**Recategorization of waterbodies on the 2018** [**Impaired Waters List**](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/water/water-types-and-programs/minnesotas-impaired-waters-and-tmdls/impaired-waters-list.html)

***2016 Call for Recategorization Candidates***

For Basin Coordinators, Impaired Waters Coordinators and PCA Water Quality Project Managers

**Submitting candidates for recategorization is a 2-step process**

**STEP 1**

**For each candidate fill out 1-7 below and send the form to** [**Miranda Nichols**](mailto:miranda.nichols@state.mn.us) **by December 1, 2015.**

1. AUID (Assessment Unit ID#) or Lake ID# 41-0089-00
2. Reach name / description: Lake Shaokotan
3. Pollutant / Impairment: nutrients
4. Year first listed: 2007
5. Reason for recategorization (pick A, B, C or D from below): A
   * For delisting recategorizations, is the waterbody now meeting water quality standards specifically because of *action in the watershed*?: Yes
     + If yes, briefly describe the action taken:
6. Staff contact: Steve Heiskary
7. Brief summary of reasons for requesting a listing change review: Lake Shaokotan was listed in 2007 and has Clean Water Partnership studies and implementation, TMDL development and implementation, and as a Sentinel Lake, it has had extensive monitoring in 2008, 2013, 2014, and 2015. In addition, its primary inflow and surficial groundwater have been monitored as well in 2014. Numerous best management practices have been implemented over the years. Among the most important was addressing feedlot runoff issues, retirement of highly erodible land, and wetland creation. 2014 inflow phosphorus was 20-170 ppb as compared to concentrations of 100-400 during CWP monitoring. In-lake TP declined to 75 ppb in 2013 and in 2014 and 2015 averaged 39 ppb based on 8 samples. Chlorophyll-a averaged 10.2 ppb based on 8 samples for 2014 and 2015. Secchi averaged 1.8 m based on 13 samples for 2014 and 2015. Over this same two-year period, we have noted a shift from an algal-dominated lake to a plant-dominated lake, which is consistent with expectations for a shallow lake. The applicable WQS are TP 90 ppb, Chl-a 30 ppb and Secchi 0.7 m. Assessment data from 2014 and 2015 now meet all applicable nutrient WQS.

Note that any approved recategorization requests will be reflected in the 2018 Impaired Waters List. First priority will be given to candidates in these watersheds:

|  |
| --- |
| * **Clearwater River** |
| * **East Fork Des Moines River** |
| * **Lower Des Moines River** |
| * **Lower Minnesota River** |
| * **Rainy River – Headwaters** |
| * **Red River of the North – Marsh River** |
| * **Upper/Lower Red Lake** |

We are also looking for candidates on the **Minnesota River from the headwaters to the Mississippi River**.

Here are the three main reasons for recategorization, besides EPA approval of a TMDL plan:

1. **Delisting**: If, during subsequent monitoring or the development of the TMDL study, new and reliable data or information indicates that the waterbody is no longer impaired and is meeting water quality standards, such a waterbody can be delisted before a TMDL plan was completed.
2. **Category 4C**: If the sources of impairment are determined to be not caused by a pollutant they may be moved to Category 4C.
3. **Category 4D**: If the sources of impairment are determined to be due to natural conditions they may be moved to Category 4D.
4. **Correction**: If it is determined that a reach was placed on the List in error.

Please refer to the [**Guidance Manual for Assessing the Quality of Minnesota Surface Waters**](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/view-document.html?gid=16988)**, Section X, Removal of Waterbodies from the 303(d) List** for more information.

**STEP 2**

**Depending on your reason for recategorization, submit the following information to** [**Miranda Nichols**](mailto:miranda.nichols@state.mn.us) **by February 1, 2016.**

* **Delisting**:
* Confirmation that all data have been entered into EQuIS, reviewed and finalized
  + Original listing data (summary of #obs/exceedances or description, and list of stations with EQuIS Location IDs)
  + New data collected under similar or critical conditions (identified from original listing data)
* Flow data from USGS, Hydstra, or other sources
* Continuous monitoring data that has entered into Hydstra, reviewed and corrected
* Other data (examples include NPDES monitoring and weather records)
* Point source data and information (if applicable) such as NPDES permits, ISTS, feedlots, etc.
* Documented changes or actions in watershed that might explain change to impairment status
* **IBI Fish and Invertebrates:** Delistings and Corrections [Form](file:///\\x1600\xdrive\Agency_Files\Water\303D%20List\Recategorization\Delisting\Biological%20Delistings-Corrections%20Guidance.doc)
* **Category 4C:** Review Request [Form](file:///\\x1600\xdrive\Agency_Files\Water\303D%20List\Recategorization\4C%20NonPollutant\CALM%20Category%204c%20Review%20Guidance_Rev1.docx)
* **Category 4D - Streams:** Natural Background Review Request [Form](file:///X:\Agency_Files\Water\303D%20List\Recategorization\4D%20Natural%20Background\Streams\Natural%20Background%20Guidance_Revision_2011\Natural%20background%20guidance_revision_2011C.docx)
* **Category 4D - Lakes:** Natural Background Review Request [Form](file:///X:\Agency_Files\Water\303D%20List\Recategorization\4D%20Natural%20Background\Lakes\Natural%20background%20for%20lakes%20guidance.docx)

**Recategorization reviews**

Once Steps 1 and 2 are complete, your request with be reviewed by a member of the Assessment Consistency and Technical Team. They will contact you if they have questions or need more information. You’ll be notified when the decision is made to approve or deny your request, and documentation about the decision will be shared.

**See previous recategorization decisions:**

Category 4D [Natural](file:///X:\Agency_Files\Water\303D%20List\Recategorization\4D%20Natural%20Background\NaturalBackgroundDecisions%20AllYears%20Summary.xlsx) Background Decisions

Summary of 2013 Delisting reviews and decisions: [Delisting Guidance Outline](file:///X:\Agency_Files\Water\303D%20List\Recategorization\Delisting\DelistingGuidanceOutline_2013.docx)

Examples of recent Delisting [Reviews](file:///X:\Agency_Files\Water\303D%20List\Recategorization\Delisting) (check folder by year)