

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**  
**NOTICE OF AMENDMENT AND PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) seeks written and oral comments from interested persons on the amendment of Total Maximum Daily Load Implementation Plans (IPs) for the North Fork Rockfish River, South Fork Rockfish River, and Rockfish River watersheds in Nelson County. These streams were listed on the 2004 and 2006 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report as impaired due to violations of the State's water quality standard for bacteria. The bacteria impairment on the North Fork Rockfish begins in the headwaters and extends 7.2 miles to its confluence with the Rockfish River. The South Fork Rockfish bacterial impairment extends 11.6 miles from its headwaters to its confluence with the mainstem Rockfish River. The bacteria impairment on the Rockfish River extends from the confluence of its North and South Forks to its confluence with Davis Creek, which is a total of 6.5 miles.

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia require DEQ to develop TMDLs for pollutants responsible for each impaired water contained in Virginia's 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report. In addition, Section 62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia requires the development of an IP for approved TMDLs. The IP should provide measurable goals and the date of expected achievement of water quality objectives. The IP should also include the corrective actions needed and their associated costs, benefits, and environmental impacts. The Rockfish IP has been amended to include just the BMPs related to these bacterial impairments and TMDLs.

The public comment period for the amended Implementation Plan will last from July 1 to July 31, 2013. Written comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments and should be sent to Tara Sieber, Department of Environmental Quality, 4411 Early Road, PO Box 3000, Harrisonburg, VA 22801, telephone: (540) 574-7870, fax: (540) 574-7878, or e-mail: tara.sieber@deq.virginia.gov.

The Implementation Plan document will be available on the DEQ website during the public comment period at the following address:

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/Water/WaterQualityInformationTMDLs/TMDL/TMDLImplementation/TMDLImplementationPlans.aspx>