Surface Water Quality in Oklahoma
2024 Integrated Report

OKLAHOMA
Environmental
Quality

Public Meeting

June 4, 2025

AGENDA

- Overview
- Summary of 2024 Report
- Informal Q & A
- Comments On The Record

THE CLEAN WATER ACT
FIRST ADOPTED IN 1972

Clean Water Goals

Wherever attainable,
Fishable/Swimmable water quality
by July 1, 1983

Discharge of pollutants
eliminated by 1985

HOW DO WE GET THERE?

Monitoring

Assessment

Integrated Report

List of Impaired Waters

TMDLs

THE INTEGRATED REPORT

	305(b)	Assessment of ALL waters
	+	
	303(d)	List of impaired waters
=	Integrated Report	Comprehensive water quality report

INTEGRATED REPORT

- Send out request for data every cycle
- Pull data from Water Quality Portal (WQP) online
  - Available at waterqualitydata.us
- All data is considered but is evaluated for quality assurance

INTEGRATED REPORT

- Majority of data are collected by OCC and OWRB
- We also assess data from other sources such as City of OKC, City of Tulsa, USGS, OU Water Survey, DEQ DMR data, and also tribal data
  - Data for the same waterbody from different agencies are combined

INTEGRATED REPORT

- Data assessed using criteria in the water quality standards (OAC 252:730)
  - If a parameter doesn't meet WQS, it is considered impaired, placed on 303(d), and the beneficial use is considered "not supporting"
  - Impaired waterbodies are scheduled for TMDL or alternative (such as ARP)
- Once there is a completed TMDL, the waterbody can be placed in category 4a (technically not on the 303(d) list) but until it is sampled to show that it meets WQS, the beneficial use cannot be changed to fully supporting

INTEGRATED REPORT ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

- Based on Oklahoma's Use Support Assessment Protocol (USAP) in Chapter 740 (OAC 252:740)
- Cooperatively developed with State environmental agencies
- Focused on making consistent, defensible, data-driven assessment decisions

INTEGRATED REPORT ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

- Organized by Beneficial Use
- Uses subdivided for assessment
  - Waterbody type (i.e., lake vs. stream)
  - Pollutant type (i.e., toxicants, biological data, bacteria)
- Beneficial Use
  - Attained – Meets Water Quality Standards
  - Not attained – Impaired by Pollutants

INTEGRATED REPORT CATEGORIES

Category 1: Data show ALL uses are attained

Category 2: Data show SOME uses are attained
Don't know about others

Category 3: Insufficient data to decide about ANY uses

Category 4A: Impaired but TMDL completed

Category 5: Impaired - TMDL needed - **303(d) list**

SUBCATEGORIES FOR CATEGORY 5 WATERS

5A

- TMDL is underway or will be scheduled

5B

- Water Quality Standards will be reviewed before a TMDL is scheduled

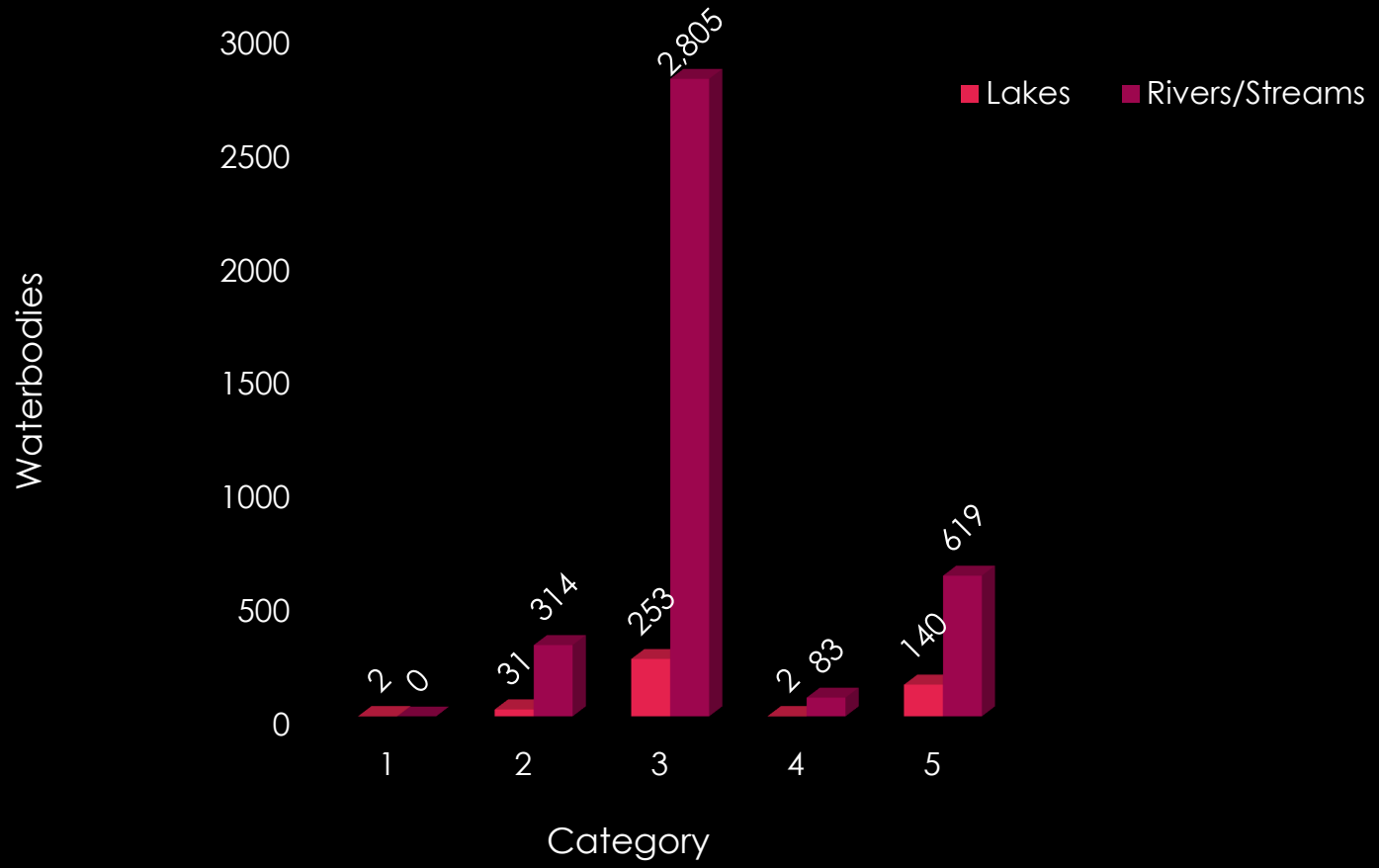
5C

- Additional data and information will be collected before a TMDL or review of the water quality standards is scheduled

TMDLs
TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD

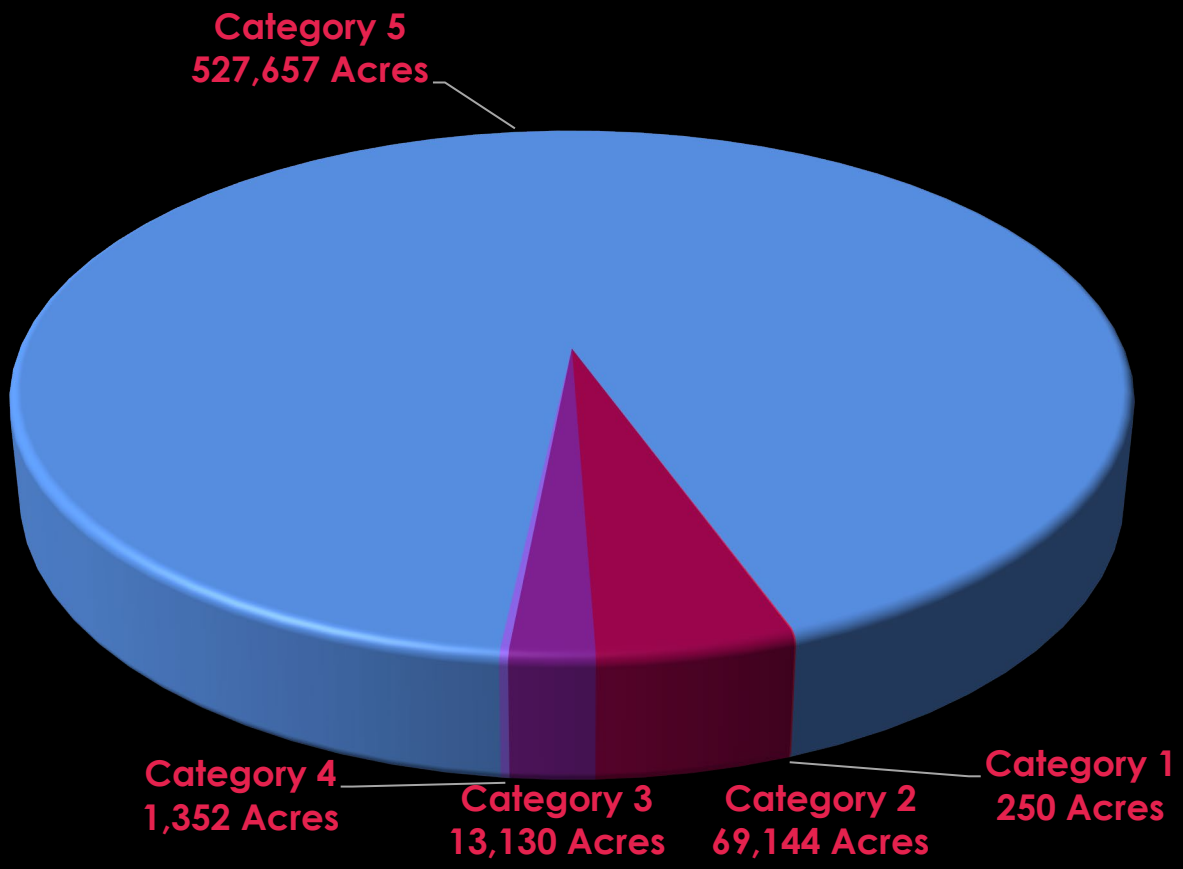
- Amount of a pollutant a waterbody can receive to meet water quality standards
- Allowable pollutant load is allocated to specific Point Sources and Non-point Sources
- Determined through water quality modeling
- Required for all Category 5 waterbodies

Waterbodies by Assigned Category

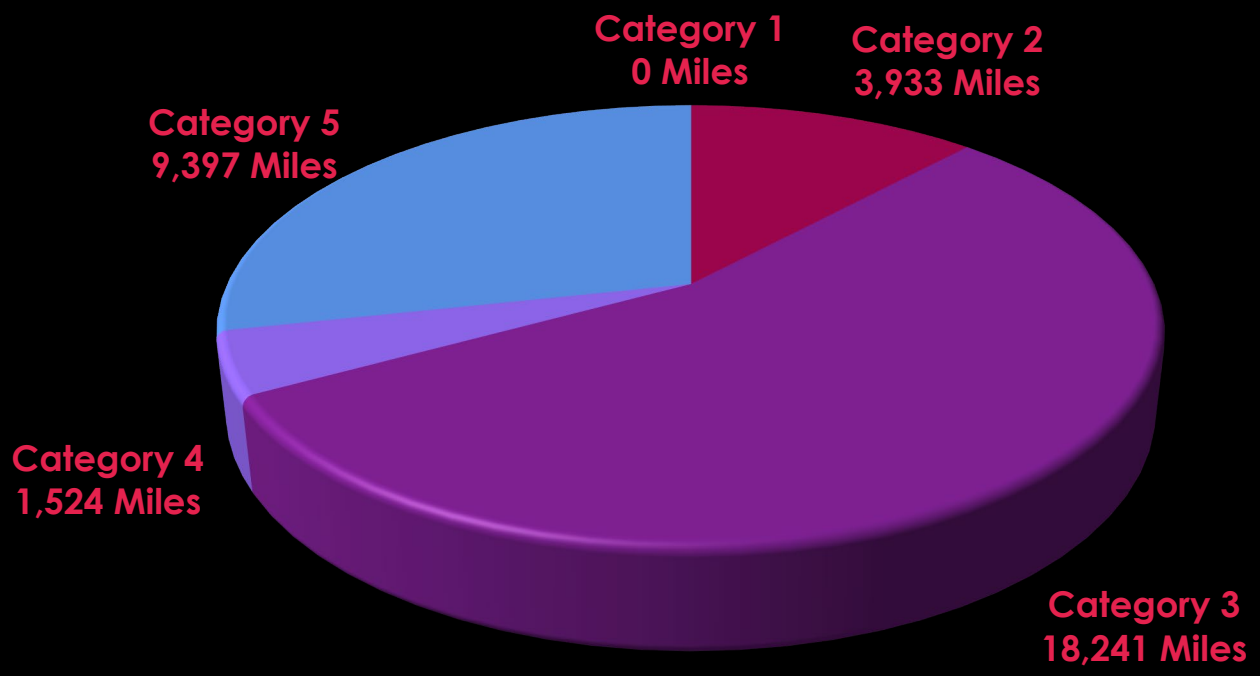


4,249 Total Waterbodies

LAKE ACRES BY CATEGORY

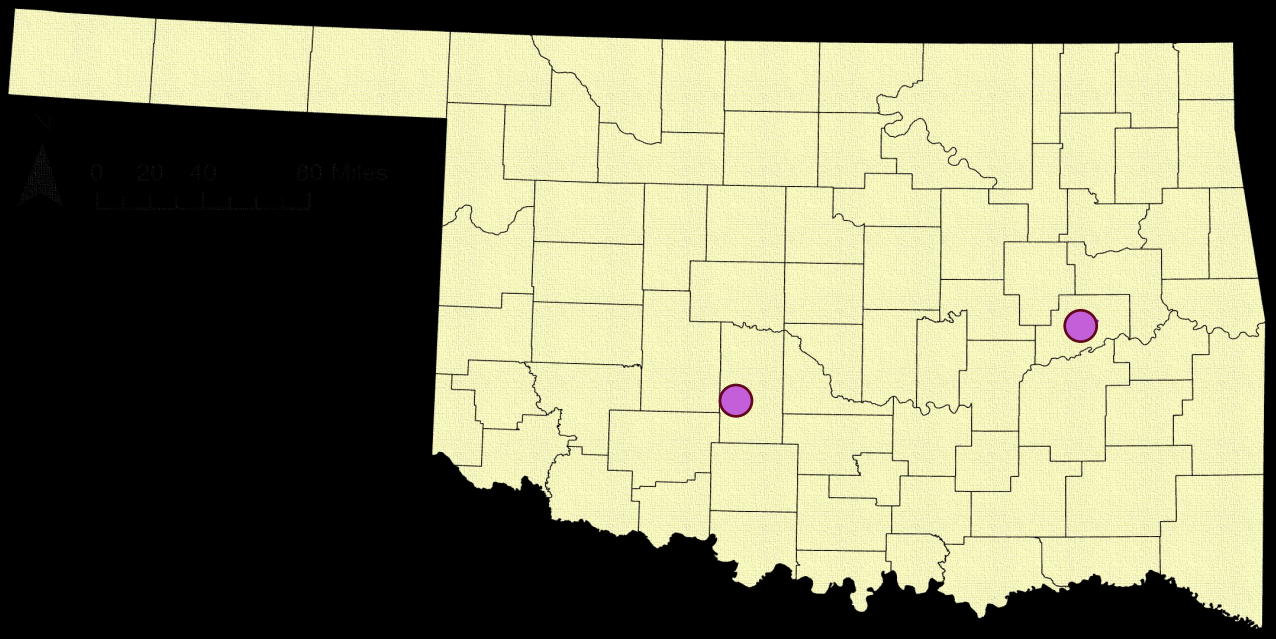


STREAM MILES BY CATEGORY



2024 DRAFT

CATEGORY 1 WATERS

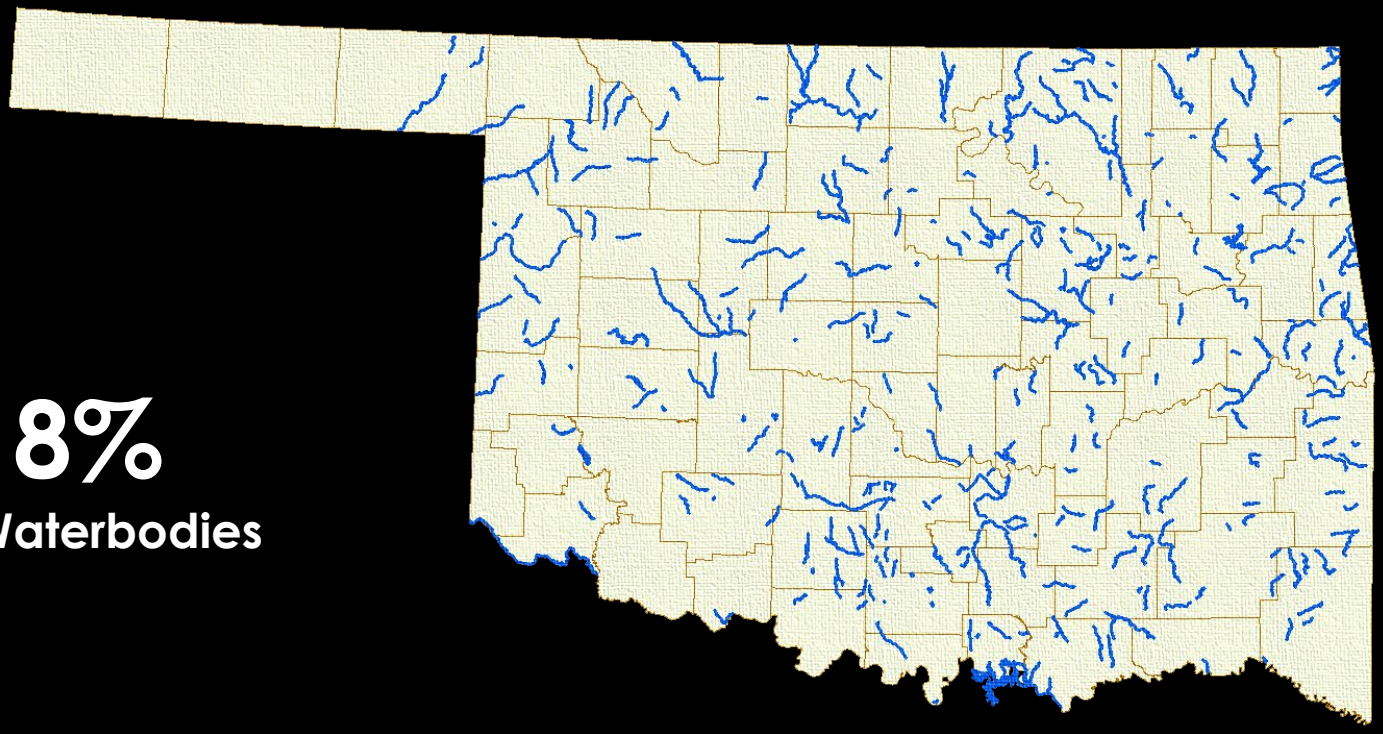


2 Lakes

Attaining All Designated Uses

2024 DRAFT

CATEGORY 2 WATERS



8%

of Waterbodies

Attaining Some Uses – No Impaired Uses

2024 DRAFT

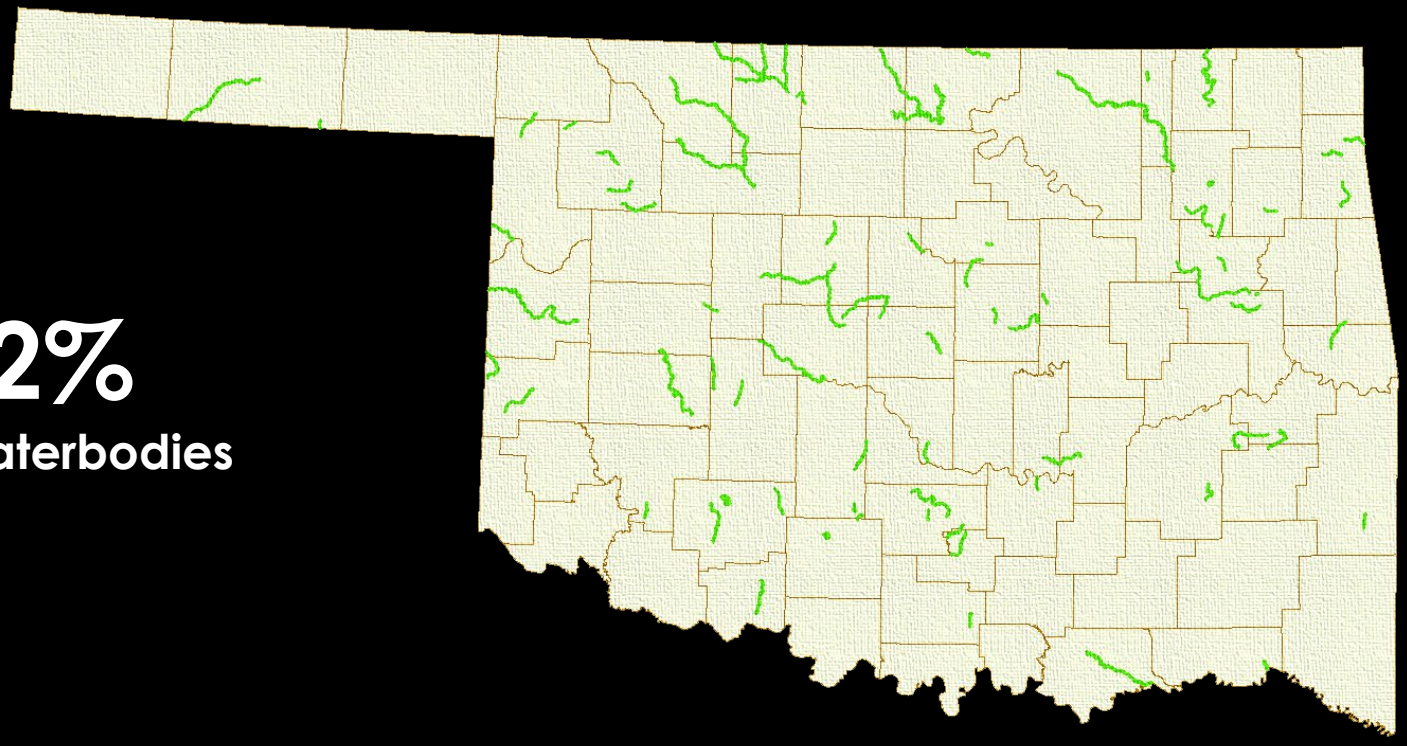
CATEGORY 3 WATERS

72%
of Waterbodies

Insufficient Information to determine use support

2024 DRAFT

CATEGORY 4A WATERS

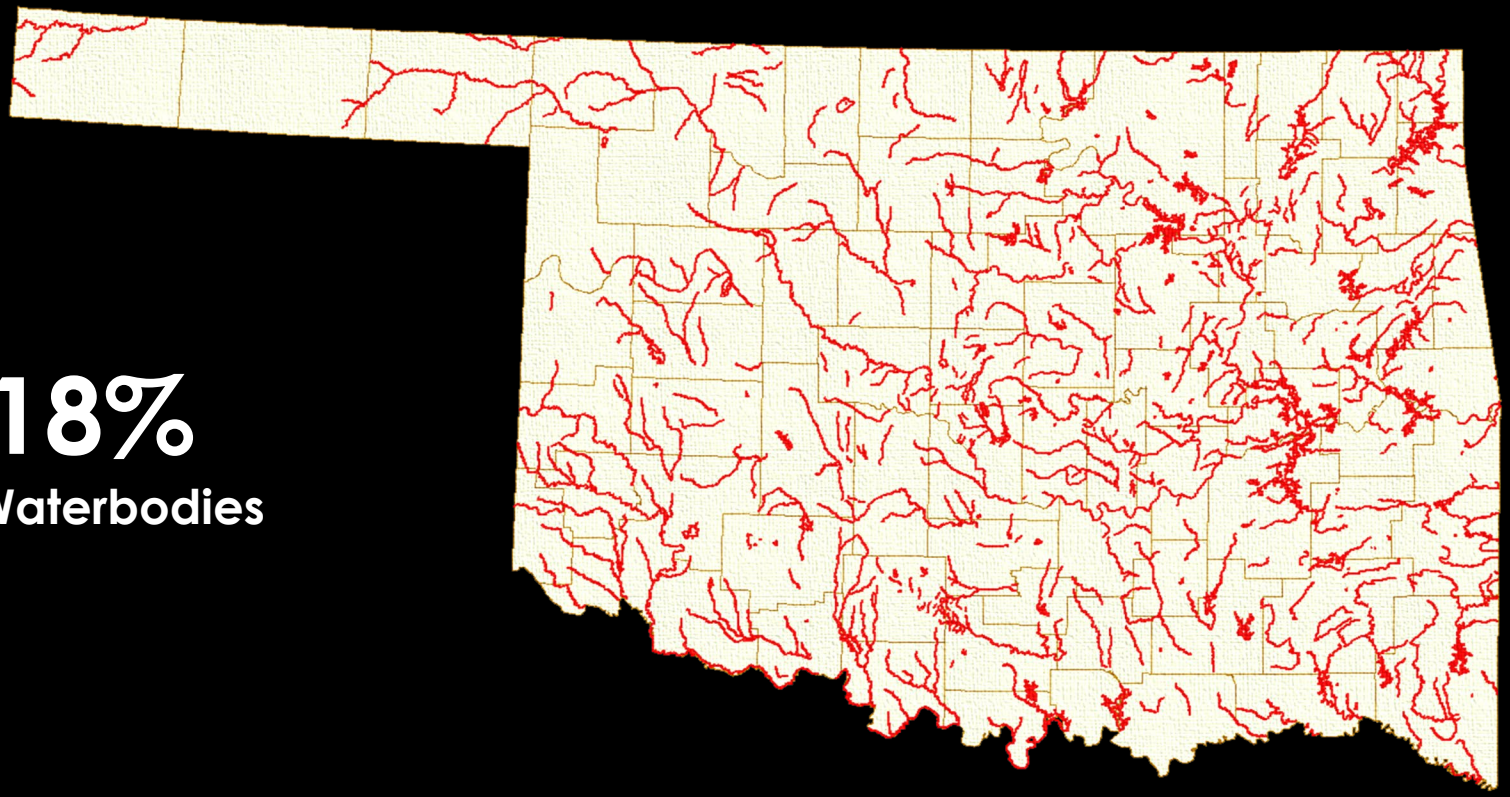


2%
of Waterbodies

TMDL Completed

2024 DRAFT

CATEGORY 5 WATERS



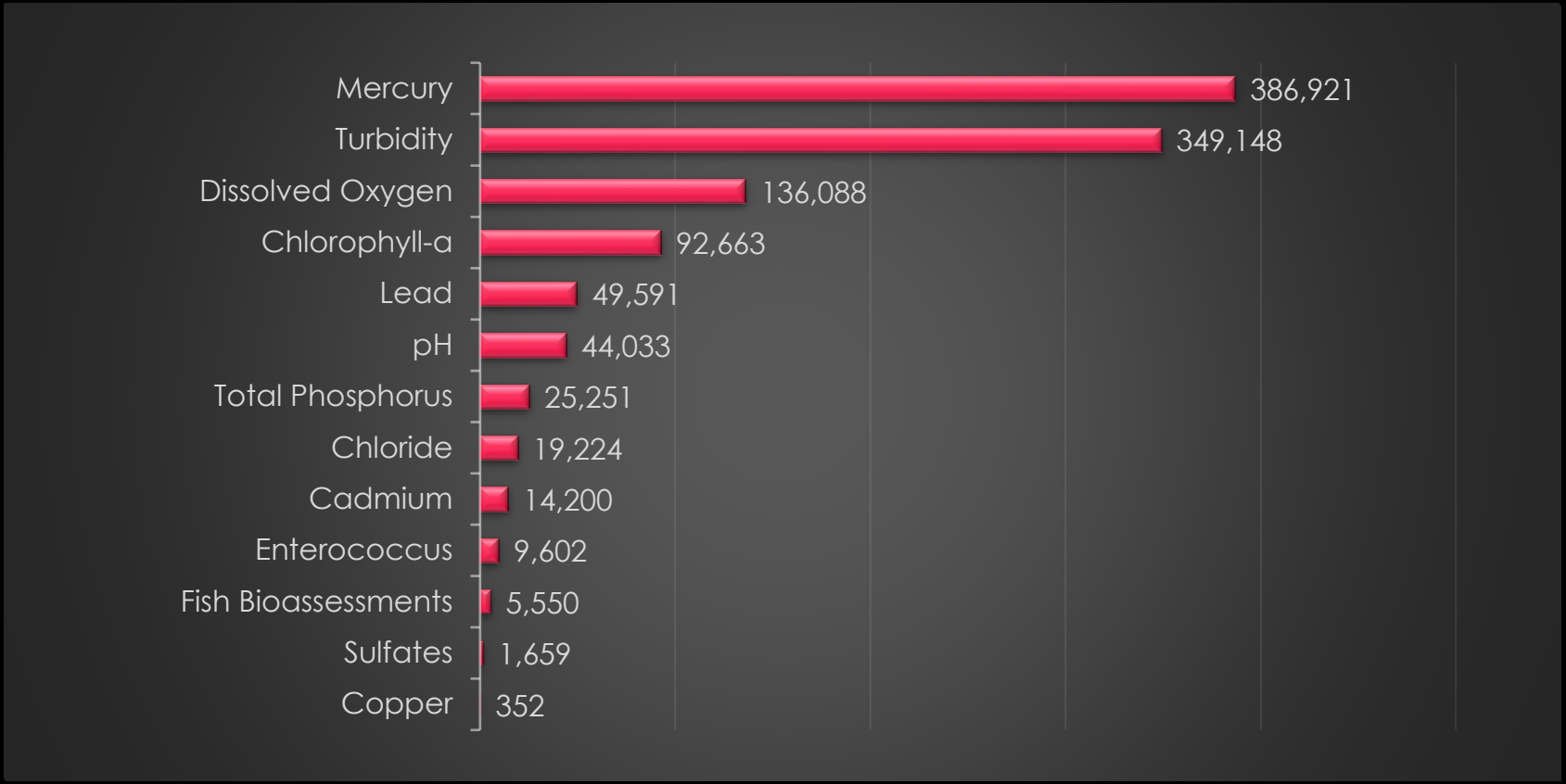
18%
of Waterbodies

Impaired Waterbodies

USE SUPPORT - LAKES

Use	Total Size (Acres)	Fully Supporting	Not Supporting	Not Assessed	Insufficient Info
Aesthetics	621,049	73%	6%	2%	19%
Agriculture	611,909	93%	3%	2%	2%
Fish Consumption	621,049	10%	68%	2%	20%
Warm Water Aquatic Community	621,049	5%	73%	2%	20%
Primary Body Contact Recreation	621,049	49%	2%	2%	47%
Public and Private Water Supply	570,402	11%	15%	<1%	73%

IMPAIRMENT SUMMARY IN LAKE ACRES

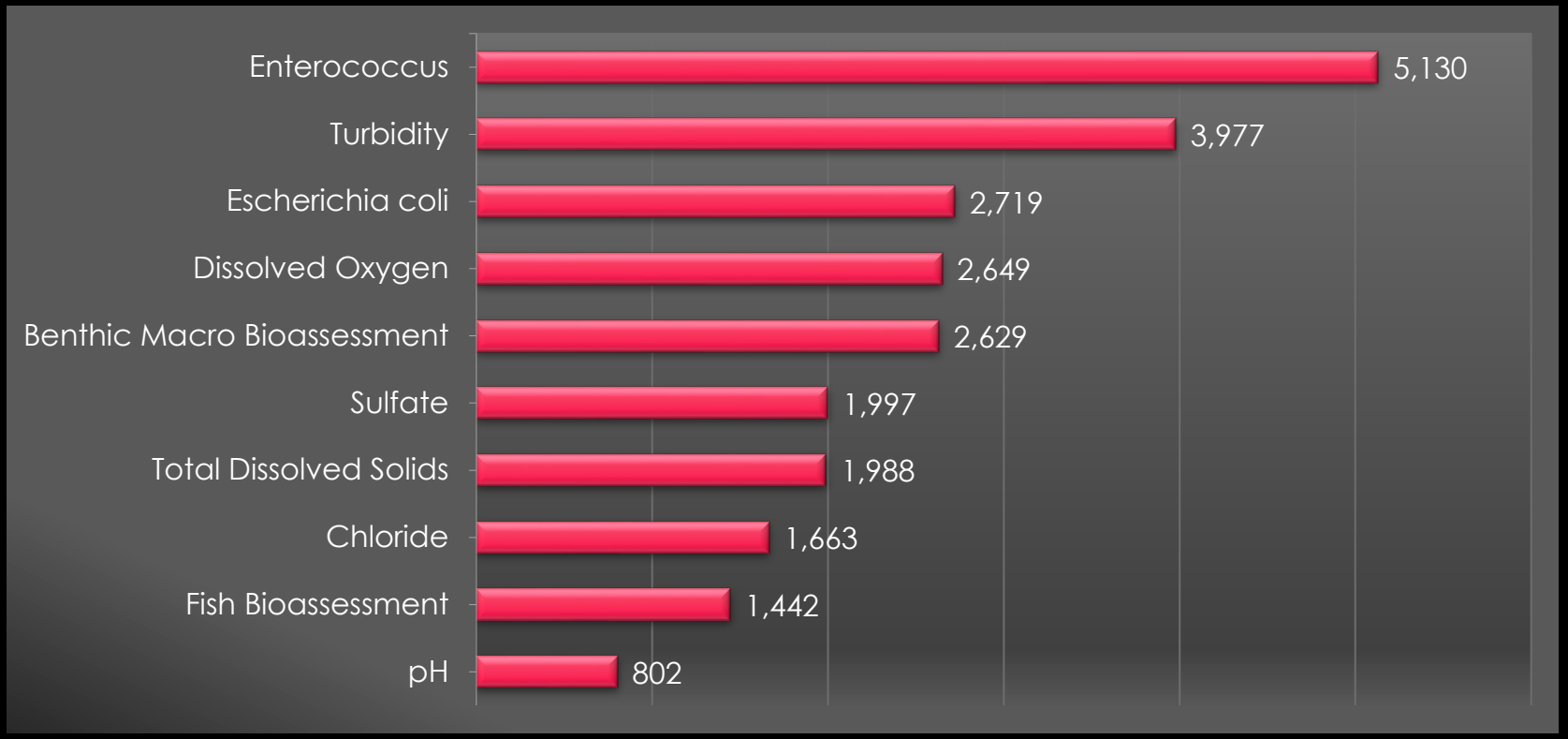


USE SUPPORT – RIVERS/STREAMS

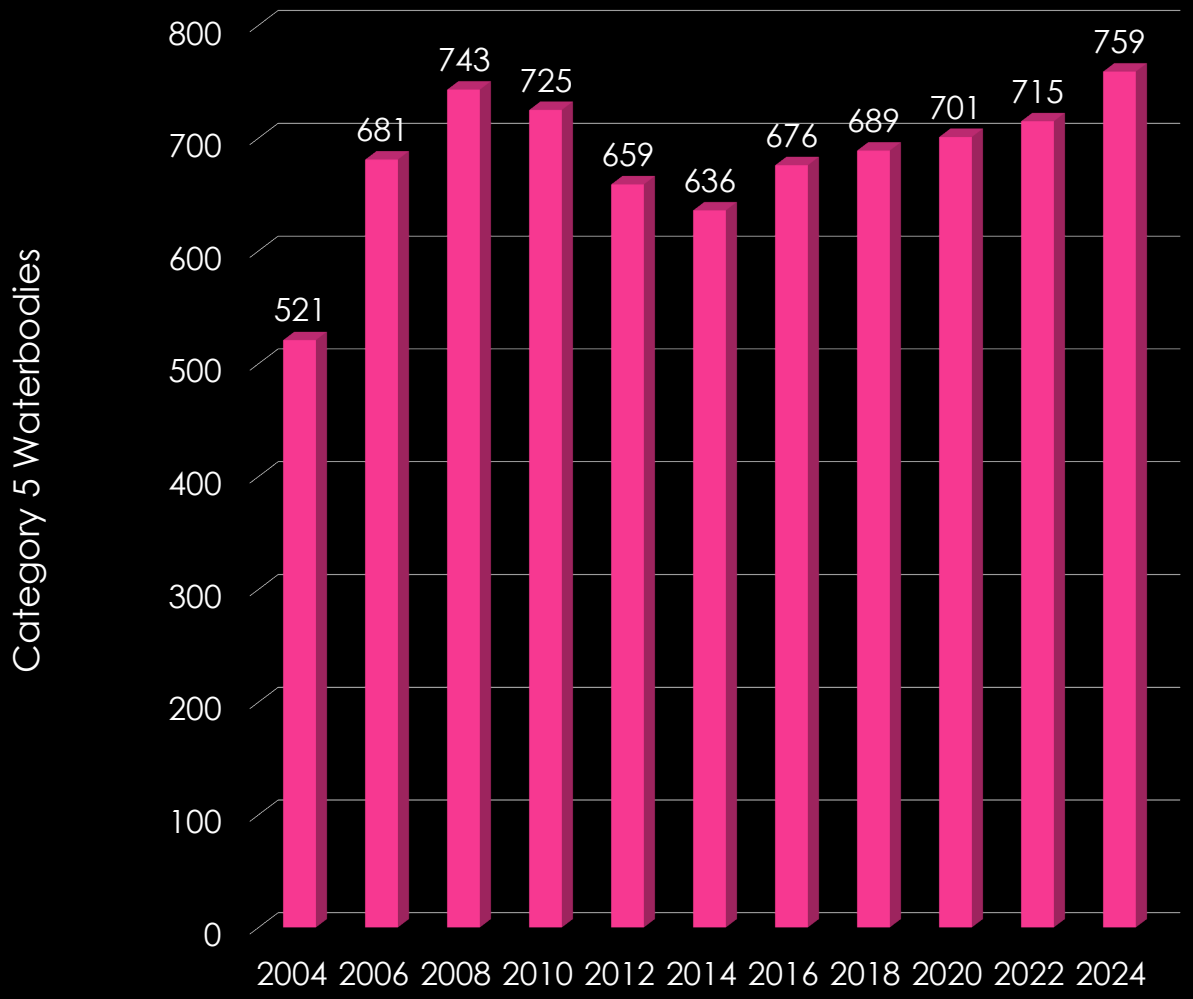
USE	Total Size (Miles)	Fully Supporting	Not Supporting	Not Assessed	Insufficient Info
Aesthetics	33,068	27%	1%	53%	20%
Agriculture	32,998	26%	10%	54%	10%
Fish Consumption	32,998	9%	1%	87%	3%
Cool Water Aquatic Comm.	1,621	24%	37%	26%	12%
Habitat Limited Aquatic Comm.	890	6%	25%	61%	8%
Trout Fishery	34	<1%	31%	69%	<1%
Warm Water Aquatic Comm.	30,550	9%	24%	49%	18%
Primary Body Contact Rec.	31,855	13%	18%	65%	4%
Public & Private Water Supply	14,791	11%	2%	37%	49%
Secondary Body Contact Rec.	1,240	30%	1%	64%	5%

IMPAIRMENT SUMMARY IN STREAM MILES

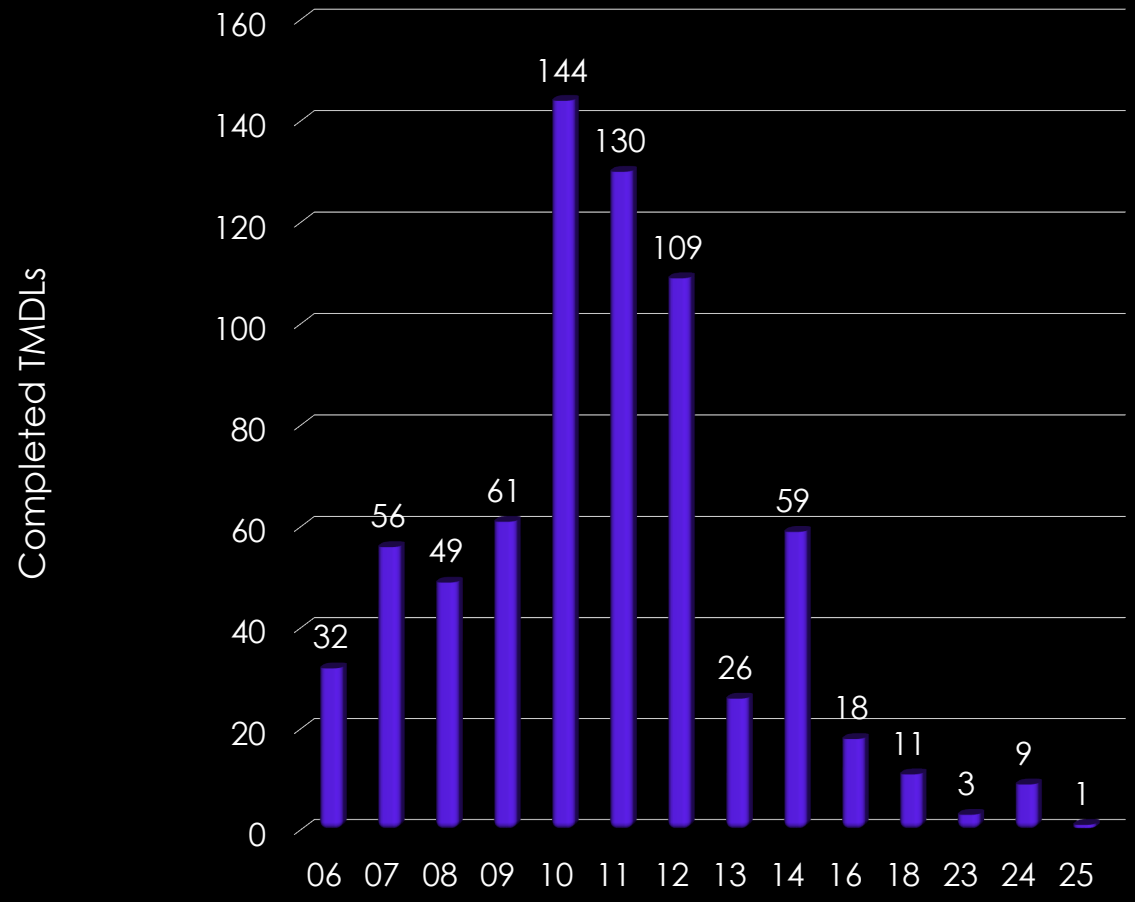
Top 10 Parameters



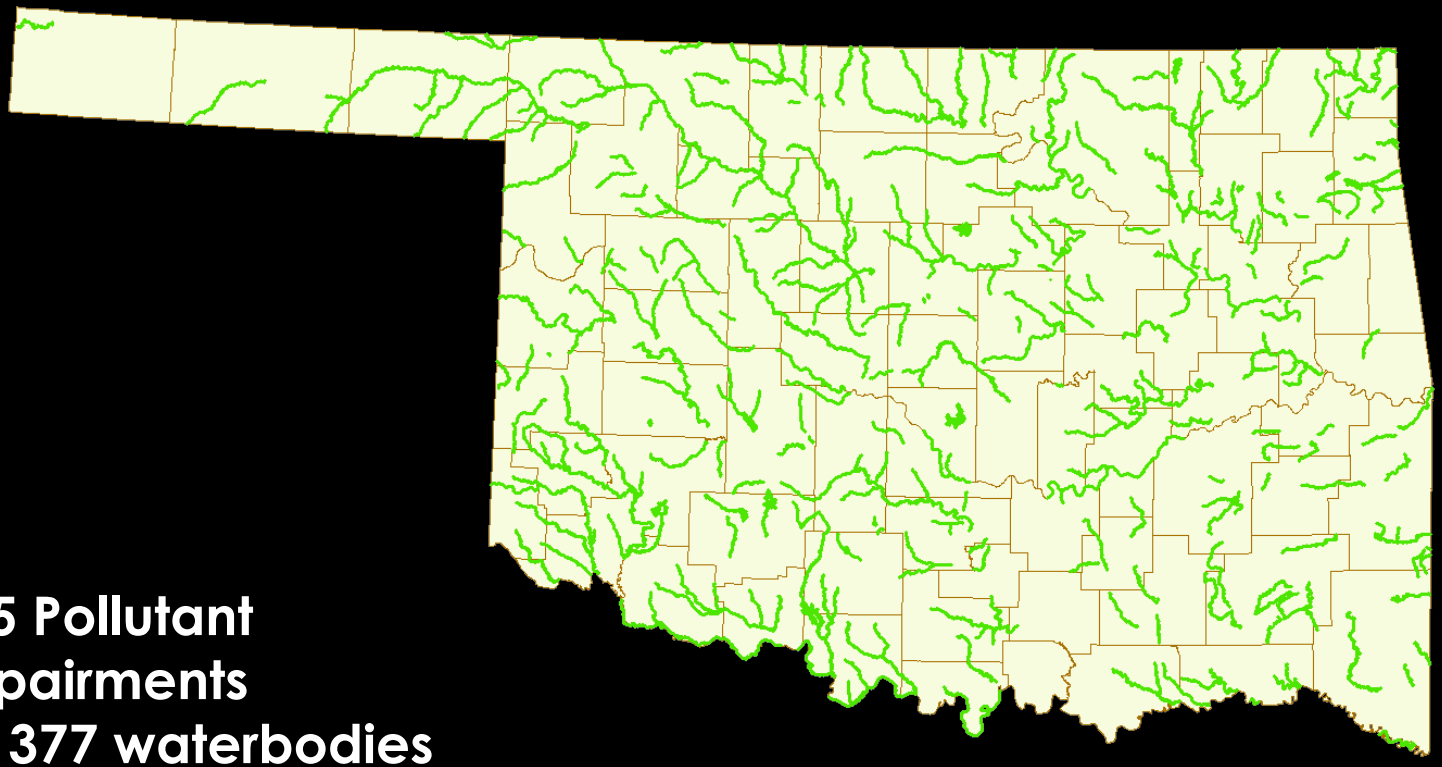
2004-2022 Category 5 303(d) List Comparison



Completed TMDLs



Waterbodies with Completed TMDLs



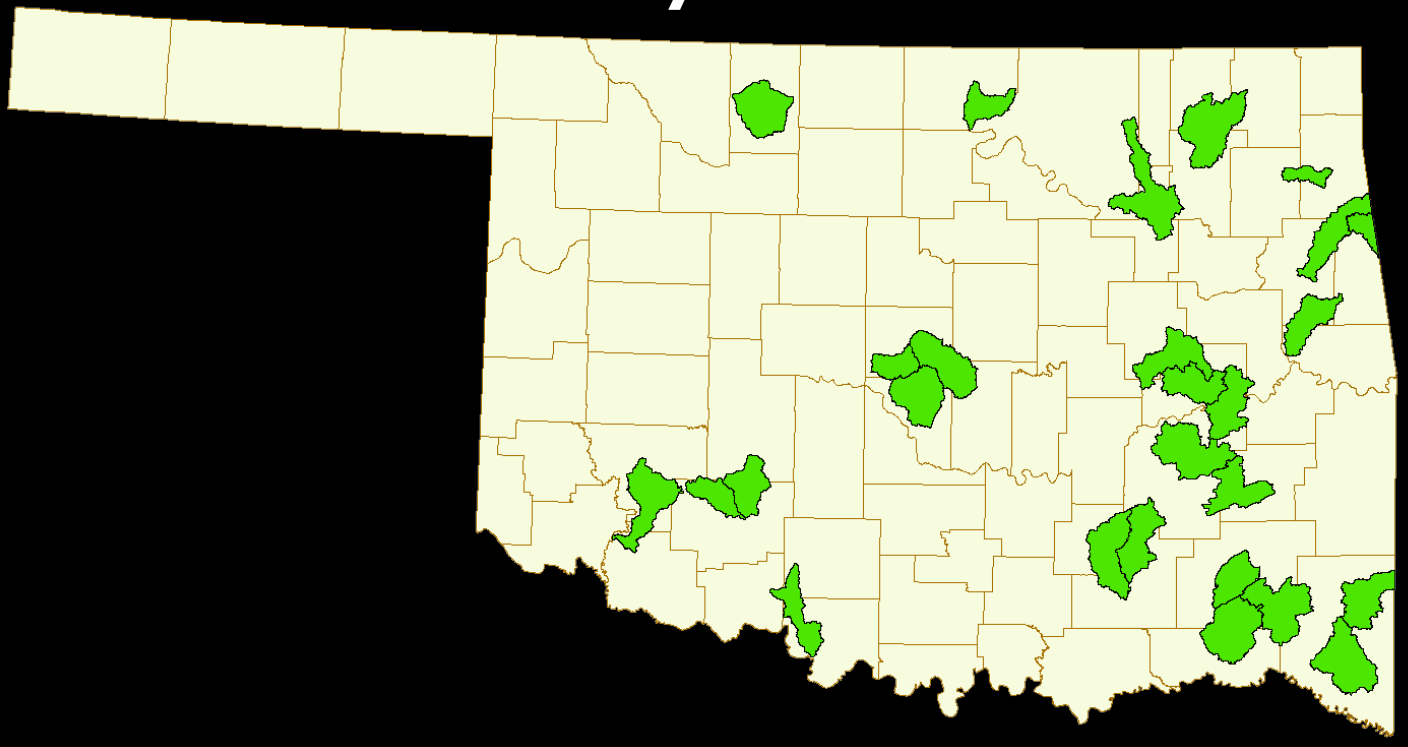
715 Pollutant Impairments on 377 waterbodies removed from 303(d) List through TMDLs (2006-present)

TMDL Watershed Prioritization

By Hydrologic Unit

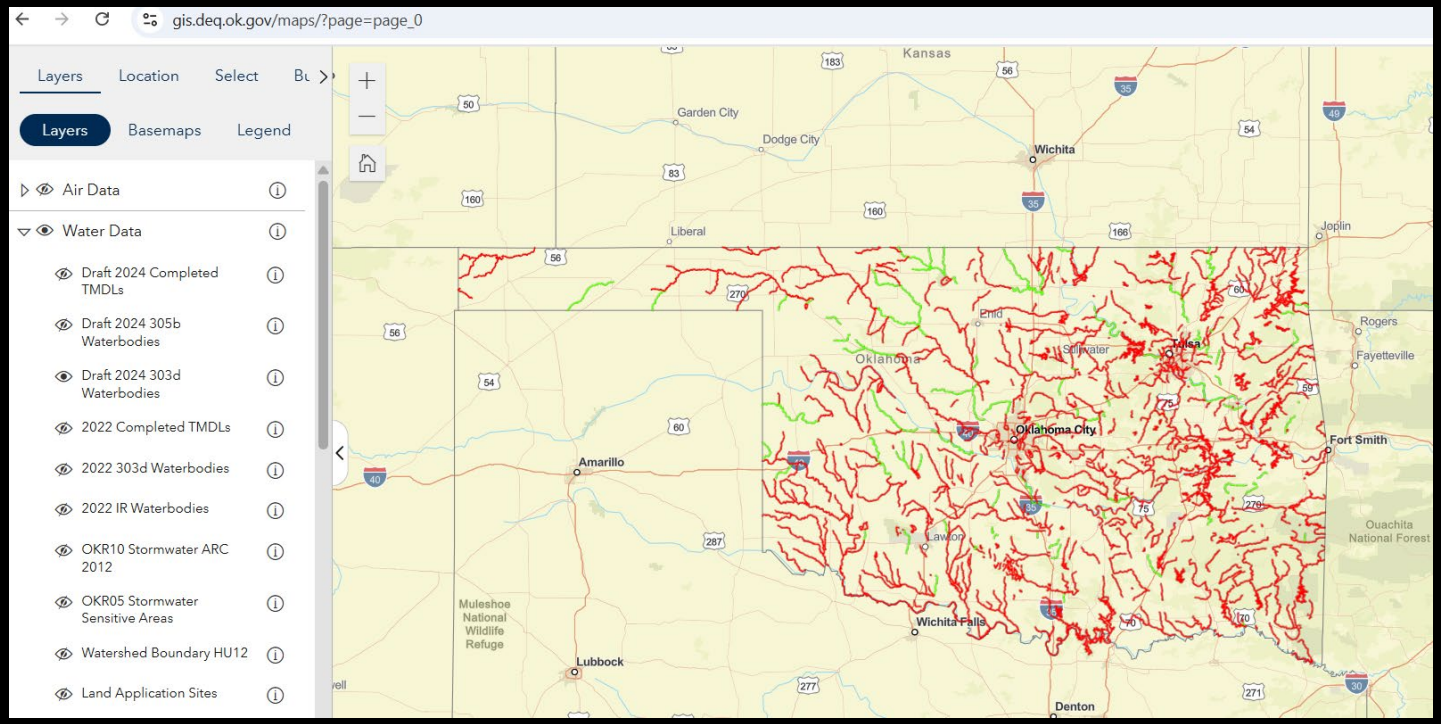
- **Factors**
  - Percent of Watershed Impaired
  - Pollutant Priority Score
  - High Quality Waters
  - Public Water Supplies
  - Threatened & Endangered Species
  - Recreational or Ecological Significance
- **Priority Ranking**
  - Ranked by point total
  - 4 priority categories

2024 Draft
TMDL Priority 1 Watersheds



Priority 1 Watersheds targeted for TMDL within next 2 years

Integrated Report Maps



GIS Layers Available

2024 Draft Integrated Report Waterbodies
2024 Draft 303(d) Waterbodies
2024 Completed TMDLS

gis.deq.ok.gov/maps

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Check the DEQ Website!

https://www.deq.ok.gov/water-quality-division/watershed-planning/integrated-report/

Questions:

Nicole Newcomer (405-702–8290)

How To Provide Comments

May 9, 2025 Public Notice

30 Day Comment Period ends

COB – June 11, 2025

Mail To:
Nicole Newcomer
Water Quality Division
Oklahoma DEQ
P.O. Box 1677
Oklahoma City, OK 73101-1677

Email To:
Water.Comments@deq.ok.gov

What Happens Next ?

- Review and Evaluate All Comments
- Prepare Responsiveness Summary & Final Draft
- Submit to EPA

<u>EPA Options</u>

- Approve
- Disapprove & Promulgate