

ROY COOPER
Governor

MICHAEL S. REGAN
Secretary

LINDA CULPEPPER
Director



North Carolina's List of Priority Waters To Be Completed by September 30, 2022

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In December 2013, U.S. EPA released a new framework for managing the Clean Water Act 303(d) program responsibilities, entitled "[A Long-Term Vision for Assessment, Restoration, and Protection under the Clean Water Act Section 303\(d\) Program](#)". The Vision was designed to help coordinate and focus EPA and State efforts to advance the effectiveness of the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Program direction in the coming decade. To accomplish this, the Vision focuses on six elements including 1) Prioritization, 2) Assessment, 3) Protection, 4) Alternatives, 5) Engagement and 6) Integration.

To address the first element of the Vision (Prioritization), States were to develop a list of priority waters for protection, direct to implementation, TMDL development and/or TMDL alternative development. North Carolina's priorities reflect where the State plans to focus resources through Fiscal Year 2022. They were selected using the U.S. EPA approved 2014 305b/303d list of waters as the baseline and the state's [priority framework](#).

As mentioned above, waters on the priority list will be addressed using a variety of approaches. Direct to implementation will be done when the cause is known and can be addressed through NPDES permits. TMDL and TMDL alternatives will be developed for waters listed as impaired on North Carolina's 305(b)/303(d) list of waters. Protection plans, on the other hand, will be written for waters that are not assessed as "impaired" in an effort to keep the water from becoming impaired.

The table below provides the list of North Carolina's list of priority waters. The table lists the parameters of concern along with the approach the state plans to use for each waterbody. This list is considered draft and is subject to change based on data and resource availability.



Status	Assessment Unit ID	Assessment Unit Name	Cause Name	Plan Type ¹
Completed	12-94-(0.5)b2b	Muddy Creek	Turbidity	TMDL
Completed	7-3-22	Bald Creek	Fecal Coliform	Alternative
Completed	7-3-22-1	Fox Creek	Fecal Coliform	Alternative
Completed	7-3-22-4	Elk Wallow Creek	Fecal Coliform	Alternative
Completed	7-3-22-5	Lickskillet Branch	Fecal Coliform	Alternative
Completed	7-3-22-7	Possumtrot Creek	Fecal Coliform	Alternative
Completed	6-34-(15.5)	Davidson River	Low pH	TMDL
Completed	11-38-34-14	Harper Creek	Low pH	TMDL
Completed	11-29-22	Shooks Creek	Low pH	TMDL
Completed	7-2-52-(1)	South Toe River	Low pH	TMDL
Completed	11-38-32-9ut3	UT to Frankum Creek	Low pH	TMDL
Completed	16-11-(9)b	Reedy Fork (Hardys Mill Pond)	Fecal Coliform	TMDL
In progress	17-43-(8)b2	Rocky River (Woody's Dam)	Chlorophyll-a	TMDL or Alternative
In progress	18-87-9a	Virginia Creek	Shellfishing Closure	TMDL or Alternative
In progress	18-87-9b	Virginia Creek	Shellfishing Closure	TMDL or Alternative
In progress	18-87-9-1	Mullet Run	Shellfishing Closure	TMDL or Alternative
In progress	18-87-1a	Turkey Creek	Shellfishing Closure	TMDL or Alternative
In progress	18-87-1b	Turkey Creek	Shellfishing Closure	TMDL or Alternative
In progress	21-32a	Calico Creek	Chlorophyll-a	TMDL or Alternative
In progress	21-32a	Calico Creek	Dissolved Oxygen	TMDL or Alternative
In progress	21-32a	Calico Creek	Turbidity	TMDL or Alternative
In progress	21-32b	Calico Creek	Chlorophyll-a	TMDL or Alternative
In progress	27-43-(5.5)but7	UT to Swift Creek (Lake Benson)	Ecological/Biological Integrity Benthos	Alternative
In progress	27-52-6a	Hannah Creek	Dissolved Oxygen	TMDL or Alternative
In progress	27-52-6a	Hannah Creek	Ecological/Biological Integrity Benthos	Alternative
In progress	27-86-8	Hominy Swamp	Benthos	Alternative
Planned	1-63a	Persimmon Creek (Lake Cherokee)	Fish Community	TMDL or Alternative
Planned	11-129-8-4-(1)	Mill Creek	Ecological/Biological Integrity Benthos	TMDL or Alternative
Planned	13-17-36-9-(1)	Stewarts Creek	Ecological/Biological Integrity Benthos	TMDL or Alternative
Planned	13-17-36-9-(4.5)	Lake Twitty (Lake Stewart)	Chlorophyll-a	TMDL or Alternative
Planned	17-12a	Haskett Creek	Dissolved Oxygen	TMDL or Alternative
Planned	17-12a	Haskett Creek	Ecological/Biological Integrity Benthos	TMDL or Alternative
Planned	17-12b1	Haskett Creek	Ecological/Biological Integrity Benthos	TMDL or Alternative
Planned	17-12b2	Haskett Creek	Ecological/Biological Integrity Benthos	TMDL or Alternative
Planned	2-79-36	Savannah Creek	Fecal Coliform	TMDL or Alternative
Planned	27-43-(1)d	Swift Creek	Ecological/Biological Integrity Benthos	TMDL or Alternative

Status	Assessment Unit ID	Assessment Unit Name	Cause Name	Plan Type ¹
Planned	27-43-(5.5)a	Swift Creek (Lake Benson)	Ecological/Biological Integrity Benthos	TMDL or Alternative
Planned	12-113	Swearing Creek (HRL)	Fish Community	Alternative
Planned	NC20-36-(8.5)f	Bogue Sound (Including Intracoastal Waterway)	Shellfishing Closure	Alternative
Planned	10-1-(33.5)	South Fork New River	Not applicable	Protection
Planned	10-2-13-3	Long Hope Creek	Not applicable	Protection
Planned	16-(1)b	HAW RIVER	Not applicable	Protection
Planned	16-(1)c1	HAW RIVER	Not applicable	Protection
Planned	18-24	Carvers Creek (Cypress Lake)	Not applicable	Protection
Planned	22-18	Mill Creek	Not applicable	Protection
Planned	25-17	Bennetts Creek (Merchants Millpond)	Not applicable	Protection
Planned	28-79-25b	Little Fishing Creek	Not applicable	Protection
Planned	7-2-21	Justice Creek	Not applicable	Protection
Planned	7-2-22-(1)	Pyatt Creek	Not applicable	Protection
Planned	7-2-24	Jones Creek	Not applicable	Protection
Planned	7-2-27	Gouges Creek	Not applicable	Protection
Planned	7-2-41-(1)	Beaver Creek	Not applicable	Protection
Planned	7-2-59-1-1	Stagger Weed Creek	Not applicable	Protection
Planned	7-2-59-1-2	Mine Fork Branch	Not applicable	Protection
Planned	7-2-59-1-2-1	Sugartree Branch	Not applicable	Protection
Planned	7-2-59-1-2-1-1	Dobson Branch	Not applicable	Protection

1. Alternative plan types include [9-element plans](#), [4b demonstrations](#), [nutrient management strategies](#), or direct implementation