

**Summary of Significant Potential Changes to
the Implementation Procedures**
(excluding WET)
November 20, 2008

State-listed endangered and threatened species (p. 12)

Currently: The TCEQ considers *federally* listed endangered/threatened species during permit reviews.

Proposed: The TCEQ may also consider state-listed endangered/threatened species if appropriate and will coordinate with Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.

Seagrasses (pp. 17-18)

Currently: No procedures in the IP for screening discharges that may adversely affect seagrasses.

Proposed: New applications or amendments for discharges that enter a segment with a seagrass propagation use will be screened for possible adverse impacts to seagrass communities. Screening procedure is explained.

Nutrients in discharges (pp. 18-33)

Currently: No procedures in the IP for screening discharges for nutrient impacts.

Proposed: New sections on screening for nutrient impacts from proposed discharges.

Drainage area ratio equations (pp. 57, 62-63)

Currently: The exponent on the drainage area ratio is 1.0.

Proposed: The exponent on the drainage area ratio is 0.89, based on a USGS study.

Alternative low flows for spring fed streams (pp. 57-58) (also in rule)

Currently: Aquatic life protection is assessed at 7Q2 flow (except for the San Marcos River). The 7Q2 flow for spring fed streams is less protective (equivalent flow percentile is higher) than for non-spring fed streams.

Proposed: Aquatic life protection for spring fed streams will be assessed using a more protective statistical method (11 classified segments affected).

Human health criteria & intermittent streams (pp. 58, 113, 122) (also in the rule)

Currently: Human health criteria are not applied to intermittent streams.

Proposed: Human health criteria $\times 10$ will be applied to intermittent streams. The Standards include human health criteria for some pollutants that do not have aquatic life criteria. This will enable the TCEQ to screen for these additional pollutants in intermittent streams.

Dechlorination for some facilities with flow < 1 MGD (p. 114)

Currently: Permits for flow phases ≥ 1 MGD require dechlorination or other disinfection.

Proposed: Dechlorination or another form of disinfection will also be required for flows of 0.5 MGD up to 1 MGD in new permits and amendments to increase flow.

Aluminum limits for storm water (pp. 144-145)

Currently: No procedures in place to account for naturally occurring aluminum in storm water.

Proposed: Procedures for evaluating the need for a permit limit on aluminum in storm water.

Permit limit calculations for fish tissue-based criteria (pp. 145-146)

Currently: The Standards do not include fish tissue-based criteria.

Proposed: The revised Standards propose fish tissue-based criteria for some bioaccumulative pollutants; this new IP section explains how to translate these criteria into permit limits.

Chloride and sulfate screening in intermittent streams (p. 157)

Currently: No specific procedure for screening intermittent streams for chloride or sulfate.

Proposed: Specific procedure added for screening intermittent streams for chloride or sulfate.

Recreational use attainability analyses (pp. 184-186)

Currently: No procedures in the IP for conducting recreational UAAs.

Proposed: General information and a summary of UAA procedures for typical sites included. Full explanation of procedures found in another document, which is referenced.

Endangered species table (App. B, pp. 197-202)

Updated information on endangered species.

Critical flows for classified segments (App. C, pp. 205-215)

Currently: Critical flow table in App. B of the rule. Data values used only through 1996.

Proposed: Critical flow table in App. C of the IP. Flow values updated to include data through 2006 and some through 2007.

Ambient values of TSS, pH, etc. for classified segments (App. D, pp. 217-244)

Updated to include data through 2006.

MALs (p. 152, & App. E, pp. 245-267)

Updated to be consistent with published EPA methods. Language added (p. 152) to allow permittees to request a test method with a less sensitive MAL as long as it is sufficient to verify compliance with their effluent limits.

Nutrient screening values for classified segments (App. F, pp. 269-277)

New tables containing values to be used when screening proposed discharges for nutrient impacts to water bodies.