Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Water Quality Bureau

DRAFT 2002 LIST OF IMPAIRED WATERS AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 303(d) OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT

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Attached is the draft version of Iowa's 2002 Section 303(d) list. The 303(d) list is a list of waterbodies or waterbody segments that do not meet all state water quality standards. These are considered impaired waterbodies and states are required to calculate total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for pollutants causing impairments.

Under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act, states are required from "time to time" to submit a list of waters for which technology-based effluent limits for point sources such as municipal and industrial wastewater treatment plants will not be sufficient to meet all state water quality standards. States must also establish a priority ranking for the listed waters, taking into account the severity of pollution and uses.

Following a 30-day public comment period, the list will be finalized and submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to meet an October 2002 deadline for submittal. U.S. EPA must either approve or disapprove the list and if disapproved, U.S. EPA must promulgate the list.

Although current U.S. EPA rules require submittal of 303(d) lists every two years, states were not required to submit a 2000 list due to uncertainty over proposed new U.S. EPA 303(d) rules (those rules were later withdrawn, but a new proposal is anticipated later this year). Iowa's previous list, the 1998 list, contained 157 waterbodies with a total of 220 impairments. A comparison of the 1998 and 2002 lists is presented below.

	Final 1998 List	**DRAFT 2002 List**	**Difference**
Number of waterbodies	157	158	+1
Number of impairments	220	215	-5

Although the number of impaired waterbodies on Iowa's draft 2002 list is similar to the number on the 1998 list, the composition of the 2002 list differs significantly from that of the 1998 list.

- A total of 111 waterbodies or waterbody segments representing 143 impairments on the 1998 list are not on the draft 2002 list.
- A total of 113 waterbodies or waterbody segments representing 139 impairments that were not on the 1998 list are on the draft 2002 list. The addition of these waters is the result of water quality monitoring and assessment activities conducted over the last five years.

Of the 111 waterbodies or waterbody segments removed, 86 of these were added by the U.S. EPA in 1998 when the U.S. EPA partially disapproved Iowa's submitted 303(d) list.

As shown in the following table, nearly one-third (44) of the 143 impairments were removed from the 1998 list due to Iowa's "credible data" law passed by the 2000 General Assembly; specifically, the lack of credible data to justify listing on the 2002 Section 303(d) list.

Reason for Removal of Waterbodies (98 list versus the draft 2002 list) :	No. of Impairments
No credible data to justify listing	44
Best professional judgement	29
New conditions exist showing no impairment	22
Modeling data show no impairment	16
Flaws in analysis used for 1998 listing	15
New water quality data and assessments show no impairment	12
Not enough credible data to justify listing	5
TOTAL	143

The attached table lists the waterbodies that were removed and a brief explanation of the reasons for removal.

Another difference between the 1998 and draft 2002 list is that the 2002 list is a five-part list. The 1998 list lumped all waters together. Following is a brief description of the five parts of the draft 2002 list. For a more detailed explanation of these five parts, please see *Methodology for Developing Iowa s 2002 Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters* prepared by the Iowa DNR Water Quality Bureau.

- **Part One:** waterbodies impaired by one or more pollutants (TMDL required for each pollutant causing impairment).

- **Part Two:** waterbodies impaired by "pollution" such as habitat modifications (TMDLs are not required for these impairments).

- **Part Three:** waterbodies with TMDLs approved by EPA or under development for which water quality standards have not yet been attained.

- **Part Four:** waterbodies that are impaired for which standards will be attained by the date of submission of the next list as a result of implementation of technology-based effluent limitations required by the federal Clean Water Act or other controls enforceable by state law or regulation.

- **Part Five:** biologically impaired waterbodies with no identified cause of impairment (TMDLs may be required if additional information shows the impairment is caused by one or more pollutants).

The Department is also preparing a list of waters in need of follow up investigation. These are waterbodies for which available information suggests there may be an impairment, but more data is needed. These waterbodies lack the "credible data" needed for listing on the 2002 list.