From: Elaine Payne
To: MATZKE Andrea
Subject: FW: DEQ invites public comment on revisions to aquatic life freshwater criteria for ammonia
Date: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 3:11:30 PM

For my own curiosity, is there a list of specific waterbodies that are a concern?

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From: DEQ Online Subscriptions [mailto:ordeq@public.govdelivery.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 16, 2014 3:57 PM
To: Elaine Payne
Subject: DEQ invites public comment on revisions to aquatic life freshwater criteria for ammonia

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is now accepting public comment on a proposed rulemaking to adopt U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) latest 2013 national recommendations for freshwater ammonia criteria, which if adopted by the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) and approved by EPA would apply to waterbodies such as streams and lakes throughout Oregon. These criteria, which protect aquatic life such as fish, insects and mussels, are less stringent than Oregon's current chronic criteria for ammonia, and are generally more stringent than Oregon's current acute criteria for ammonia. The proposed revisions would likely address EPA's Jan. 31, 2013 disapproval of the aquatic life ammonia criteria that EQC adopted in 2004.

DEQ is also proposing several minor clarifications and corrections to other water quality standards rules, including the pH rule for the main stem Snake River and site-specific water quality standards for the West Division Main Canal, an irrigation canal near Hermiston. Finally, DEQ is adding editor's notes to two rules to notify the reader that due to EPA disapproval, the two natural conditions provisions are no longer applicable for federal Clean Water Act purposes.

Parties affected by this proposal generally include industrial and municipal dischargers that have ammonia monitoring requirements and discharge to Oregon waterbodies.

The Secretary of State will publish a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for these amendments in the Oct. 1, 2014 Oregon Bulletin. **To learn more about this rulemaking, or to submit comments on this rulemaking, please see:** http://www.oregon.gov/deq/RulesandRegulations/Pages/2014/RWQNH3.aspx. Comments must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Oct. 30, 2014. DEQ will hold one public hearing in Portland on Oct. 15, 2014 at 6 p.m.

DEQ expects to recommend these amendments to the Environmental Quality Commission at its Jan. 7-8, 2015 meeting. EPA must then approve the adopted rules before they become effective for Clean Water Act programs.

Additional information may be found on DEQ's Ammonia Web page. If you have questions or need

additional information, you may also contact Andrea Matzke at 503-229-5384 or by email.

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