NOTICE OF TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD ADDENDUM DOCUMENT: AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (SD DANR) is announcing the availability of the following Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) addendum for review and comment.

ESCHERICHIA COLI (E. coli) ADDENDUM TO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL) FOR RAPID CREEK SEGMENT 03, PENNINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA

Public involvement is a required component of TMDL development in accordance with section 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act.

SD DANR adopted *E. coli* criteria to protect waters designated recreation uses (Administrative Rule 74:51:01: 50:51). *E. coli* replaced fecal coliform as the primary bacteria indicator. The 2022 South Dakota Integrated Report for Surface Water Quality Assessment identified Rapid Creek segment 03 (**SD-CH-R-RAPID_03**) as not supporting the designated immersion recreation use due to increased levels of *E. coli* bacteria. As a result, this segment was placed on the 303(d) list of impaired waterbodies and requires a TMDL for *E. coli*. A Fecal coliform TMDL was approved by the US EPA for Rapid Creek-Segment 03 in 2010 (TMDL ID# 39426).

E. coli is a fecal coliform bacteria and both indicators originate from common sources in relatively consistent proportions. The similarity in both bacteria provide an avenue to convert the existing fecal coliform TMDL and allocations to *E. coli*. This draft TMDL intends to convert the existing fecal coliform TMDL to *E. coli* to address the bacteria impairment using an addendum process. The TMDL establishes the *E. coli* loading required to bring the waterbodies into compliance with applicable water quality criteria. The *E. coli* TMDL and allocations follow the assumptions established in the 2010 fecal coliform TMDL.

The *E. coli* TMDL addendum document is available on DANR's Public Notice page under Watershed Projects (Total Maximum Daily Load) at the following weblink: https://danr.sd.gov/public/default.aspx. Persons are encouraged to access the document and submit comments electronically through the Public Notice page by using the online comment form accessible via the "Comment Deadline" link. A copy of the TMDL addendum document may also be requested by calling (605) 773-3623, emailing DANRMail@state.sd.us, or by mail at the address below. Comments can be submitted via email or by writing to the respective addresses. The department must receive comments by April 10, 2024.

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