







Office of Water Management

# Trout Water Classifications and Redesignation Qualifications

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#### **Authority**

The major authorities that require Pennsylvania to protect its surface waters:

#### Federal Clean Water Act

 Goal: to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters.

#### Pennsylvania Clean Streams Law

Goals are similar to Clean Water Act but specific to Pa

Chapter 93.4a – Antidegradation Program

pennsylvania

#### Uses

- Designated uses Those uses specified in § § 93.4(a) and 93.9a—93.9z for each water body or segment whether or not they are being attained.
- Existing uses Those uses actually attained in the water body on or after November 28, 1975, whether or not they are included in the water quality standards.



## **Protected** Water Uses

Trout Stocking

Cold Water Fishes

High Quality

Exceptional Value





### Trout Stocking (TSF)

Chapter 93.3 Definition – Maintenance of stocked trout from February 15 to July 31 and maintenance and propagation of fish species and additional flora and fauna which are indigenous to a warm water habitat.



The Department will evaluate a stream for TSF if designated a trout stocked stream by PFBC.



### Cold Water Fishes (CWF)

Chapter 93.3 Definition – Maintenance and propagation, or both, of fish species including the family Salmonidae and additional flora and fauna which are indigenous to cold water

habitat.

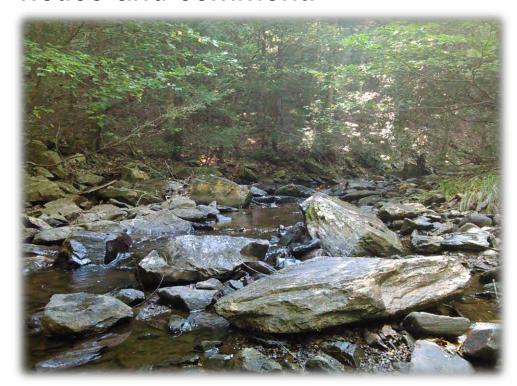
The Department will evaluate a stream for CWF if designated a wild trout stream by PFBC.





### High Quality Waters (HQ)

Chapter 93.4b(a)(2)(ii) – Class A wild trout stream qualifier. The surface water has been designated a Class A wild trout stream by the Fish and Boat Commission following public notice and comment.



The Department will evaluate a stream for High Quality if the stream has been found to have a Class A wild trout population.



### Exceptional Value Waters (EV)

Chapter 93.4b(b)(1)(vi) – The water is designated as a "wilderness trout stream" by the Fish and Boat Commission following public notice and comment.

The Department will evaluate a stream for an exceptional value designation if the stream has been designated as a wilderness trout stream by PFBC.





#### Wetlands

Chapter 105.17(1)(iii) – Wetlands that are located in or along the floodplain of the reach of a wild trout stream or waters listed as exceptional value under Chapter 93.....



#### Review

**PFBC Classifications** 

Trout Stocked Stream

**Wild Trout Stream** 

**Class A Trout Stream** 

Wilderness Trout Stream

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**DEP Protected Uses** 

**Trout Stocking** 

**Cold Water Fishes** 

High Quality – Cold Water Fishes

Exceptional Value



#### Rulemaking Process (condensed version)

- A stream report listing all proposed stream segments is drafted and sent for Agency review
- The Department requests public comment on the draft stream report
- The stream report package is presented to the EQB for proposed regulatory change
- EQB requests public comment on the proposed stream package
- EQB Makes Final rulemaking decision



### Stream Packages

1st Class A package (2002) – over 200 stream miles

2<sup>nd</sup> Class A package (2017) - 207 stream miles

3<sup>rd</sup> Class A package (2018?) – 171.5 stream miles



#### Contact Info

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