

## Guidelines for Listing and Delisting of Biological Data:

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) currently does not accept third party biological data for 305(b)/303(d) listing and delisting purposes for the following reasons: 1) the collection and analysis of biological data tends to be more complicated than the collection of physical or chemical data, and 2) EPD has observed that the quality of biological data submitted as part of watershed assessment and protection plans varies widely. However, a written request to resample sites listed under BIO-M or BIO-F may be submitted to EPD under the following scenarios:

1. A third party conducts restoration activities that positively impact a stream segment listed as “not supporting” for biology and have biological data they believe indicates the listed biological assemblage has been restored to “supporting” based on the current SOPs and metric analysis.
2. A third party has a site where their biological data consistently shows the site is “supporting” for at least three sampling events for the listed biological assemblage. Each event must occur at least one year apart. The same stipulations would apply for third parties wanting to list streams as “not supporting”.

All requests should include a description of restoration activities (if applicable), all field sheets, laboratory data, photos, taxa lists, and any other supporting documentation as requested by EPD. EPD will review macroinvertebrate data and will request Wildlife Resource Division (WRD) to review fish data to determine if a site revisit is warranted. EPD will coordinate with WRD regarding the possibility of resampling the site for fish.

All parties must follow the most current Georgia EPD Macroinvertebrate Biological Assessment of Wadeable Streams in Georgia - Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) (<https://epd.georgia.gov/macroinvertebrate-bioassessment-standard-operating-procedures-sop-and-metric-spreadsheets>) and/or the Standard Operating Procedures for Conducting Biomonitoring on Fish Communities in Wadeable Streams in Georgia (<http://www.georgiawildlife.org/fishIBI>). Please refer to the watershed assessment guidance documents (<http://epd.georgia.gov/watershed-assessment-and-protection-plan-guidance-documents>) for all required data.

Requests and documentation for resampling should be sent to:

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