



For Immediate Release:
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LDEQ's 2020 Water Quality Integrated Report now available

BATON ROUGE – The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality's (LDEQ) 2020 Louisiana Water Quality Integrated Report (IR) is now available and can be viewed on the agency's website or on a new smartphone application (app). The Louisiana Water Quality IR is the current format for the state's biennial reports on the water quality of Louisiana surface waters. The IR, formerly known separately as the 305(b) Report and the 303(d) List, is a requirement of the federal Clean Water Act.

It is developed every even-numbered year and submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval of the 303(d) List portion of the report. The 2020 report, the most recent Water Quality IR, is now final and approved by the EPA as of Feb. 22, 2021. The full report, including text, assessments and appendices, can be viewed at <https://www.deq.louisiana.gov/page/2020-water-quality-inventory-integrated-report-305b303d>.

LDEQ is also offering the report data in an interactive map format online at <https://ldeq.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=8186b44f9a30453483fedd0df4bad9fa> or via a new app. The new app for smartphones was released March 23 and is available through Google Play and the Apple Store by entering the search term: "LA Water Quality" or looking at State of Louisiana apps. You can also find it at <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=gov.la.deq.irmap>.

"Every Water Quality Integrated Report is a large team effort for LDEQ, both in the field and in our Baton Rouge headquarters. A great deal of credit goes to the field staff in LDEQ's Surveillance Division, who diligently collect the ambient water quality monitoring data every month. It is this data that forms the basis of every IR," said Al Hindrichs, an LDEQ Senior Environmental Scientist in the Water Planning and Assessment Division (WPAD).

Louisiana has over 126,000 miles of rivers and streams, 1,486,650 acres (2,323 square miles) of lakes and reservoirs, 9,602,730 acres (15,004 square miles) of woody and emergent/herbaceous wetlands and 3,203,200 acres (5,005 square miles) of estuaries. It is the responsibility of the LDEQ to protect the chemical, physical, biological and aesthetic integrity of the water resources and aquatic environment of Louisiana. This responsibility is addressed through the use of public education, scientific endeavors, water quality management, wastewater permitting and inspections, and regulatory enforcement in order to provide the citizens of Louisiana with clean and healthy water now and in the future. The 2020 Integrated Report documents LDEQ's progress toward meeting that goal.

For more information on Water Quality Management in Louisiana, call (225) 219-3189 or email the [Water Planning and Assessment Division](mailto:WaterPlanningandAssessmentDivision@deq.louisiana.gov) at DEQ-WWWWaterQuality@la.gov.

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