



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

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(originally issued on 4/28/21; **revisions highlighted in red**)

Notice of Availability for Comment:

DRAFT Massachusetts 2018/2020 Integrated List of Waters

MassDEP has available for public review and comment the ***DRAFT Massachusetts combined 2018/2020 Integrated List of Waters*** (“Integrated Report”), which represents the most recent update on the status of Massachusetts’ waters. This report is submitted to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) every two years in fulfillment of the reporting requirements of sections 305(b) (Summary of Water Quality Report) and 303(d) (List of Impaired Waters) of the Clean Water Act (CWA). EPA has approved states combining IR cycle submissions, and MassDEP coordinated with EPA-Region 1 to seek approval for combining the 2018 and 2020 reporting cycles into one submittal.

Section 303(d) of the CWA requires states to identify those waterbodies that are not expected to meet surface water quality standards after the implementation of technology-based controls and to prioritize and schedule them for the development of a total maximum daily load (TMDL). A TMDL establishes the maximum amount of a pollutant that may be introduced into a waterbody and still ensure attainment and maintenance of water quality standards. The development of the 303(d) List (Category 5 of the Integrated Report) includes a public review and comment process, and the final version of the list must be formally approved by the EPA.

The 2018/2020 Integrated Report is available for review and comment on MassDEP’s web site at <https://www.mass.gov/lists/integrated-lists-of-waters-related-reports>.

Written comments on the Draft 2018/2020 Integrated Report should be submitted no later than **5:00 PM on May 28, 2021** **June 21, 2021** via email (preferred) to richard.f.chase@mass.gov or mailed to:

Richard F. Chase
MassDEP-Bureau of Water Resources, Watershed Planning Program
8 New Bond Street, Worcester, MA 01606
Richard.f.chase@mass.gov

For MassDEP’s 2018/2020 Integrated Report, quality-controlled data submitted to DEP prior to the pre-established deadline of 11/1/2019 were considered, relative to the 18 watersheds assessed. Data submitted after the 11/1/2019 deadline will not be considered for the 2018/2020 Integrated Report but will be reviewed and considered in a subsequent cycle, dependent on the workloads planned for future assessment cycles.

DEP plans to address all public comments in a Responses to Comments document that will be posted with the final IR.

This information is available in alternate format. Contact Michelle Waters-Ekanem, Director of Diversity/Civil Rights at 617-292-5751.

TTY# MassRelay Service 1-800-439-2370

MassDEP Website: www.mass.gov/dep

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