

POTPOURRI

**Department of Environmental Quality
Office of the Secretary
Legal Division**

**Updates to the Louisiana Water Quality Management Plan
Volume 4: Basin and Subsegment Boundaries**

Under the authority of the Environmental Quality Act, R.S. 30:2071 *et. seq.*, the secretary gives notice that procedures have been initiated to amend Volume 4 of the Louisiana Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP). (1506Pot1)

The WQMP, required by sections 208 and 303 of the Clean Water Act, must be periodically reviewed and updated according to federal regulations. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) reports on water quality in the state by basin subsegment. Volume 4 of the WQMP, which describes the subsegment delineations, hydrology, and geography of the state, has been reviewed and revised to ensure that subsegments are distinct and consistent representations of the state's hydrology.

A Use Attainability Analysis (UAA) was conducted in the eastern Lower Mississippi River Alluvial Plains (LMRAP) Ecoregion for review of the dissolved oxygen (DO) water quality criteria. An ecoregion-based approach was used for the refinement of the DO criteria and the findings are presented in the supporting documentation for WQ091, which is being proposed concurrently with this potpourri. The ecoregion-based approach resulted in 21 new subsegments based on watersheds. In addition, some subsegments within the eastern LMRAP, Southern Plains Terrace and Flatwoods, and Coastal Deltaic Marshes Ecoregions underwent boundary and description revisions. Other errors and inconsistencies in subsegment boundaries were addressed. These include correcting topological errors and updating boundaries to more closely match current physical conditions. The changes are being incorporated into LAC 33:IX.1123, Table 3. The purpose of this revision to Volume 4 of the WQMP is to update the subsegment descriptions and delineations to be consistent with LAC 33:IX.Chapter 11. The draft documents are available for review from LDEQ's website, <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/divisions/waterpermits/waterqualitystandardsassessment.aspx>.

All interested persons are invited to submit written comments regarding the proposed revision. Comments are due no later than 4:30 p.m., August 5, 2015, and should be sent to Sandy Stephens, Office of Environmental Services, Water Permits Division, P.O. Box 4314, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4314.

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