

## Summary of Ohio's Antidegradation Waterbody Classification System (OAC 3745-1-05) – August 2018

Category	Key Attributes, or why a water would be designated in the category	Practical Impacts <b>Bold</b> = stream segments/miles classified in rule
Outstanding National Resources Waters (Tier 3)	Water has unique attributes and has national significance; may not be adequately protected by beneficial use classification system	Very restrictive, no lowering of water quality permitted (exceptions allowed for short term disturbances); <b>Zero miles</b>
Outstanding State Waters (exceptional <u>ecological</u> value) (Tier 2+)	Water is among the <u>very best within Ohio</u> ; supports very diverse aquatic life and endangered or threatened species	<u>70% set aside</u> implemented to preserve water quality near existing condition; more stringent pollution controls for new sources; social/economic justification (SEJ) needed to lower water quality; <b>36 stream segments, 1,149 miles</b>
Outstanding State Waters (exceptional <u>recreational</u> value) (Tier 2+)	Water body supports <u>highly valued or unique recreational usage</u>	Set asides are not in effect; all activities covered by the rule must comply with special provisions to ensure there is no increase in bacteriological pollution and to minimize floating debris and other aesthetic problems [OAC 3745-1-05(C)(6)(e)] <b>2 stream segments, 133 miles</b>
Superior High Quality Waters (Tier 2+)	Supports diverse aquatic life and endangered or threatened species	<u>35% set aside</u> implemented to preserve water quality above the minimum standards required under beneficial use; more stringent pollution controls for new resources; SEJ needed to lower water quality; <b>122 stream segments, 1,386 miles</b>
State Resource Waters – General High Quality Waters (Tier 2)	Diversity of aquatic life unknown or typical of a warmwater community; water body listed in 1978 (or later) as SRW based on adjacent park or preserve	Must meet applicable standards, requires an SEJ and determination of need before water quality is lowered; special attention to review criteria in OAC 3745-1-05(C)(5)(d) is provided; <b>290 stream segments, 1,768 miles</b> from prior rulemaking designations; being phased out.
General High Quality Waters (Tier 2)	Supports typical aquatic life community	Must meet applicable standards, requires an SEJ and determination of need before water quality is lowered <b>115,655 miles*</b>
Limited Quality Waters	Waters with use attainability analysis completed with beneficial use designation assigned as Limited Resource Water, Limited Warmwater, or Modified Warmwater Habitat; category one wetlands	Must meet applicable standards, but no SEJ review needed to lower water quality  <b>435 stream segments, 2,314 miles</b>

\*Based upon 24k NHD