DRBC / NPS Scenic Rivers Monitoring Program

Maintaining Water Quality in the Special Protection Waters

Program Objectives

- Establishment of Existing Water Quality (EWQ) for future comparison;
- Assessing attainment of water quality standards;
- Setting geographic and water quality priorities to maintain or improve EWQ; and
- Long-term monitoring so that DRBC can consistently perform its 305b assessment, evaluate trends, prioritize agency management activities, and assess effectiveness of strategy implementation.

Monitoring Locations (DRBC/NPS 2007) – See Map on Reverse

Monitoring Parameters

Dissolved Oxygen (mg/l)
Dissolved Oxygen Percent Saturation (%)
Specific Conductance (umhos/cm)
Fecal Coliform bacteria (colonies/100 ml)
E. Coli bacteria (colonies/100 ml)
Enterococcus bacteria (colonies/100 ml)
Total Suspended Solids (TSS, mg/l)
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS, mg/l)
Total Phosphorus (mg/l)
Orthophosphate (mg/l)

Total Nitrogen (mg/l)
Nitrate Nitrogen (mg/l)
Ammonia Nitrogen (mg/l)
Total Kjehldahl Nitrogen (mg/l)
Total Hardness (as CaCO3, mg/l)
pH (standard units, range)
Total Chloride (mg/l)
Turbidity (NTU)
Total Alkalinity (mg/l as CaCO3)

There are other parameters collected, and additional sites sampled, under related studies such as Tri-State, the Delaware River Biomonitoring Program, and the NPS/USGS Upper Delaware Study.

