

Public Notice

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is seeking comments on the draft "Otter Creek Iron TMDL" and will hold two public meetings to provide information about the document and answer questions. The first meeting will be held October 21, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. at the Miles Community College in Miles City, located at 2715 Dickinson Street. The second meeting will be held October 22, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the Bureau of Land Management Billings Field Office, located at 5001 Southgate Drive. If you attend the Billings meeting, please bring a government-issued photo ID for checking-in at the front desk, and park in the employee parking lot. Please note that neither meeting is a hearing.

The document discusses the health of Otter Creek in relation to iron concentrations in the stream, as well as contributing sources of the iron, and provides a total maximum daily load (TMDL) that defines the amount of iron Otter Creek can contain and still meet Montana's water quality standards. The document is available on the DEQ web site at: <http://deq.mt.gov/pubcom.mcp>. Copies are also available at the Billings, Broadus, and Miles City public libraries, the Dr. John Woodenlegs Memorial Library in Lame Deer, and the Montana State Library in Helena. Comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m., October 30, 2015, and may be mailed to DEQ, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620, or submitted electronically at: <http://svc.mt.gov/deq/publiccomment/>. Written comments may also be provided at the public meetings.

Please refer to Montana's Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Development Projects web site for additional details on the Otter Creek TMDL project at: <http://mtwaterqualityprojects.pbworks.com>. For more information, contact Christina Staten at (406) 444-2836 or by e-mail at: CStaten@mt.gov. DEQ will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in this meeting. If you require special accommodation, please contact Alex Smietanka at ASmietanka@mt.gov or (406) 444-6749 no later than October 14, 2015.