

## DEQ Requests Comments, Holds Public Hearing on Upper Klamath and Lost Subbasins Temperature TMDL

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality invites the public to attend a public hearing and provide comments on the Upper Klamath and Lost Subbasins Temperature Total Maximum Daily Load document, called a TMDL, and associated Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP). Subject to public review and comment, DEQ intends to issue the TMDL and management plan.

### Summary

The Klamath River, Lost River, and multiple other streams in the Upper Klamath and Lost Subbasins do not meet state and federal water quality standards for temperature. DEQ, in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, prepared a draft TMDL that analyzes sources of temperature pollution and identifies pollution reduction efforts necessary to improve water quality and comply with requirements of the Clean Water Act. DEQ issued a separate TMDL in January 2019 for several other water quality impairments in these subbasins. The public comment period will be open for 60 days.

### How do I participate?

Attend the public hearing to learn about the TMDL and WQMP, ask any questions you might have and provide verbal or written comments on the proposed TMDL and WQMP. You can also submit written comments by mail, fax or email.

### Hearing details

**When:** 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 26

**Where:** Oregon Institute of Technology  
College Union Building  
Bailey/Thielsen Room (Room 221/222)  
3201 Campus Drive  
Klamath Falls, OR 97601

### Submit comments by mail, fax or email to:

Mike Hiatt, Basin Coordinator  
803 Main Street, Suite #201  
Klamath Falls, OR 97604

**Fax:** 541-273-7266

**Email:** [hiatt.mike@deq.state.or.us](mailto:hiatt.mike@deq.state.or.us)

**All comments are due by 5 p.m., July 15, 2019.** All comments will become part of the public record.

### What types of pollutants does the TMDL consider?

This TMDL covers waterbodies of the Upper Klamath and Lost Subbasins located in Oregon. The focus of the TMDL is temperature, in particular heat from human activities as well as natural sources. Specific temperature impairments are listed in the TMDL and on Oregon's 303(d) list of impaired water bodies.

### Where can I get more information?

View information about this proposed action at <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/tmdls/Pages/TMDLs-Klamath-Basin.aspx> or by contacting Mike Hiatt to make an appointment to review the documents in person.

**Phone:** 541-273-7002

**Fax:** 541-273-7266

**Email:** [hiatt.mike@deq.state.or.us](mailto:hiatt.mike@deq.state.or.us)

### What are DEQ's responsibilities?

DEQ is the regulatory agency that helps protect and preserve Oregon's environment. The federal Clean Water Act requires Oregon to develop plans that include goals and pollution control targets for improving water quality in impaired water bodies. DEQ is doing this by establishing limits known as TMDLs. The U.S. EPA must approve or disapprove TMDLs submitted by a state.

DEQ developed this temperature TMDL as a result of a court decision on Oregon's Natural Conditions Criteria for temperature. The court ordered EPA to have an approved temperature TMDL by September 30, 2019.

### What happens next?

DEQ will consider and respond to all comments received during the public comment period. DEQ may modify the proposed TMDL and WQMP, if necessary, and will issue them as an order.

After the order is signed, DEQ will provide a response to all comments received during the public comment period. DEQ will then submit the documents to EPA for action. If you do not



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[www.oregon.gov/DEQ](http://www.oregon.gov/DEQ)

*DEQ is a leader in restoring, maintaining and enhancing the quality of Oregon's air, land and water.*

comment and are not an affected party but want to receive notification, please contact Mike Hiatt at the contact info above.

**Alternative formats**

DEQ can provide documents in an alternate format or in a language other than English upon request. Call DEQ at 800-452-4011 or email [deqinfo@deq.state.or.us](mailto:deqinfo@deq.state.or.us).

