



South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

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# Water Quality Standards

Narrative Hydrological Standards

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# Outline

- 2022 Triennial Review Update
- Existing Flow Standards
- Potential Revisions
- Next Steps





# 2022 Triennial Review Schedule

Task	Date
Notice of Drafting Published	February 25, 2022
Comment Period Closed	March 28, 2022
Stakeholder Meeting 1	April 19, 2022
Stakeholder Meeting 2	May 24, 2022
★ Notice of Proposed Regulation to DHEC Board	Late Summer 2022
Notice of Proposed Regulation Published	Late Summer 2022
Staff Informational Forum/Comment Period Closes	Early Fall 2022
Notice of Final Regulation to DHEC Board/Public Hearing	Early Fall 2022
Notice of Final Regulation filed with Legislature	January 2023
If approved by Legislature, Final Regulation Published	Summer 2023
Submittal to EPA	Summer 2023

## Existing Flow Standards

- **R.61-68.C.3.**

3. Uses in all waters shall be protected, wherever attainable, regardless of flow and classification of waters.

- **R.61-68.D.1.b.**

1. Existing water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect these existing uses shall be maintained and protected regardless of the water classification and consistent with the policies below.
- b. Existing uses and water quality necessary to protect these uses are presently affected or may be affected by instream modifications or water withdrawals. The stream flows necessary to protect classified and existing uses and the water quality supporting these uses shall be maintained consistent with riparian rights to reasonable use of water.

## Potential Revisions

- **R.61-68.C.3.**

3. Existing and classified uses in all waters shall be protected, wherever attainable, regardless of flow and classification of waters.

- **R.61-68.D.1.b.**

1. Existing water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect these existing uses shall be maintained and protected regardless of the water classification and consistent with the policies below.

b. Existing uses and water quality necessary to protect these uses are presently affected or may be affected by instream modifications or water withdrawals. The stream flows necessary to fully protect classified and existing uses ~~and the water quality including aquatic life and recreationsupporting these uses shall be maintained consistent with riparian rights to reasonable use of water.~~

## Potential Revisions

- **R.61-68.E.20**
- The stream flows necessary to fully protect existing and classified uses including aquatic life and recreation shall be maintained.

## Triennial Review Next Steps

- Present proposed regulation to DHEC Board next week
- Notice of Proposed Regulation published in State Register end of August
- Public comment period and Staff Forum September
- Present final regulation to DHEC Board late fall
- <https://scdhec.gov/BOW/water-quality-standards/triennial-review/2022-triennial-review>





## Flow Standards Next Steps

- Comment period ends August 22
- Present proposed regulation to DHEC September
- Notice of Proposed Regulation published in State Register end of September
- Public comment period October
- Present final regulation to DHEC Board early winter



# CONTACT US

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