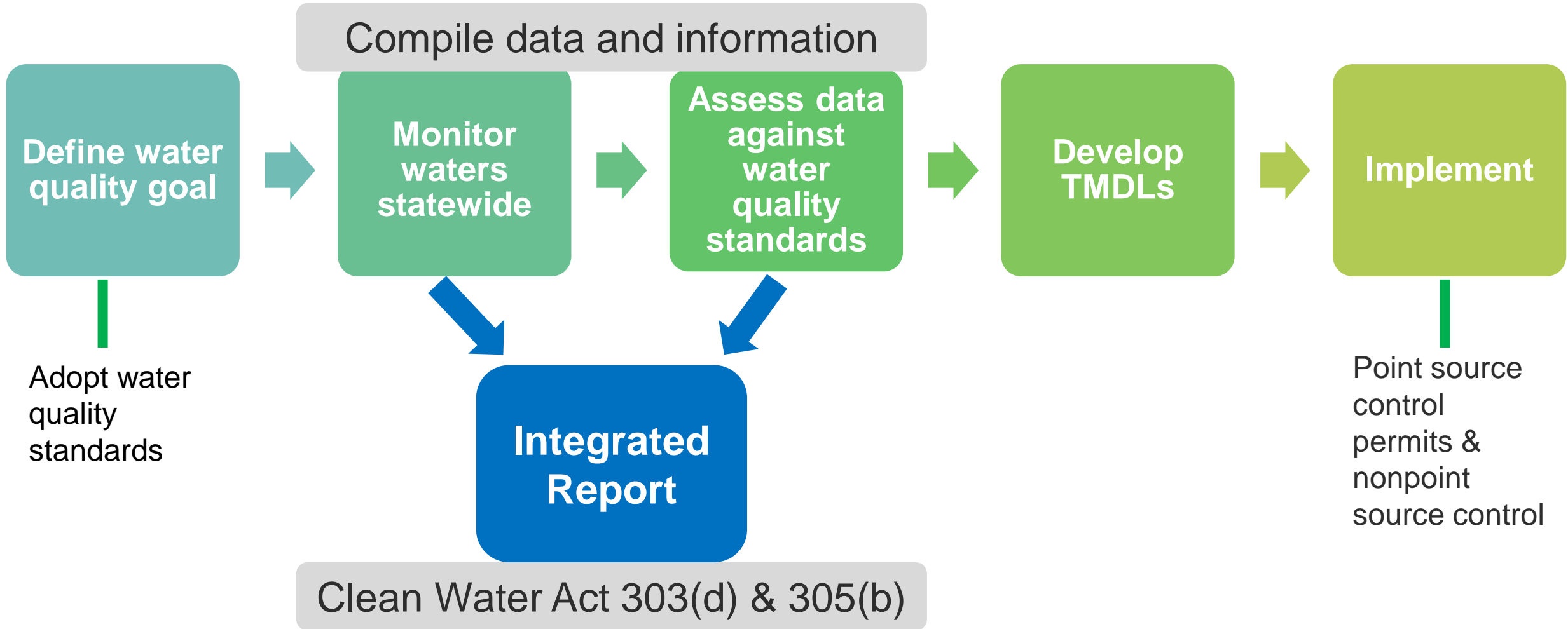
Presentation overview

- Clean Water Act Framework
- What is the Integrated Report?
- Methodology updates
- Public engagement
- Integrated Report 2022 schedule



Wallowa River, Oregon

Clean Water Act framework



Integrated Report requirements



State Requirements for assessment methodology

- Assess attainment of beneficial uses of Waters of the State
 - **Assessment Methodology updates**
 - Peer review of substantive methodologies
 - Public comment
 - **EQC informational overview**



Federal Requirements for Integrated Report

- Assess Oregon's waters every two years
 - Overall condition of Oregon's waters
 - Water quality impairment
 - Public comment on report
- Submit to EPA for approval

Integrated Report Process

Methodology updates or development

Call for data

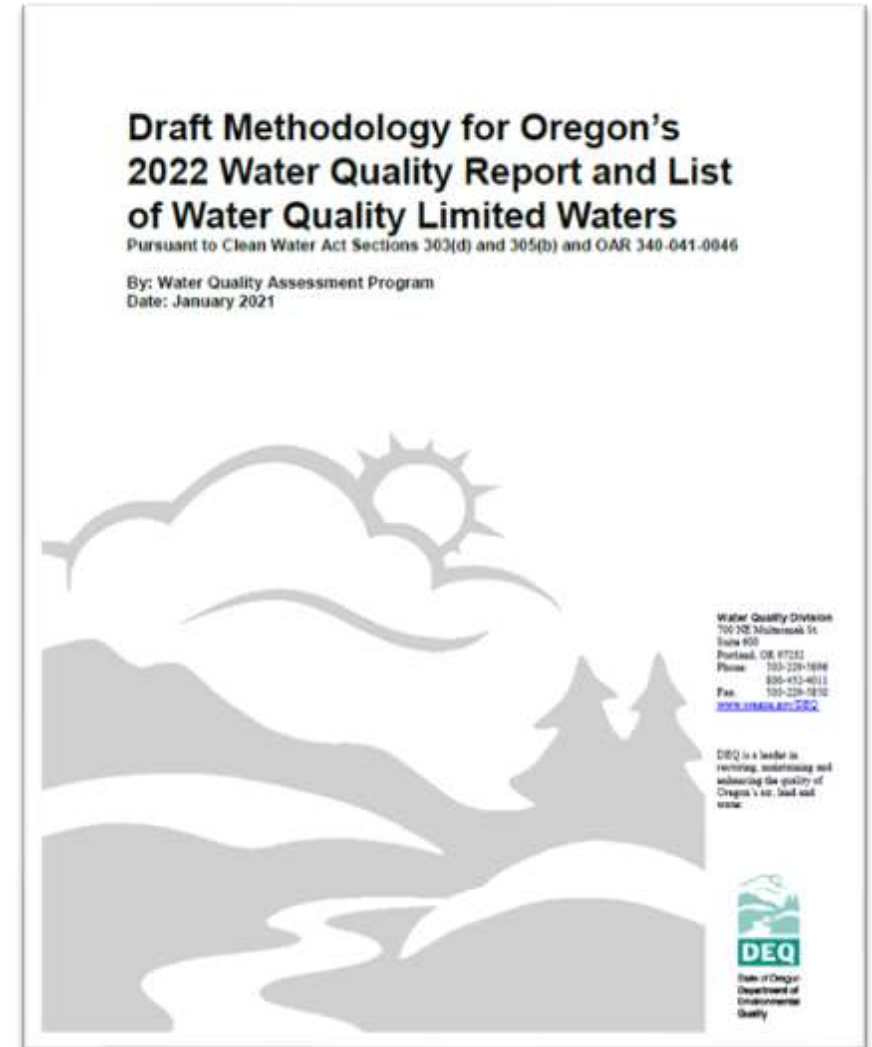
Methodology completion and assess data

IR draft public comment period

Submit to EPA for approval

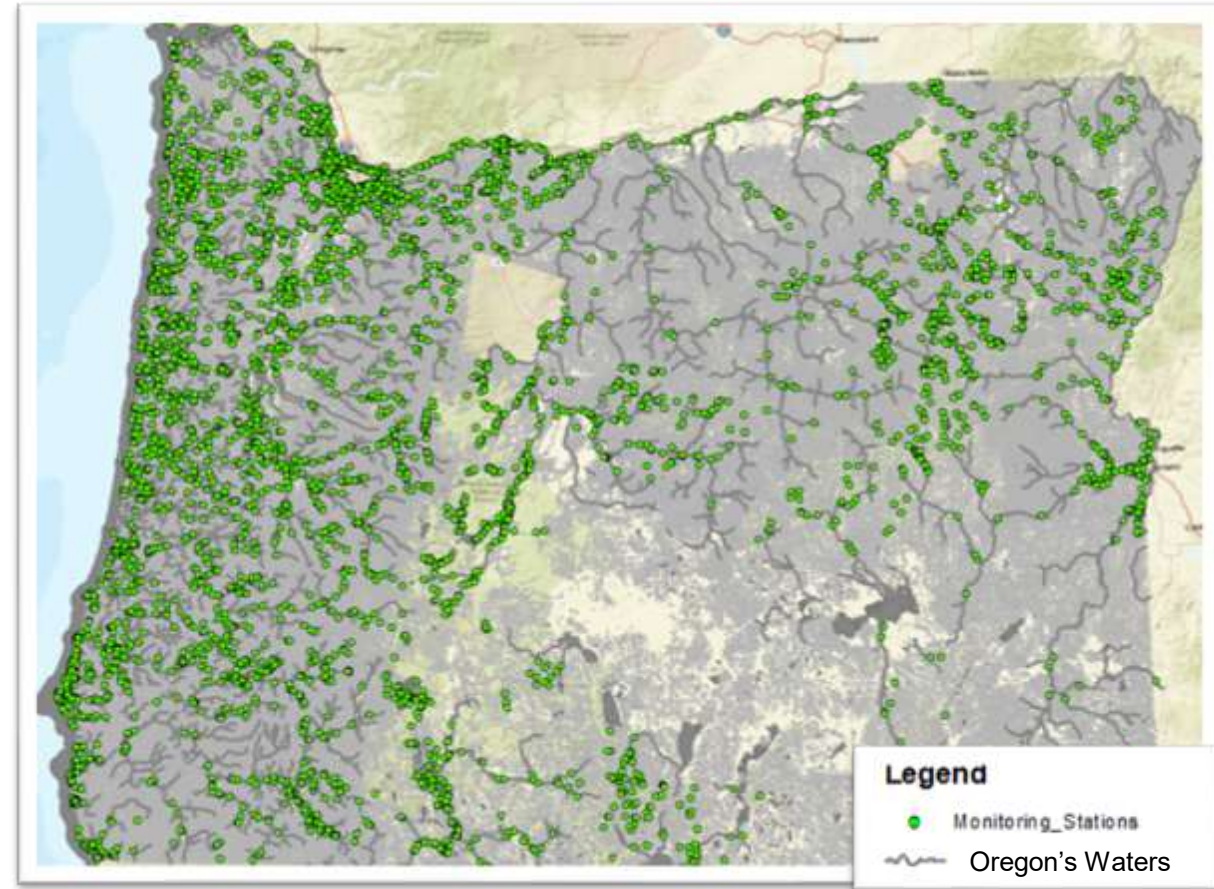
What is the Assessment Methodology?

- Criteria and procedures for how the assessment program determines whether a waterbody is considered impaired
- Assess against numeric and narrative criteria
- Scientifically and technically defensible



2022 methodology updates

1. Delisting for dissolved oxygen
2. Assessment of continuous pH
3. Delisting for freshwater fecal coliforms
4. Minimum data requirements for attainment
5. Aquatic life aluminum
6. Assessment of watershed units by station



Monitoring station locations

Assessment Methodologies, key issues raised

- Watershed assessment units
- Standards applicability/beneficial use designations
- Readily available data



Crooked River, Oregon

Comment response, watershed units

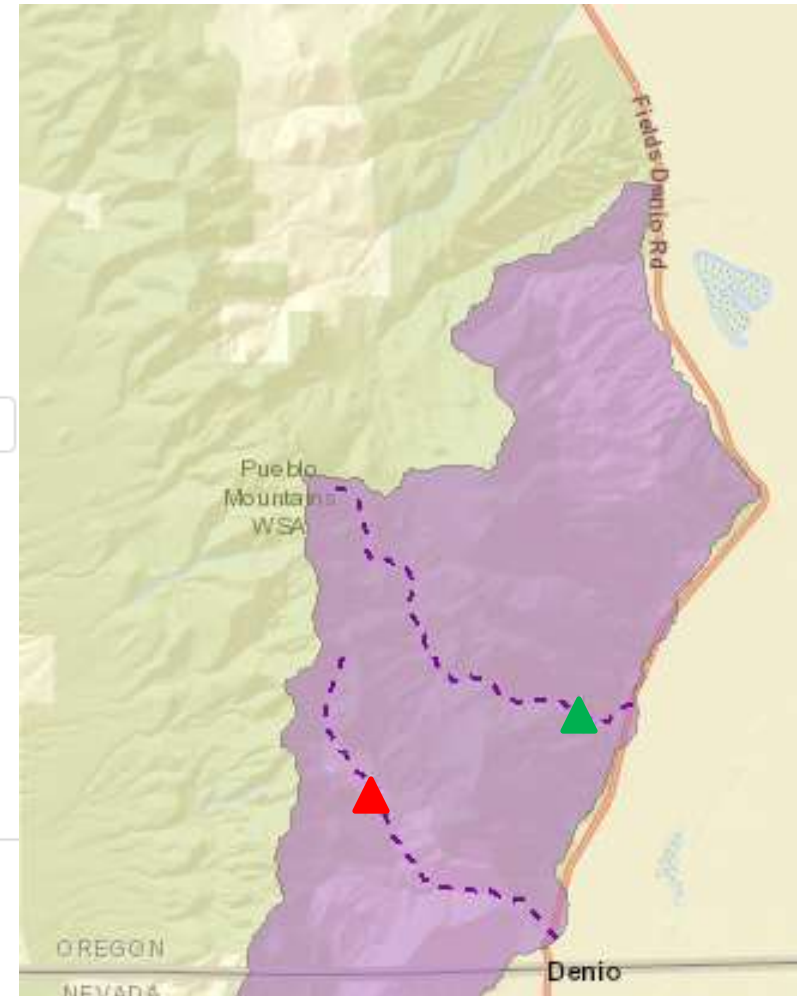
- Assess by monitoring station
- Identify waterbody/parameter impairment

Denio Creek ▾ 1 of 2

Denio Creek

AU ID: OR_WS_171200090106_05_106956
GNIS Name: Denio Creek
AU Status: Impaired
Category 5:
Category 4(B,C): ,
Category 4A: Temperature- Year Round

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Comment response – Standards applicability

- Standards applicable to all “waters of the state”
- Beneficial uses designated by basin
- Assess designated uses
- Water Quality Standards plan includes reassessing these uses, where appropriate



Spawning salmon

Integrated Report 2022 schedule

Methodology updates – 2021

Call for data – spring 2021



Methodology completion and assess data – fall 2021

IR draft public comment period – winter 2021

Submit to EPA for approval – spring 2022

Questions?



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Oregon Coast

Assessment methodology updates: <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/Pages/Integrated-Report-Improvements.aspx>

Public comment

- To request to present comment please use the “raise hand” function (in the Reactions panel on Zoom)
 - If you are connected by phone, please press *9
- Please limit your comments to two minutes or less