

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF PROPOSED
TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS
FOR WATERS AND POLLUTANTS OF CONCERN
IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA

January 8, 2025

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has proposed a revised Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for a segment of the Coosa River in the Coosa River Basin. Section 303(d)(1)(C) of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. 1313(d)(1)(C), and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency implementing regulation, 40 C.F.R. 130.7(c)(1), require the establishment of TMDLs for waters identified in accordance with Section 303(d)(2)(A) of the CWA. Each TMDL is to be established at a level necessary to implement applicable water quality criteria with seasonal variations and a margin of safety.

The cause of impairment for the Coosa River segment between State Route 100 and the Alabama State Line listed in Georgia's 2002 303(d) list was a violation of the water quality criteria for dissolved oxygen or "DO". In 2004, EPD developed a TMDL for this river segment based on limited monitoring data and a water quality model that was best suited for free-flowing and well-mixed riverine systems. Due to these limitations, EPD acknowledged its intent to revise and update the 2004 Coosa River DO TMDL once appropriate field data had been collected and water quality models had been developed that better represent the river-reservoir transition zone of the Coosa River and Weiss Lake near the Georgia – Alabama state line. EPD undertook intensive field and water quality data collection efforts starting in 2005 and 2006 to better characterize the Coosa River and its watershed. Since that time, a more robust water quality modeling framework for the Coosa River Basin has also been developed. These field and water quality data and refined water quality models were used to evaluate conditions in the Coosa River that reflect current and future water quality needs while ensuring that water quality criteria are met. The revised Coosa River DO TMDL document details these data and models, and provides updated information on wasteload allocations for wastewater point sources, load allocations for non-point sources, and TMDLs for the river segment and contributing sub-watersheds.

A copy of the proposed revised TMDL document is available online on the EPD TMDL webpage, under the Proposed TMDL section: <https://epd.georgia.gov/watershed-protection-branch/total-maximum-daily-loadings>

In addition, a copy of this notice and a copy of the TMDL documents may be reviewed during normal business hours 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (except official State holidays or office closures) by appointment only, at the following location:

Environmental Protection Division
Watershed Protection Branch File Room
200 Piedmont Ave. S.W., Suite 418
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
(404) 463-1511.

A single printed copy of the proposed revised TMDL document is available by written or phone request to EPD. Please direct requests to Ms. Arnetta Murphy at the address or phone number given above. If additional copies are requested, a copying charge of 10 cents per page will be assessed.

Public Notice - Proposed Revised Coosa DO TMDL
January 8, 2025

Written comments are welcomed. To ensure their consideration, written comments should be received on or before 5:00 p.m., **February 21, 2025**. Written comments should be addressed to:

Ms. Anna Truszczynski
Branch Chief, Watershed Protection Branch
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Suite 1470A East
Atlanta, Georgia 30334.

Comments may also be emailed to EPD.Comments@dnr.ga.gov. If you choose to e-mail your comments, please be sure to include the words “**TMDL Comments**” in the subject line to help ensure that your comments will be forwarded to the correct staff.

For technical information contact Tyler Parsons, TMDL Modeling and Development Unit Manager, tyler.parsons@dnr.ga.gov or (404) 463-1511.

After a review of any comments received, a final revision to the proposed revised TMDL document will be made, and the finalized revised TMDL document will be submitted to the USEPA for approval.

Please bring the foregoing to the attention of people whom you believe will be interested in this matter.