

**Utah Water Quality Standards Future and Ongoing Review Topics Workplan**  
2/4/2014

No.	Standards Issues	DWQ LOE	Priority	When	Notes
1	Antidegradation Policy: Implementation Guidance: Complete Category Section Complete 401, 402, and General Permits Program	Med	Medium	2014	
2	Blue Creek Site-specific TDS Standard	Medium	High	2011	
3	Resolve EPA disapproval of Se Antidegradation Trigger	Low	Medium	2012	USEPA disapproved because inconsistent with EPA ADR Policy but has little affect on requirements
4	Adopt updated aquatic life water quality criteria for chloride	Low	Medium	2014	USEPA updated AWQC. Adoption was delayed in 2011 until DWQ can evaluate the applicability to Utah of the USEPA default chloride standard.
5	Review iron criteria for dissolved and total	Medium	Medium	2014	Iron criteria may have been erroneously changed to dissolved when other metals were changed to dissolved
6	Reclassify Pineview Reservoir from 3A to 3B	Low	Medium	2014	Attachment 3: Recommendation of the 2002 TMDL
7	State-wide nutrient criteria: numeric nutrient criteria for casual and response variables for streams/rivers and lakes/reservoirs	High	High	2014	Time needed to complete analyses- will be addressed in 2012
8	Variance policy	High	High	2014	Time needed to complete analyses for nutrients but policy extends beyond nutrients.
9	GSL wetlands - validation of assessment methodology	High/Med	High	2014	proceeding
10	GSL wetlands - standards revisions for different wetland types	High/Med	High	2014	MMI being validated

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11	GSL indicator values/criteria	High	High	2014	Development of indicator values/criteria will streamline permitting inefficiencies and assist assessment of the GSL
12	Translator for GSL selenium standard (egg to water translator)	High/Med	High	2014	CH2MHill collating data for model refinement
13	Willard Spur nutrient criteria and beneficial uses	High	High	2014	Pending outcome of ongoing studies
14	Change the Beneficial Uses for Willard Spur north of approximately Great Salt Lake Minerals to match Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge Beneficial Uses	Med/High	High	2014	Pending outcome of ongoing studies
15	Jordan River temperature/beneficial uses	High	High	2014	post TMDL
16	Site-specific TDS Standards: Jordan River, Antelope Creek	High	High	2014	post TMDL
18	Change beneficial uses of Salteratus Creek from 3A to 3D	Low	Low	2014	DWQ no longer assesses Salteratus Creek, TMDL has most of work done.
19	Change beneficial use of Recapture Reservoir from 3A to 3B	Low	Medium	2014	Recommendation of TMDL
20	Develop a mixing policy for wetlands including effluent-dominated wetlands	High	High	2014	Current EPA Region 8 policy is no mixing zones for wetlands

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21	Delete pH and DO standards for all wetlands. Replace with a multi-metric index type approach.	Med/High	High	2014	Pending validation and applicability of MMI
22	Develop an action planning process when an MMI Analysis does not show a wetland meets an acceptable quality level as compared to the reference wetland. This would include the an analysis of beneficial use protection and would be in conformance with recommendations from the National Academy of Sciences TMDL Report (see page 49).	Med	High	2014	Pending validation and applicability of MMI
23	Update the hardness-based zinc criteria	Medium	Low	2014	
24	Methylmercury criterion	Medium	High	2014	Multiple implementation considerations, implementation methods should be developed prior to adopting tissue-based std
25	Methylmercury criterion Implementation	High	High	2014	Need implementation methods prior to promulgating methyl mercury standard

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26	Revised temperature criteria and assessment methodology	High/Med	Medium	2014	New temperature listings could have a low priority (unless waterbody is receiving a thermal discharge), and potentially be delisted once standards are revised. May be able to build on approaches used by other states. Should include an allowance for excursions due to unusual weather. Can work with TMDL group to develop rationale for site-specific standards proposals until a state-wide approach can be developed
27	TDS - explore dividing the agricultural use into livestock and irrigation and the necessary criteria to adopt those uses (e.g. adoption of EC/SAR criteria for irrigation, criteria for livestock)	High	Medium	2014	Can work with TMDL group to develop rationale for site-specific standards proposals until a state-wide approach can be developed; Montana rules being challenged in court 2010.
28	Sediment (Quantity) Criteria	High	Medium	2014	
29	Implement identification numbers to provide consistency between standards, assessment, and TMDLs (e.g., NHD)	Medium	High	2014	Need to decide on best identifier. Small LOE from WQS Workgroup, large effort DWQ to implement
30	Develop tiered aquatic life beneficial uses	High	Medium	?	
31	Review Beneficial Use Class 3C	Medium	Low	?	Review the distinction between game and nongame fish
32	Sediment quantity criteria for GSL	High	Low	?	

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33	Averaging periods and assessment methods for high frequency temperature measurements	Medium	Low	?	
34	Assign Beneficial Uses to Lee Creek	Medium	Low		
34	Assign Beneficial Uses to Red Creek (Iron County)	Low	Low		Red Creek (Iron County) does not have specifically assigned uses and is therefore designated as Classes 2B, 3D (R317-2-13.13). An associated reservoir, Red Creek Reservoir (Iron County) has designated uses of Classes 2B, 3A, and 4. Red Creek upstream and downstream of the resevoir are recommended to include the same designated uses as the associated reservoir.
35	Lee Creek, Salt Lake City	Low	Low		Lee Creek is currently assigned the default uses of Class 2B, and 3D

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36	Revise standards to indicate that the criterion is the greater of ambient or use-based criterion.	low			Utah Standards already allow for setting site-specific standards. However, without the proposed change, Utah is obligated to list assessment units as impaired until a site-specific standard is promulgated even if the USEPA approved TMDL concludes that the source of the impairment is not anthropogenic. A rule change would allow the State to avoid listings these sites as impaired. From USEPA's 2014 Integrated Report memorandum: "States may have natural background provisions in EPA approved water quality standards that specify the applicable aquatic life water quality criterion will be equal to the natural background level of a pollutant if it is determined that the natural background level is less stringent than the otherwise applicable criteria. In the absence of a natural background provision in an EPA approved water quality standard or a site-specific criterion based on natural background, the otherwise applicable criterion is the basis for determining whether a waterbody is impaired."
	Fix formula for calculating H2S	Low	Medium		The footnote 13 is wrong.
35	In the aquatic life table, the units for phenol are unclear. Phenol no longer has EPA aquatic life criteria, so could be deleted.	Low	Low		
36	Adoption of the new ammonia criteria and implementation methods	High	Medium	2016	

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37	Hardness Correction formulas for Ni, Ag, and Zn missing parantheses	Low	Low	2014	
38	Update Human Health Criteria Table	Low	Medium	2015	Several of the criteria are inconsistent with USEPA. Footnote A should likely refer to Class 1C criteria and nothing in organism only column that is applicable to aquatic life.

**Attachment 3: Utah Water Quality Standards Work Plan Archived Topics  
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No.	Standards Issues	DWQ LOE	Priority	When	Notes
1	Revise upstream boundary for Spring Creek (Bear River WMU) site-specific TDS standard	High	Low	2011	Existing boundary is US 89 which is downstream of the facility that instigated the investigation for a site-specific standard. 05/10/2011, no change necessary, boundary is the beginning of Spring Creek.
2	Identify Table 13.2 in the standards	Low	Low	2011	No reference in standards for table. 05/10/2011, No change necessary because none of the tables in R317-2 have references.
3	Change Categories 1, 2, and 3 to Tier 1, 2, and 3 to be consistent with Federal program and other States	Low	Low	2011	Eliminate confusion regarding the nexus of Federal and State Rules. Utah's Categories don't match up with USEPA Tiers and DWQ decided not to pursue this change because the terminology between State and USEPA could not be reconciled without reworking the rule.
4	Assign beneficial uses	Low	High	Completed 2012	Sand Hollow Reservoir; Big East Reservoir; Emigration Creek Red Butte Creek
5	Change Recreation Beneficial Use	Low	Medium	Completed 2012	Restored Ogden River from 2B to 2A; Fremont River Capitol Reef from 2B to 2A; Hyrum Reservoir from 2B to 2A (already 2A, 05102011) Delete 2B wherever more stringent 2A assigned
6	Adopt updated human health water quality criteria for phenol, acrolein, and tributyl tin	Low	Medium	Completed 2012	USEPA updated AWQC
7	Adopt updated aquatic life water quality criteria for acrolein, chlorpyrifos, and tributyl tin	Low	Medium	Completed 2012	USEPA updated AWQC
8	Modify standards to allow the use of the biotic-ligand model or water effects ratio for site-specific standards	Low	Low	Completed 2012	R317-2-7 was revised to allow for site-specific standards for a several reasons including the biotic-ligand model or water effects ratio.
9	Delete acute criteria for mercury	Low	Medium	Completed 2012	Acute standard no longer supported by USEPA because standard not protective of bioaccumulation
10	Revise "a less stringent criterion is appropriate because of natural or un-alterable conditions" to apply to any parameter, not just TDS and temperature	Low	Medium	Completed 2012	R317-2-7 was revised to allow for site-specific standards for a general reasons that would include the biotic-ligand model or water effects ratio.
11	Assess Biotic ligand model for inclusion into copper aquatic life standards	Medium	Low	Completed 2012	R317-2-7 was revised to allow for site-specific standards for a several reasons including the biotic-ligand model or water effects ratio.
12	Assess Biotic ligand model for inclusion into zinc aquatic life standards	Medium	Low	Completed 2012	R317-2-7 was revised to allow for site-specific standards for a several reasons including the biotic-ligand model or water effects ratio.
13	Revise upstream boundary for Spring Creek (Bear River WMU) site-specific TDS standard	High	Low	Completed 2012	Existing boundary is US 89 which is downstream of the facility that instigated the investigation for a site-specific standard. 05102011, no change necessary, boundary is the beginning of Spring Creek.
14	Site-specific TDS Standards	Medium	High	Completed 2012	Price River between Soldier and Coal Creeks;

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No.	Standards Issues	DWQ LOE	Priority	When	Notes
15	Revise Category 1 descriptions for Oakley and Coalville WWTPs	Low	Medium	Completed 2012	Category 1 boundary is defined as US 189 which subsequently was moved with road construction. US189 is no longer a valid geographical residence. Reestablish Category 1 boundary in the same location with a new reference.
16	In R317-2-12.2 Revise Category 2 Fountain Green To Uintah, should be Category 3	Low	Medium	Completed 2012	This exception was inadvertently moved from R317-2-12.1 during the last rulemaking resulting in this reach being changed to Category 2 as opposed to being excluded from Category 1 (and by default, Category 3)
17	Remove or define astericks in lake beneficial uses	Low	Low	Completed 2012	No reference in standards
18	Change Burriston creek to Currant Creek	Low	Low	Completed 2013	The WQ standards list the inlet stream for Mona Reservoir as Burriston Creek (see R317-2-13.5-c) However, the USGS maps and DWQ publications like "Utah's Priority Lakes and Reservoirs" describe the inlet and outlet stream as Currant Creek. There is a small group of ponds called "Burriston Ponds" located about 1.5 miles upstream from the inlet of Mona Reservoir near Currant Creek. I assume the use of Burriston Creek may be a local name, but I think Currant Creek is more official. In addition, the outlet stream of Mona Reservoir is known in the WQ standards as Currant Creek. In the beneficial use designation section (R317-2-13.5-c):Burriston Creek from Mona Reservoir to headwaters....2B 3A, 4 should read:Currant Creek from Mona Reservoir to headwaters....2B 3A, 4
19	Revisions to narrative standard - expand to address biological condition	Med/Low	High	Completed 2013	Revisions will better align standards with assessments based on biology