Introduction to Clean Water Act Permits

DEQ
State of Oregon
Department of Environmental Quality

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Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Water Quality Permitting and Program Development

Business & The Environment Conference

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1938 – Oregon State Sanitary Authority formed (predecessor of DEQ)

1948 – Federal Water Pollution Control Act

1969 - Oregon DEQ Established

1972 – Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments:
Clean Water Act

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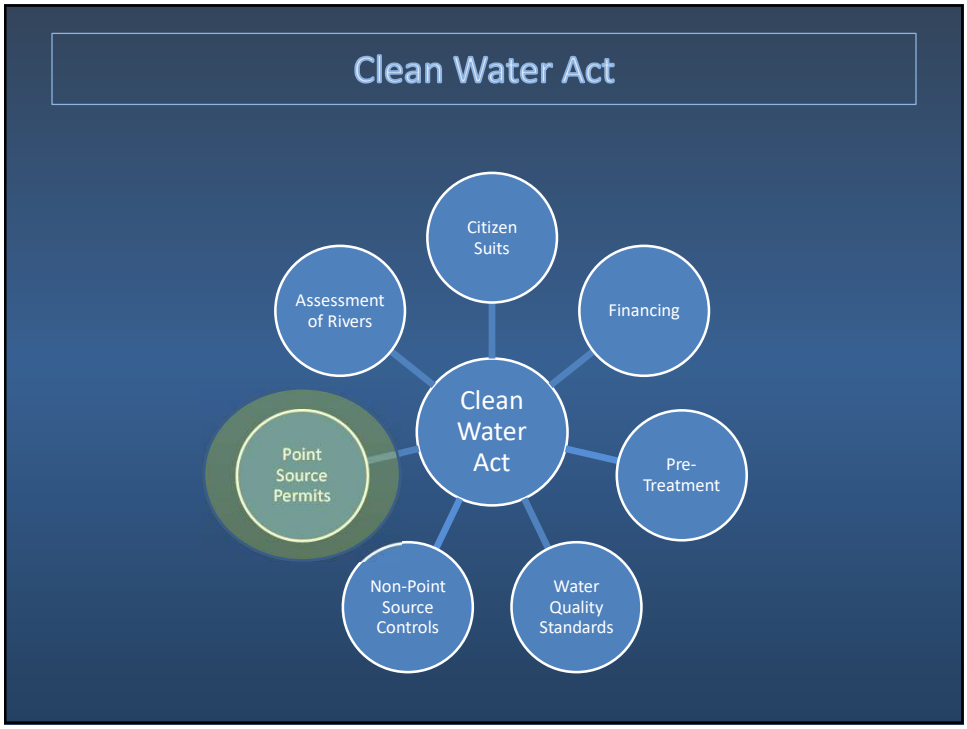
Clean Water Act
Citizen Suits
Assessment of Rivers
Financing
Clean Water Act
Point Source Permits
Pre-Treatment
Non-Point Source Controls
Water Quality Standards

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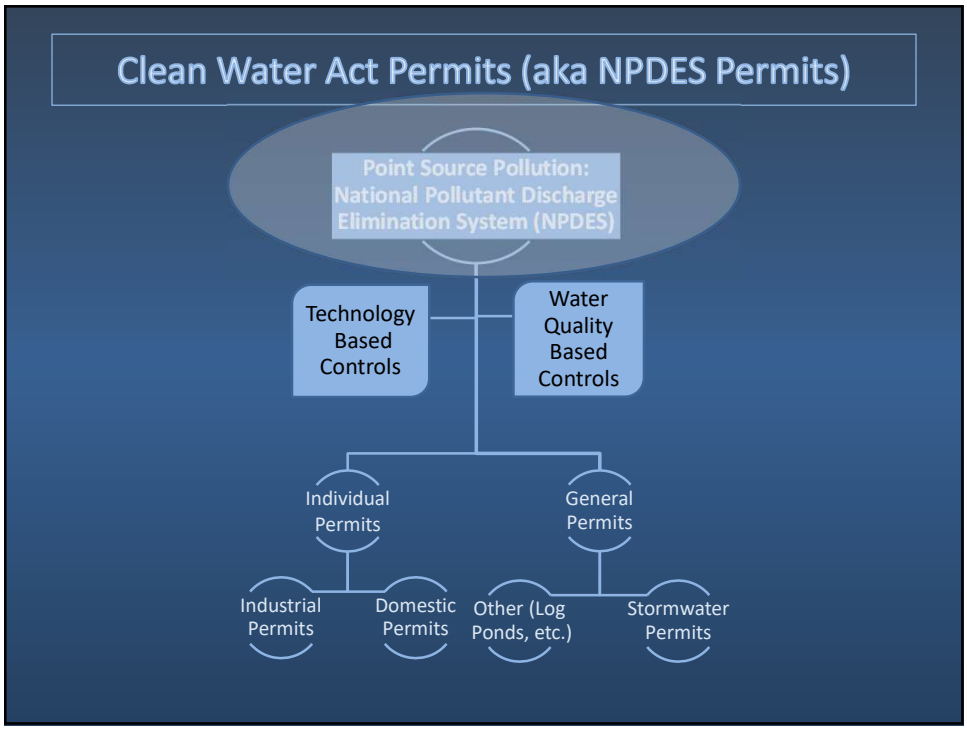
Clean Water Act Permits (aka NPDES Permits)
Point Source Pollution: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)
Technology Based Controls
Water Quality Based Controls
Individual Permits
General Permits
Industrial Permits
Domestic Permits
Other (Log Ponds, etc.)
Stormwater Permits

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Oregon Specifics

- Basin Standards
  - State "TBELs"
  - OAR 340-041-0101 through -350
  - Multiple pollutants including Dissolved Oxygen, Total Suspended Solids, Biological Oxygen Demand
  - These can be site or regional specific
- Water Quality Standards
  - 2012 Integrated report and 303(d) listings
  - 2018/2020 submitted for approval
    - Redefined assessment units
    - Move from LLID to NHD framework
- TMDL's
  - OAR 340-042
  - Various pollutants for impaired water bodies

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Oregon Specifics

- Permitting
  - Mixing zone
  - Basin standards
  - Design flows
  - Data – Monitoring and Assessment
  - RPA using copper BLM for freshwater discharges
  - Ammonia criteria
  - Temperature criteria
  - Litigation and settlement agreements
  - Biosolids and land application
  - Recycled water – Domestic and Industrial

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Key Components of an Oregon NPDES Permit

- Cover Page
- Schedule A: Discharge Limitations
- Schedule B: Monitoring and Reporting Requirements
- Schedule C: Compliance Schedule
- Schedule D: Special Conditions
- Schedule E: Pretreatment Requirements
- Schedule F: General Conditions
- Fact Sheet

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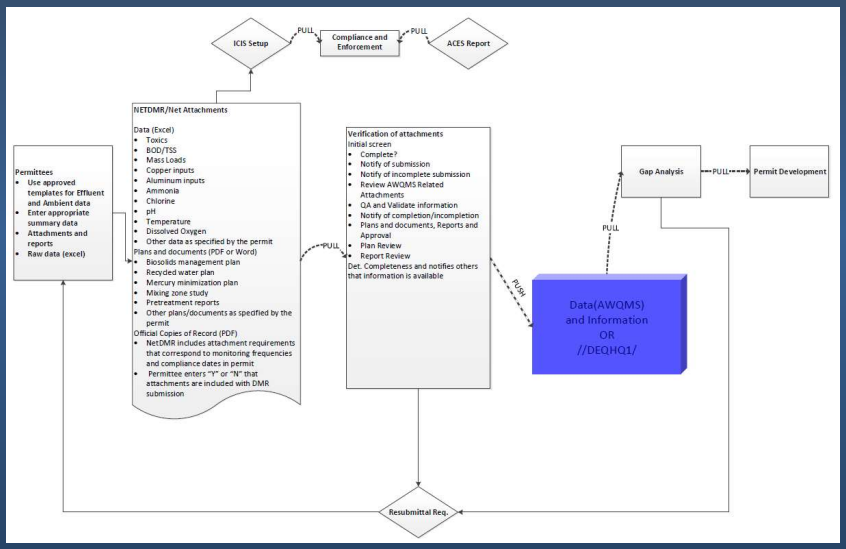
Permit Development



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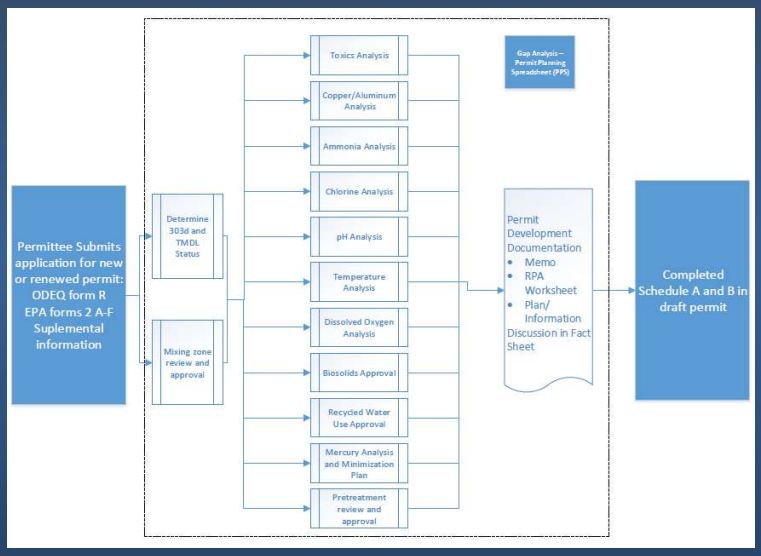
Permit Development



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Permit Issuance

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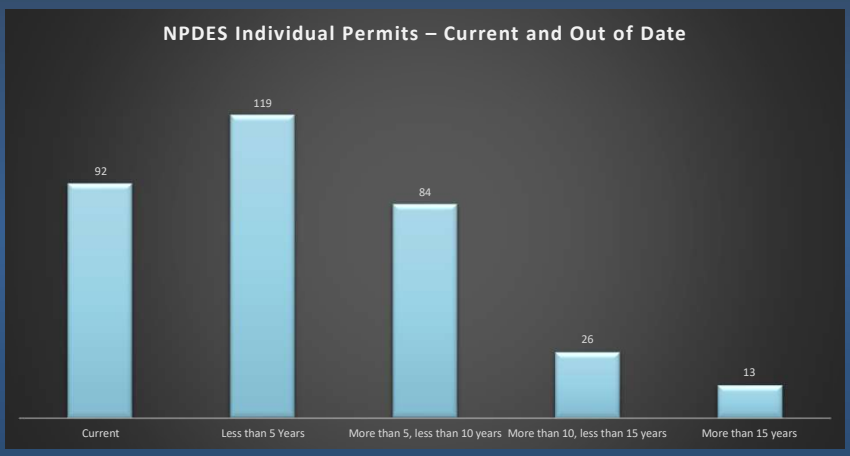
Overall Status of DEQ's NPDES Individual Permit Program



242 (72 percent) administratively continued.
119 (36 percent) are administratively continued for less than five years.
84 (25 percent) are administratively continued five years or more and less than 10 years.
26 (8 percent) are administratively continued 10 years or more and less than 15.
13 (4 percent) are administratively continued for 10 years or more.

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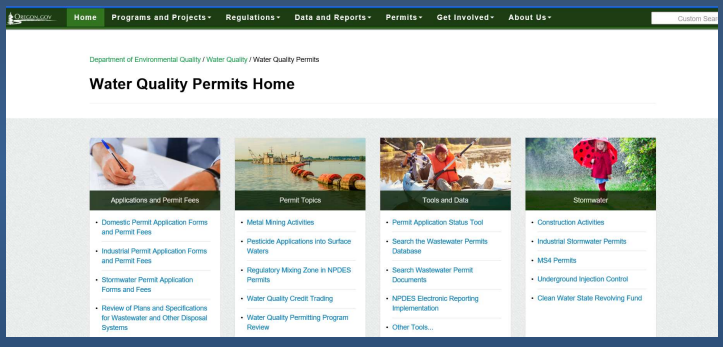
More Info on NPDES Permitting

In Oregon:
https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/wqpermits/Pages/default.aspx



5-Year NPDES Permit Issuance Plan:
https://www.oregon.gov/deq/FilterDocs/NPDES5yearplan2020.pdf

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Willamette River, Oregon
Questions?
DEQ
State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality
I INVENTED A FILTER THAT CAN TURN RAW SEWAGE INTO PURE DRINKING WATER IN SECONDS.
GLUG GLUG GLUG
THE CLEAN WATER ENDS UP HERE IN THE UPPER CONTAINER.

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