



ENVIRONMENTAL LAW INSTITUTE®

AN INDEPENDENT, NON-PARTISAN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND POLICY RESEARCH CENTER.

2020 NATIONAL CWA 303(d) TRAINING WORKSHOP

HINDSIGHT IN 2020

May 26 - 29, 2020

TRAINING WORKSHOP AGENDA

**This project is made possible through a cooperative agreement with the
United States Environmental Protection Agency**

PURPOSE OF THE TRAINING WORKSHOP

To provide an opportunity for staff from state and territorial Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Listing and TMDL programs and tribal water quality programs to learn about and discuss program implementation approaches and tools, the Vision, and future goals of the programs.

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

- Learn about the **history of, experiences with, and opportunities for** the CWA 303(d) Program Vision.
- Learn **techniques for collaborating** across jurisdictional boundaries and with other programs, agencies, and organizations.
- Learn about **tools, systems, and strategies for communicating** water quality information.
- Receive **updates on research, materials, and legal developments** relevant to the CWA 303(d) Program.
- Enhance the **network of listing and TMDL professionals** by expanding and improving communication among the states, tribes, and territories and with EPA regions and headquarters.

OUTPUT

A final report summarizing the proceedings of the training workshop, which may assist in Vision planning and serve as a reference for program personnel implementing their responsibilities consistent with the current Vision.

AGENDA
(All Times Eastern Daylight)

Tuesday, May 26

- 1:00 pm – 1:45 pm **Welcome**
- 1:45 pm – 2:45 pm **Session #1: Origins and Implementation of the CWA 303(d) Vision**
State, EPA, and ACWA staff central to the development and early implementation of the Vision will recount the circumstances of its creation and the process and challenges along the way, all to set the stage for the week’s discussions.
- 2:45 pm – 3:15 pm **Break**
- 3:15 pm – 5:00 pm **Session #2: Breakouts**
Training workshop participants will attend one of the following webinars based upon their topic preferences expressed in advance of the training workshop.
- Prioritizing Waters with Improved Approaches
 - Environmental Justice in the CWA 303(d) Program
 - Incorporating 5-alts/“Alternatives” into Your CWA 303(d) Program
 - Communicating Effectively to the Public through Listing/the IR

Wednesday, May 27

- 1:00 pm – 2:45 pm **Session #3: Ways of Evaluating Progress**
Presentations demonstrating approaches to evaluating, documenting, and communicating program progress will provide ideas and methods beyond delistings and EPA program measures.
- 2:45 pm – 3:15 pm **Break**
- 3:15 pm – 5:00 pm **Session #4: Vision Breakouts**
Training workshop participants will be divided into 7 groups of roughly 18 people to identify ways in which the CWA 303(d) Program Vision could be improved to better support the diverse circumstances, needs, and values of the states, territories, and tribes while setting a country-wide course for the program.

(All Times Eastern Daylight)

Thursday, May 28

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Session #5: Concurrent Trainings I

Training workshop participants will attend one of the following webinars based upon their topic preferences expressed in advance of the training workshop.

- Implementable TMDLs: An Exercise in What Makes a TMDL Useful to Its Users
- Assessment Methods for Aquatic Life Use
- Communication Tools
- ATTAINS for the Casual User
- ATTAINS Secret Sauce Training – Tips and Tricks

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Break

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Session #6: Concurrent Trainings II

Training workshop participants will attend one of the following webinars based upon their topic preferences expressed in advance of the training workshop.

- Permitting and the CWA 303(d) Program
- CWA 303(d) List and TMDL Litigation
- Hydrologic Alterations and Water Quality: Opportunities and Challenges
- State-Tribal Partnerships on TMDLs and Impaired Waters Listings
- Modeling Showcase
- The Water Quality Portal

Friday, May 29

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Session #7: Report-Back and Discussion of Vision Analysis

ELI staff will present a summary of the experiences and ideas expressed during the Vision Breakouts on Wednesday, followed by a panel discussion among state and EPA staff and a facilitated discussion among all participants about themes and the way forward.

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Send Off