



## **EPA Approves Numeric Nutrient Criteria for Missouri's Lakes January 2019**

As we reported last month, EPA approved the state's numeric nutrient criteria for lakes and reservoirs on December 14. This is a nationally significant accomplishment.

EPA found that Missouri's criteria are based upon sound science and protective of all uses. The numeric criteria protect aquatic life uses and where that use is the not the most sensitive, the narrative criteria protect other uses (drinking water and/or recreation). EPA's approval letter does a thorough job of supporting EPA decision.

This is a very positive development and one of the first EPA approvals of nutrient criteria that are not based upon a reference stream (least disturbed) approach.

Kudos to the AMCA technical team and DNR for this nationally significant achievement. We will discuss this in greater detail during the meeting. It remains to be seen whether any interest groups will challenge EPA's approval.