

---

APPENDIX D

WATER CLASSIFICATION AND BEST USAGE RELATIONSHIPS

---



## **New York:**

The New York State water quality classifications are summarized from Water Quality Regulations for Surface Waters and Groundwaters, 6NYCRR Parts 700-705, effective September 1, 1991, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Water, Albany, New York. Only classifications that are used in this report will be described in this section. The classes are as follows:

### **Class A:**

(a) The best usages of Class A waters are: a source of water supply for drinking, culinary or food processing purposes; primary and secondary contact recreation; and fishing. The waters shall be suitable for fish propagation and survival.

(b) This classification may be given to those waters that, if subjected to approved treatment equal to coagulation, sedimentation, filtration and disinfection, with additional treatment if necessary to reduce naturally present impurities, meet or will meet New York State Department of Health drinking water standards and are or will be considered safe and satisfactory for drinking water purposes.

**Class B:** The best usages of Class B waters are primary and secondary contact recreation and fishing. These waters shall be suitable for fish propagation and survival.

**Class C:** The best usage of Class C waters is fishing. These waters shall be suitable for fish propagation and survival. The water quality shall be suitable for primary and secondary contact recreation, although other factors may limit the use for these purposes.

**Class D:** The best usage of these waters is fishing. Due to such natural conditions as intermittence of flow, water conditions not conducive to propagation of game fishery, or streambed conditions, the waters will not support fish propagation. These waters shall be suitable for fish survival. The water quality shall be suitable for primary and secondary contact recreation, although other factors may limit the use for these purposes.

**(T):** Suffix added to classes where trout survival is an additional best use to the use classification.

## **Pennsylvania:**

The Pennsylvania state water quality classifications are summarized from Water Quality Standards of the Department's Rules and Regulations, 25 PA Code, Chapter 93.3-5, effective November 2000, PADEP, Division of Water Quality Assessment and Standards, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. All surface waters must meet protected water uses for aquatic life (warm water fishes), water supply (potable, industrial, livestock, and wildlife), and recreation (boating, fishing, water contact sports, and aesthetics). Only classifications that are used in this report will be described in this section. The use classifications are as follows:

**CWF** – Cold Water Fishes: Maintenance and/or propagation of fish species including the family Salmonidae and additional flora and fauna, which are indigenous to a cold water habitat.

**WWF** – Warm Water Fishes: Maintenance and propagation of fish species and additional flora and fauna that are indigenous to a warm water habitat.

**TSF** – Trout Stocked Fishery: Maintenance of stocked trout from February 15 to July 31 and maintenance and propagation of fish species and additional flora and fauna that are indigenous to a warm water habitat.

**MF** – Migratory Fishes: Passage, maintenance and propagation of anadromous and catadromous fishes and other fishes that ascend to flowing waters to complete their life cycle. The MF designation is in addition to other designations when appropriate.

### **Maryland:**

The Maryland State water quality classifications are summarized from Water Quality Regulations for Designated Uses, COMAR 26.08.02, Effective August 2000, Maryland Department of the Environment, Annapolis, Maryland. All surface waters must protect public health or welfare; enhance the quality of water; protect aquatic resources; and serve the purposes of the Federal Act. Only classifications that are used in this report will be described in this section. The designated use classifications are as follows:

**I-P** – Protection of fish and aquatic life and contact recreation (fishable/swimmable), and Use I-P, which includes drinking water supply.

**III-P** – Natural trout waters and Use III-P, which includes a drinking water supply.

**IV-P** – Recreational trout waters and Use IV-P, which includes drinking water.