

Numeric Nutrient Criteria for Iowa's Lakes

1972

 Dead Zone in the Gulf of Mexico first identified

1976

 National Lake Nutrient Eutrophication Study

1993

 EPA establishes Nutrient Task Force

1997

 EPA establishes Mississippi River/Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Task Force (HTF)

1998

 EPA releases *National Strategy for Development of Regional Nutrient Criteria*

2000

 EPA releases numeric nutrient criteria (NNC) recommendations for lakes and reservoirs

2001

January - HTF releases Action Plan for reducing Dead Zone in the Gulf of Mexico to 5,000 kilometers by 2015

 **November** - EPA releases a national action plan for the development and adoption of NNC

2008

 Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) committee of Nutrient Science Advisors release recommendations for NNC

2011

 EPA issues "Stoner memo," calling on states to adopt NNC as part of a framework for states to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus pollution, with a "reasonable timetable" for developing some criteria within 3-5 years

2012

 Iowa DNR excludes consideration of NNC from 2012-14 Triennial Review Work Plan

2013

 **May** - State agencies publish the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy (NRS)

 **August** - Iowa Environmental Council (IEC) petitions Iowa DNR to adopt NNC for recreational lakes

 **October** - Environmental Protection Commission (EPC) denies IEC's petition for NNC

2015

 **February** - Hypoxia Task Force extends the 2015 Dead Zone reduction goal to 2035

 **May** - Iowa DNR excludes consideration of NNC from 2015-17 Triennial Review Work Plan

2016

 EPA issues a memo reemphasizing the importance of NNC to an effective program for nitrogen and phosphorus pollution reduction

2018

 Iowa Environmental Council petitions Iowa DNR to adopt NNC for recreational lakes

2019

 **February** - EPC denies IEC's petition for NNC, citing the NRS as the state's policy to address nutrient pollution

 **December** - Iowa DNR releases delayed 2018-20 Triennial Review Work Plan, excluding consideration of NNC

2021

 **August** - EPA releases updated recommendations for lake NNC based on analysis of Iowa data

 **September** - Iowa DNR excludes consideration NNC from the 2021-23 Triennial Review Work Plan

2022

 EPA issues a memo promoting updated NNC recommendations and "expects" states to consider them in their next triennial water quality standards reviews

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1972

↑ Melodi Smith and Jason Hanna, "Gulf of Mexico 'dead zone' is the size of Connecticut," CNN (August 2014). At <https://www.cnn.com/2014/08/05/tech/gulf-of-mexico-dead-zone/index.html> (last visited May 12, 2023).

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Available at <https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2018-10/documents/nutrient-strategy-1998.pdf>.

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2001

Mississippi River/Gulf of Mexico Watershed Nutrient Task Force, *Action Plan for Reducing, Mitigating, and Controlling Hypoxia in the Northern Gulf of Mexico* at 9 (January 2001), available at https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-03/documents/2001_04_04_msbasin_actionplan2001.pdf.

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2008

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2011

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2012

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2013

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2015

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2016

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2021

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2022

See Radhika Fox, *Accelerating Nutrient Pollution Reductions in the Nation's Waters* at 7 (April 2022), available at <https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-04/accelerating-nutrient-reductions-4-2022.pdf>.