

Meeting:	Final Public Meeting: Restore water quality in Bull Creek in Buchanan County and the South fork of Pound in Wise County, Virginia
Date of meeting:	March 08, 2011
Time of meeting:	7 – 9 p.m.
Location:	Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy’s Buchanan Smith Building, 3405 Mountain Empire Road, Big Stone Gap, Virginia
Agenda to be provided:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Minutes to be taken:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

 The location is accessible to the handicapped.

Special accommodations for the disabled will be made available at the public meeting or hearing on request. Anyone needing special accommodations should contact the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy at least seven days prior to the meeting or hearing date.

Details:

Final public meeting to seek public comment on a water quality improvement study by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Mines Minerals and Energy and the Department of Conservation and Recreation for Bull Creek and SF Pound River in Southwest Virginia

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: DEQ and DMME has been working to identify sources of pollutants affecting the aquatic organisms in the waters of Bull Creek and SF Pound River.

Bull Creek is in Buchanan County and flows along Route 609 to Levisa Fork downstream of Grundy, Virginia. The “impaired” stream segments are estimated to be approximately 16.9 miles including Bull Creek, from the headwaters to the confluence with Levisa Fork, and all tributaries; Belcher Branch, Deel Fork, Burnt Poplar Branch, Big Branch, Starr Branch, Jess Fork, and Convict Hollow. The stream is impaired for failing to meet the *Aquatic Life Use* based on violations of the general standard for aquatic organisms. During the study, the pollutants impairing the aquatic community will be identified and total maximum daily loads, or TMDLs, developed for the impaired waters. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, contamination levels must be reduced to the TMDL amount.

The South Fork of the Pound River flows along Route 671 and confluences with the North Fork of the Pound River. The impaired segments are approximately 7.64 miles.

HOW A DECISION IS MADE: The development of a TMDL includes public meetings and a public comment period once the study report is drafted. After public comments have been considered and addressed, DEQ will submit the TMDL report to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for approval.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. Written comments should include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ before the end of the comment period, March 30, 2010. DEQ also accepts written and oral comments at the public meeting announced in this notice.

DMME-NM-1
7/17/09

TO REVIEW DRAFT TMDL REPORT: The draft TMDL report on the impaired waters is available after February 1, 2011 from the contact below or on the DEQ web site at www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl.

Person to contact for additional information:	
Name:	Allen Newman
Title:	Regional TMDL Coordinator
Address:	Virginia Department of Environmental Quality-Southwest Regional Office, 355 Deadmore Street, P. O. Box 1688, Abingdon, Virginia, 24212-1688
Telephone:	276-676-4845
Fax:	276-676-4899
Telecommunications number for the hearing impaired:	Call the Virginia Relay Center at 800-828-1120.
E-Mail:	sdwilliams@deq.virginia.gov
Agency Homepage:	www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl