ADEM Water Division Update

Annual Surface Water Conference

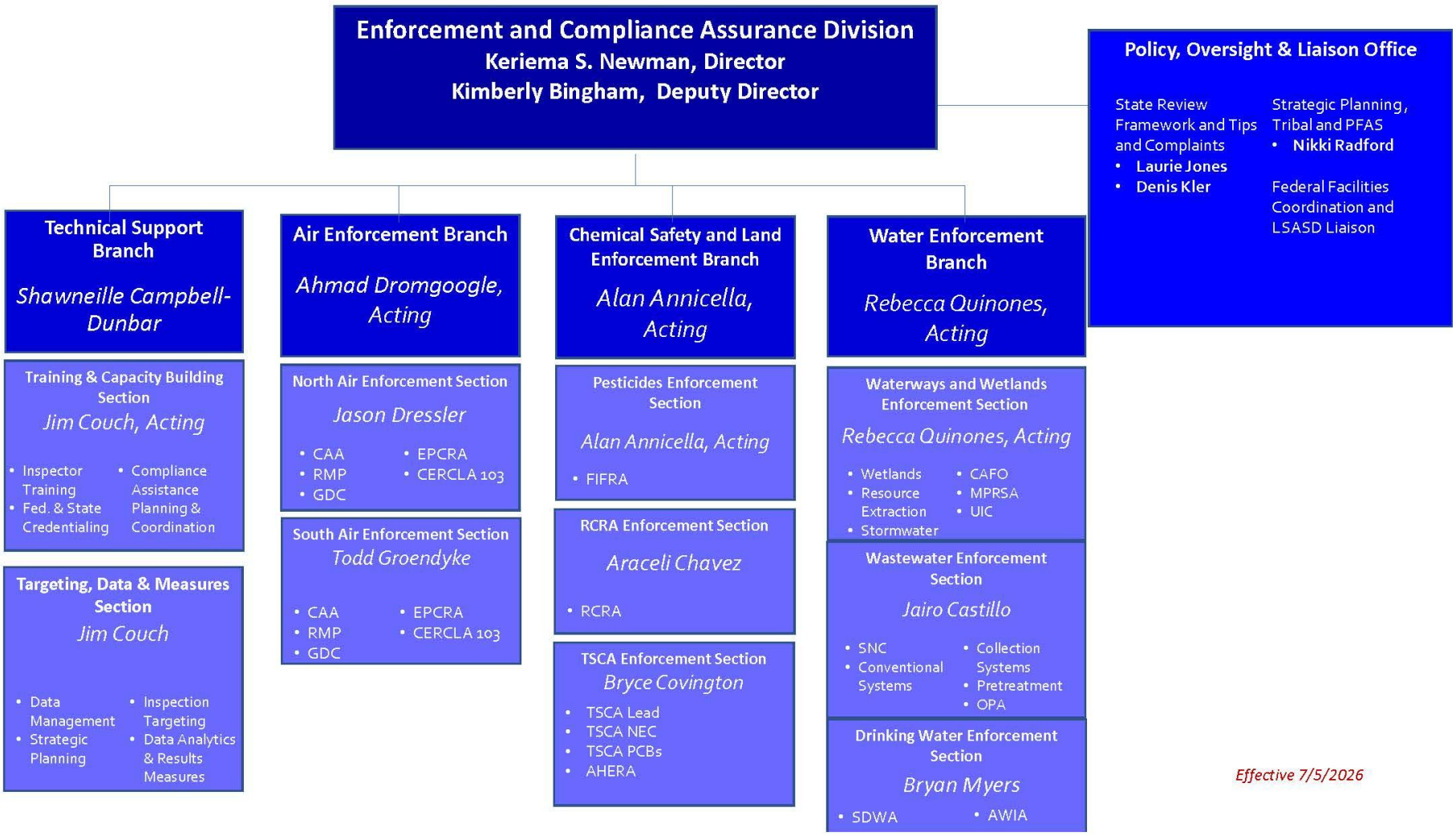
October 13 & 14, 2026

Jimbo Carlson, Chief
Water Division

Overview



- EPA Region 4
- Water Division Org Chart
- PFAS
- Fees



Effective 7/5/2026

Water Division

Kathlene "Katie" Butler, Director

Brian Smith, Deputy Director

Joel Hansel, Senior Tech Advisor

Amima Hyacinth, Executive Assistant

Vacant: Senior Policy Advisor

Grants and Infrastructure Branch
Johnnie Purify, Manager

- **Water Grants Administration Section** — Anna Martin, Manager
- **State Revolving Fund Section** — Mara Lindsley, Manager
- **Community Infrastructure Section** — Brendan Held, Manager

Surface Water Protection Branch
Craig Hesterlee, Manager

- **NPDES Permitting Section** — Dan Holliman, Manager
- **Water Quality Standards and Modeling Section** — *Lauren Petter*, *Acting Manager*
- **Monitoring, Assessment, Listing and TMDL Section** — Carla Dollar, Acting Manager

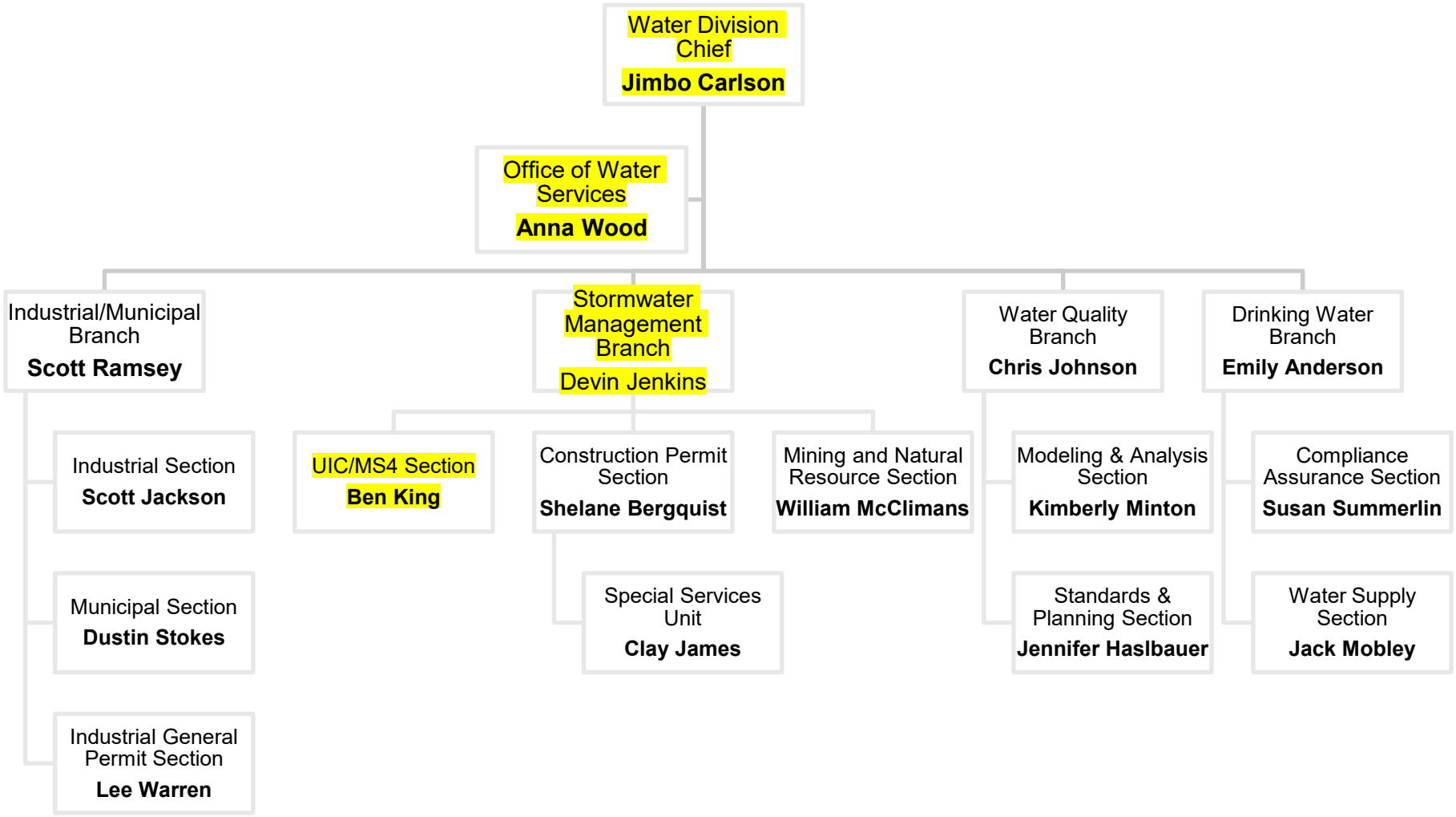
Safe Drinking Water Branch
Johnnie Purify
Acting Manager

- **Drinking Water Regulatory Section** — Ashley Aspinwall-Barron, Acting, Manager
- **Drinking Water Technical Assistance Section** — Erskine Benjamin II, Manager
- **Groundwater and GIS Section** — Khurram Rafi, Manager

Oceans, Wetlands, and Streams Protection Branch
Craig Hesterlee
Acting , Manager

- **Wetlands and Streams Regulatory Section** — Rosemary Calli, Manager
- **Nonpoint Source Section** — Tiana Blount, Manager
- **Ocean and Estuarine Management Section** — Wade Lehmann, Manager

Water Division



Drinking Water Branch



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PFAS MCL

- **April 2024 – PFAS National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR) published in Federal Register**
  - MCLs
    - PFOA & PFOS – 4ppt
    - PFBS, GenX, PFNA, PFHxS - 10ppt each
    - Hazard Index – 1.0 (combinations PFBS, GenX, PFNA, PFHxS)
- **May 2025 – EPA issues press release**
  - Intent to retain MCLs for PFOA, PFOS and extend compliance deadline by 2 years (to April 2031)
  - Intent to rescind all other MCLs, including Hazard Index

PFAS MCL

- **May 2026 – EPA announces two proposed PFAS Rules (comment period ended 7/20/26)**
  - MCLs for PFOA and PFOS (4ppt) with an option for water systems to request a 2-year extension for MCL compliance
  - Proposal to rescind the regulatory determinations for the MCLs for PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA (GenX), and PFBS
    - Accepting written comments on whether the current PFAS regulation adhered to the procedural and substantive requirements the SDWA statute imposes to include PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA (GenX), and PFBS
  - Following the second proposed rule, if finalized, evaluation of the four compounds for regulation (could result in more stringent requirements)
- **Final regulations expected no later than November 2027**

NPDES / SID Permitting: PFAS Strategy

- Facilities in certain industrial categories will be required to monitor/report PFAS concentrations upon issuance/ reissuance/modification including addition of process outfall

OCPSF	Metal Finishing
Electroplating	Electrical/Electronic Components
Textile Mills	Leather Tanning/Finishing
Plastic Molding/Forming	Paint Formulating
CWT	Landfill Leachate

- Semi-Annual Monitoring using EPA Method 1633
- Monitoring not required for stormwater discharges
- Minimization Requirements as appropriate (after data evaluation)

**If elevated levels of PFAS are expected/present – additional source categories may be included, increased monitoring frequencies may be required, and/or other PFAS requirements may be included in permits*

Alabama Addressing PFAS in NPDES and Pre-treament Permits

- PFAS Monitoring Universe is approximately 200 Permits (150 Pretreatment Permits)

- ADEM has issued approximately 124 permits
  - First set of Monitoring was due January 28, 2024
  - 110 Pretreatment Permits and 14 Direct Dischargers

Results Summary

- PFOA not including PFAS Manufacturers
  - 147 below detect
  - 19 missed samples
  - 49 no discharge
  - 66 values below 4.0 ppt
  - 103 values above 4.0 ppt

- PFOS not including PFAS Manufacturers
  - 152 below detect
  - 19 missed samples
  - 49 no discharge
  - 75 values below 4.0 ppt
  - 75 values above 4.0 ppt

EPA 2026 MSGP(There has been no action on this GP since coming off notice)

ADEM

PFAS Indicator Monitoring

New Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Monitoring: Proposes a new provision that would require certain operators to conduct quarterly "report-only" indicator monitoring for PFAS for the entire permit term.

2021 MSGP	Proposed 2026 MSGP
No Equivalent	**Part 4.2.1.1(c): Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Applicability.** Operators in the following sectors must monitor stormwater discharges for PFAS (also specified in sector-specific requirements in Part 8). Monitoring applies to the 40 PFAS compounds listed in EPA Method 1633, …using EPA Method 1633. • A – Timber Products • B – Paper and Allied Products • C – Chemicals and Allied products • D – Asphalt paving and Roofing Materials and Lubricants • F - Primary Metals • I – Oil and Gas Extraction • K – Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, or Disposal Facilities • L – Landfills, Land Application Sites, and Open Dumps • M – Automobile Savage Yards • N – Scrap Recycling Facilities • P – Land Transportation and Warehousing • R – Ship and Boat Building and Repairing Yards • S – Air Transportation Facilities • T – Treatment Works • U – Food and Kindred Product • V - Textile Mills, Apparel, and Other Fabric Product Manufacturing; Leather and Leather Products • W – Furniture and Fixtures • X – Printing • Y – Rubber, Miscellaneous Plastic Products, and Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries • Z – Leather Tanning and Finishing • AA – Fabricated Metal Products • AB – Transportation Equipment, Industrial or Commercial Machinery • AC – Electronic, Electrical, Photographic, and Optical Goods

Other States

- North Carolina Senate Bill 257 (updated NC Water Safety Act Section 8.27)
  - Allocates Funds for PFAS research (The North Carolina Collaboratory)
  - Allows for collection of samples from
    - Permitted POTWs
    - Direct Discharges of process wastewater from industrial or commercial operations
    - Significant Industrial User (SIU) that discharge to a POTW
    - Data can only be used for Regulatory Recommendations

Other States

- Florida House Bill 1019/Chapter 2026/158
  - Requires Quarterly PFAS Monitoring for WWTPs with avg daily design flow ≥ 25,000 GPD
    - Informational Purposes only (until EPA establishes Water Quality Standards)
  - 2026 – Prohibits use of Aqueos film-forming foam (firefighting foam) for non-emergency training/testing
  - 2026 – Requires reporting of inventory
  - 2027 - Ban on Sale/Purchase/Distribution
  - 2029 – Possession and Use is prohibited
    - (except for Airports, Military and Certain Firefighting instances)

Fee Changes

- Code of Alabama §22-22A-5(16) gives ADEM the authority to adopt rules and regulations relating to charging and collecting fees.
- ADEM's fees are listed in Division 335-1 of the ADEM Administrative Code.
- Last fee increase was in 2016.
- Since 2016, Consumer Price Index (CPI) has increased over 34%.

Fee Changes

Proposed Fee Increases

Public Notice: May 20, 2026

Public Hearing: July 7, 2026

Presented and approved to AEMC: August 14, 2026

Effective Date: October 15, 2026

Fee Changes

- A few new fees were added for activities that are not covered in the current fee structure.
- Most fees will receive a 25% increase.
- Drinking water fees will mainly fall under the 25% increase.

Fee Changes

- This fee increase will allow Department to increase staffing back to the 580-585 level.
- Also, the Department is proposing to adopt a defined cycle where ADEM fees are modified annually based on the Consumer Price Index.
- This method is already used by many State Agencies.
- This new strategy should help prevent future large fee increases and make budgeting easier for industries.
- The annual CPI-adjusted fees would be available on the ADEM website.

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