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Notice of Availability for Comment

Massachusetts DRAFT 2024/2026 Integrated List of Waters

MassDEP has available for public review and comment the **Massachusetts Draft 2024/2026 Integrated List of Waters** (“Integrated Report” or IR), which represents the most recent update on the water quality conditions of Massachusetts’ surface waters.

The IR 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). 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 total maximum daily loads (TMDL). A TMDL establishes the maximum amount of a pollutant that may be introduced into a waterbody while ensuring attainment of water quality standards.

For MassDEP’s 2024/2026 IR, quality-controlled data submitted by external groups to DEP prior to the pre-established deadline of 1/18/2023 were reviewed for quality and resulting usable data were considered in IR decision-making for designated uses assessed. External data submitted after the deadline will be reviewed and considered for possible use in a future IR cycle.

The development of the 303(d) List (Category 5 of the IR) includes a public review and comment process. The draft 2024/2026 IR is available for review and comment on [MassDEP's integrated reporting web site](#). Written comments on the draft IR should be submitted no later than **5:00 PM on February 10, 2026** via email to dep.wpp@mass.gov. MassDEP plans to address all public comments in a Responses to Comments document that will be posted with the final IR. The final version of the 303(d) list is submitted to EPA for approval.