

STATE OF GEORGIA TMDL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Prepared by
The Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Environmental Protection Division
Atlanta, GA

Introduction

TMDL Implementation Plans are not required for the segments discussed below because Georgia Environmental Protection Division (Georgia EPD) has delisted them, United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has rescinded them, or the United States District Court for the Northern District Court of Georgia, Atlanta Division has vacated the order to establish them.

Delisted Segments

EPA requires Georgia EPD to demonstrate good cause for not including stream segment on the Section 303(d) list. Good cause includes, but is not limited to, more recent and accurate data, more sophisticated water quality modeling, flaws in the original analysis that led to the waterbody being listed or changes in conditions, e.g. new control equipment, or elimination of discharges. In its Draft 2002 Section 303(d) listing proposal Georgia EPD submitted good cause justification to EPA to delist the stream segments listed below from its 2002 Section 303(d) list.

Georgia EPD delisted stream segments using methodology from the Water Quality in Georgia 1998-99 Report (305(b) report), Appendix A, and USEPA document Guidance for 303(b) listing. In considering all the data on the affected segments EPD concluded that water quality is being met and removed them from the 2002 Section 303(d) list. Therefore, no TMDL Implementation Plans are required for the following delisted segments.

Waterbody Name	Stream Location	River Basin	Pollutant
1. Alapahoochee River	Confluence of Mud and Grand Bay Cr. To Stateline	Suwannee	FCG(Hg)
2. Buck Creek	Downstream Sylvania WPCP to Savannah River	Savannah	Cyanide, Zn, Tox
3. Crawford Creek	Downstream Columbia Co. WPCP to Tudor Branch	Savannah	Tox
4. Ogeechee River	U.S. Hwy. 301 to Hwy. 119	Ogeechee	DO
5. Savannah River	Butler Creek to McBean Creek	Savannah	Pb, FC
6. Savannah River	Brier Creek to Ebenezer Creek	Savannah	Pb, Zn
7. Tributary to Taylors Creek	Drainage Canal to Taylors Creek, Fort Stewart	Ogeechee	Cu, Pb, Hg

Rescinded Segments

EPA established TMDLs for five contiguous segments of the Savannah River on February 28, 2001, under Section 303(d)(2) of the Clean Water Act (CWA). These segments which run from the Clarks Hill Lake Dam to the Tide Gate, had been listed on the State of Georgia's 2000 Section 303(d) list of impaired water because of mercury levels in certain species of fish tissue exceeded the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GDNR) Fish Consumption Guidelines (FCG).

On July 30, 2001, Georgia EPD informed EPA that until the State adopts a numeric water quality criterion for mercury for the protection of human health, Georgia EPD will interpret the narrative

criterion of “no toxics in toxic amounts” consistently with EPA’s 2001 revised criterion recommendation.

Based on its July 2001 interpretation of its narrative water quality criterion “no toxics in toxic amounts,” Georgia EPD concluded that the applicable water quality standard for the Savannah River is not, and was not at the time EPA established the TMDL, exceeded for total mercury as measured by mercury levels in fish tissue residue. Accordingly, Georgia EPD did not include the Savannah River Segments (with respect to mercury) on the 2002 Section 303(d) list it submitted to EPA on March 27, 2002. After examination of the mercury fish tissue data and other information supplied by Georgia EPD in its 2002 Section 303(d) list submission, EPA agreed with Georgia EPD’s conclusion that the applicable water quality standard for the Savannah River was not impaired for total mercury as measured by mercury levels in fish tissue. Therefore, EPA approved Georgia EPD’s decision to exclude the Savannah River Segments (for mercury) from its 2002 Section 303(d) list on April 30, 2002.

Waterbody*	Stream Location	River Basin	Miles/Area
1. Savannah River	Brier Creek to Tide Gate	Savannah	84 Miles
2. Savannah River	Lake Hartwell to Lake Russell	Savannah	8 Miles
3. Savannah River	Clarks Hill Lake to Stevens Creek Dam	Savannah	9 Miles
4. Savannah River	Stevens Creek Dam to US Hwy 78/278	Savannah	9 Miles
5. Savannah River	Johnson’s Landing to Brier Creek	Savannah	26 Miles
6. Savannah River	US Hwy. 78/278 to Johnson’s Landing	Savannah	78 Miles

Vacated Segments

The State of Georgia’s 1998 Section 303(d) list identified Rocky Creek, downstream of Washington Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP), in the Savannah River basin as not supporting its designated use for the toxicity and copper parameters. The State of Georgia indicated in its 2000 Section 303(d) list that Rocky Creek was no longer impaired from toxicity and copper, and EPA approved that determination.

On August 27, 2001 The United States District Court for the Northern District Court of Georgia, Atlanta Division vacated its previous order to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish TMDLs for toxicity and copper for Rocky Creek by June 21, 2001.

Waterbody*	Stream Location	River Basin	Miles/Area
1. Rocky Creek	Washington to Little River	Savannah	12