

Announcement of an effort to restore water quality in Bull Creek, Buchanan County; Levisa Fork Buchanan County; North and South Fork Pound River, Wise County; and Powell River, Lee and Wise Counties, Virginia.

PUBLIC MEETING LOCATION: Virginia Department of Environmental Quality – Southwest Regional Office, 355 Deadmore Street, in Abingdon, Virginia, on April 25, 2013 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment and announce a public meeting on phased revisions for water quality improvement studies by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME) for the four coalfield streams.

MEETING DESCRIPTION: Final public meeting on the phased revisions to the TMDLs.

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: DEQ and DMME have been working to identify sources pollutants affecting the aquatic organisms in the waters of Bull Creek, Levisa Fork, North and South Pound River and the Powell River. During the development of the studies the pollutants impairing the aquatic community were identified and total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) were developed for the impaired waters. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, contamination levels must be reduced to the TMDL amount.

HOW A DECISION IS MADE: The phased revision of a TMDL includes public meetings and a public comment period once the study report is drafted. After public comments have been considered and addressed, DEQ will submit the revised TMDL report to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for approval.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. Written comments should include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ during the comment period, April 25, 2013 to May 25, 2013. DEQ also accepts written and oral comments at the public meeting announced in this notice.

TO REVIEW THE DRAFT MONITORING PLAN: The draft monitoring plan, the phased TMDL reports and the presentation from the public meeting are available from the contact below or on the DEQ website at <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/WaterQualityInformationTMDLs.aspx>

CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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