

# How to Answer Common Questions with Available Data Tools

June 4, 2025



# Available Data Tools

	Easy to Use	Need ATTAINS Login	Available Snapshots	Refresh Frequency	Available Scales
How's My Waterway	Yes	No	Org Final and Later	Approximately Monthly with the Geospatial Service	HUC12, State, and Tribe
ATTAINS Reports	Yes	Yes	All (If State/Tribal User) Org Public Comment and Later (If EPA User)	Instantaneous (If State/Tribal User) Instantaneous Upon Promotion (If EPA User)	State and Tribe
ATTAINS Services	Depends on Comfort with REST Services	No	Org Public Comment and Later	Instantaneous Upon Promotion	State and Tribe
ATTAINS Geospatial Service	Depends on Comfort with GIS Software	No	Org Final and Later	Approximately Monthly	National
Expert Query	Yes, but make sure you are interpreting results correctly	No	Org Final and Later	Weekly	National


How many stream miles in Oregon  
are impaired for swimming use?

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# Use How's My Waterway State Page


State Water Quality Overview


Advanced Search





Choose a Topic:

Swimming

Eating Fish

Aquatic Life

Drinking Water

Other




Pick your Water Type and Use:

**Water Type:**  
Rivers and Streams

**Use:**  
Water Contact Recreation

Assessed ***Rivers and Streams*** that support ***Water Contact Recreation***

Targeted monitoring provides information on water quality problems for the subset of those waters that were assessed.

Good		8,735 miles
Impaired		17,455 miles
Insufficient Info		4,237 miles

Year Last Reported: 2020

Top Reasons for Impairment for Oregon ***Rivers and Streams*** assessed for ***Water Contact Recreation*** >

Where are the waters in Oregon that  
are impaired for recreation use due  
to pathogens?



# Use How's My Waterway State Advanced Search

Use this page to find the condition of waterbodies in your state and whether there are plans in place to restore them. The filters below are to help narrow down your search. There are no required fields.

Parameter Groups:

Bacteria and Other Microbes x

Watershed Names (HUC12):

Select...

Integrated Reporting (IR) Category:

☒ All Waters

☐ 303(d) Listed Impaired Waters (Category 5)

☐ Impaired (Category 4 and 5)

Use Groups:

Recreation x

Waterbody Names (IDs):

Select...

Additional Filters:

☐ Has TMDL

Search

Results: 657 items

Display Waterbodies by:

Bacteria and Other Microbes

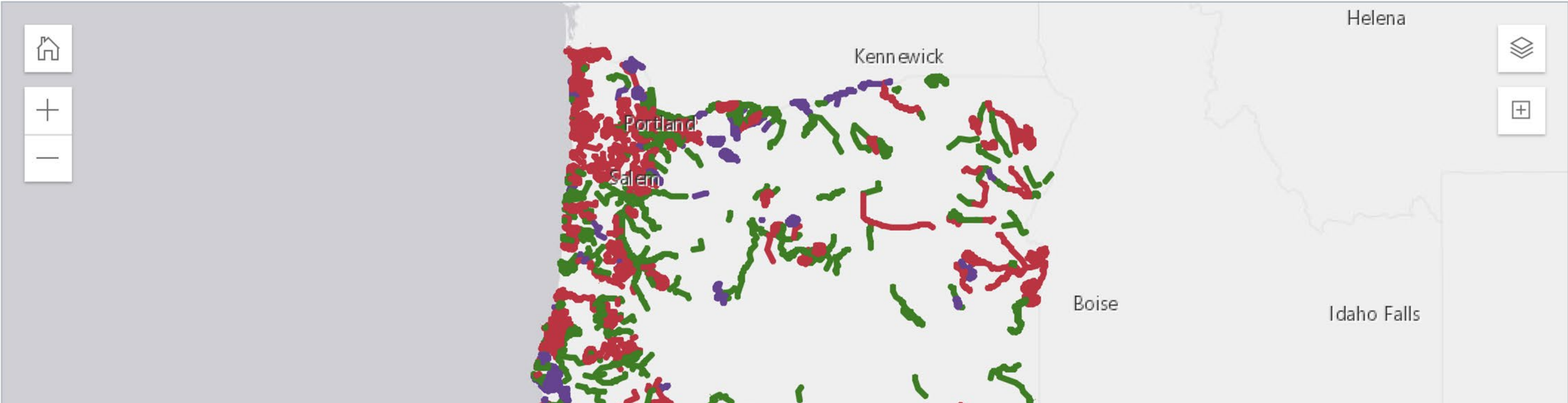
Map

List

Home

+

-



Layers

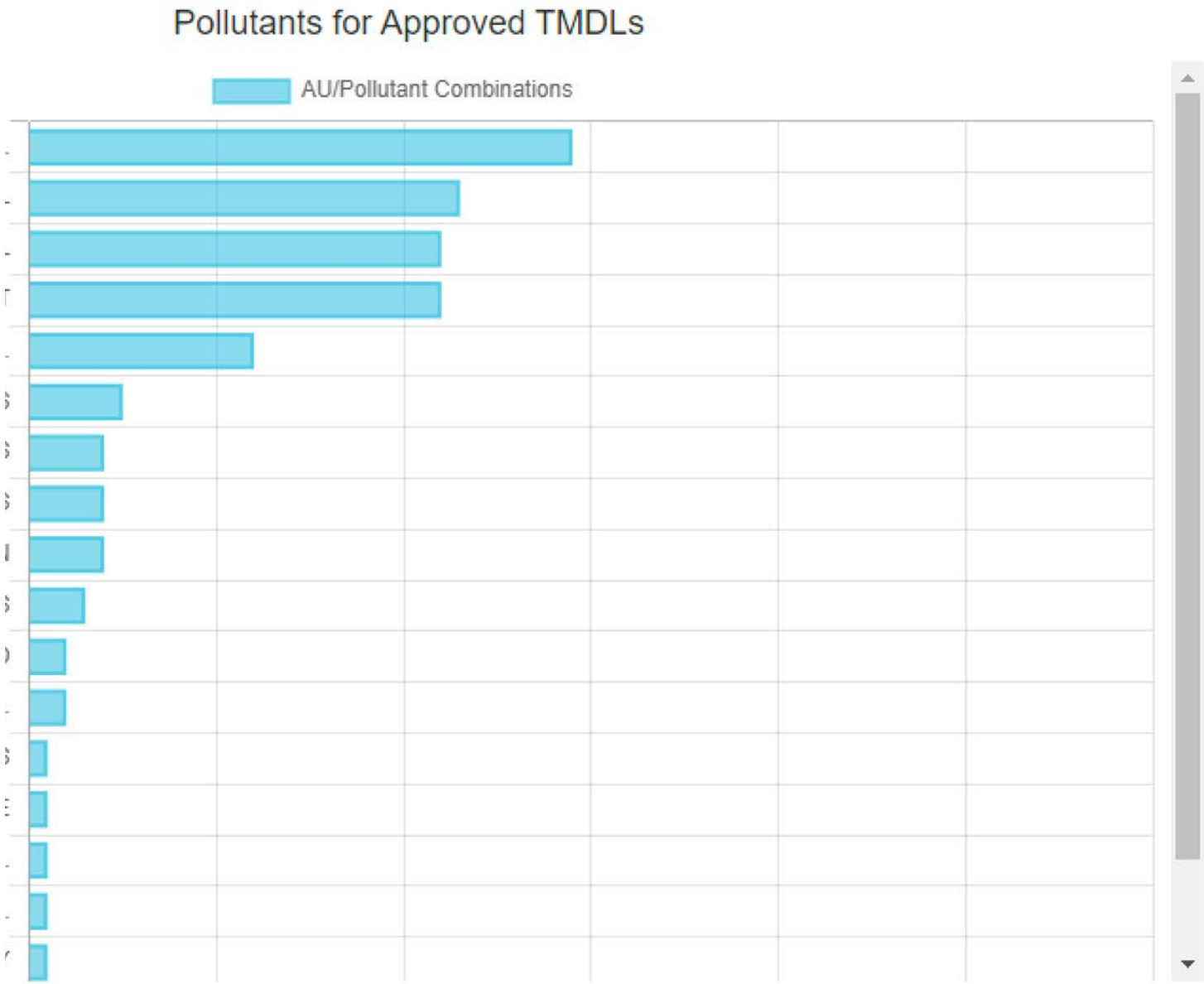
+

# What are all the TMDLs in Maine?

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# Use the Actions Report in ATTAINS



### Pollutants for Approved TMDLs Summary

Pollutant	AU/Pollutants	AU/Addressed Parameters
POLLUTANTS IN URBAN STORMWATER	29	57
PHOSPHORUS, TOTAL	23	28
NITROGEN, TOTAL	22	27
SEDIMENT	22	27
ESCHERICHIA COLI (E. COLI)	12	12

« 1 2 3 4 »

17 Records

Watershed Unit Name	Action ID	Action Name	Action TMDL Date	Action Status	EPA FY	Pollutant	Source Type
0779	31577	TRAFTON LAKE	Oct 26, 2006	EPA Final Action	2007	ALGAL BLOOMS	Nonpoint source
1820	31665	MONSON POND	Nov 28, 2006	EPA Final Action	2007	ALGAL BLOOMS	Nonpoint source
1674	30679	CROSS LAKE	Sep 28, 2006	EPA Final Action	2006	ALGAL BLOOMS	Nonpoint source
1776	32030	ECHO LAKE	Feb 05, 2007	EPA Final Action	2007	ALGAL BLOOMS	Nonpoint source



Which waters are new to category 5  
this cycle in Hawaii?

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# Use the Cycle Comparison Report in ATTAINS

## Comparison

Parameters

Category = [5], Previous EPA IR Category = [1, 2, 3, , 4A, 4C]

 Clear Selection 

	Assessment Unit Name 	Previous Assessment Unit Name 	EPA IR Category 	Previous EPA IR Category 	EPA IR
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Little Sheep Creek		5		ADDED
	Selway Creek	Selway Creek	5	3	CHANG
	Sage Creek		5		ADDED
	Trail Creek		5		ADDED
	Nicholia Creek		5		ADDED
	Cabin Creek		5		ADDED
	Metzel Creek		5		ADDED

7 Records



How many TMDL Projects were approved so far in  
FY 2025\* in Region 7?

\*Defining FY 2025 as starting on October 1, 2024

# Use ATTAINS Services

Base URL for Actions service

State code indicator

Indicates that a number  
should be returned  
instead of a list of  
TMDLs

<https://attains.epa.gov/attains-public/api/actions?actionTypeCode=tmdl&stateCode=KS&tmdlDateLaterThan=2024-10-1&returnCountOnly=Y>

Action type code indicator

Indicates TMDL was approved in FY 2025

```
{  
  "items": [],  
  "count": 1  
}
```



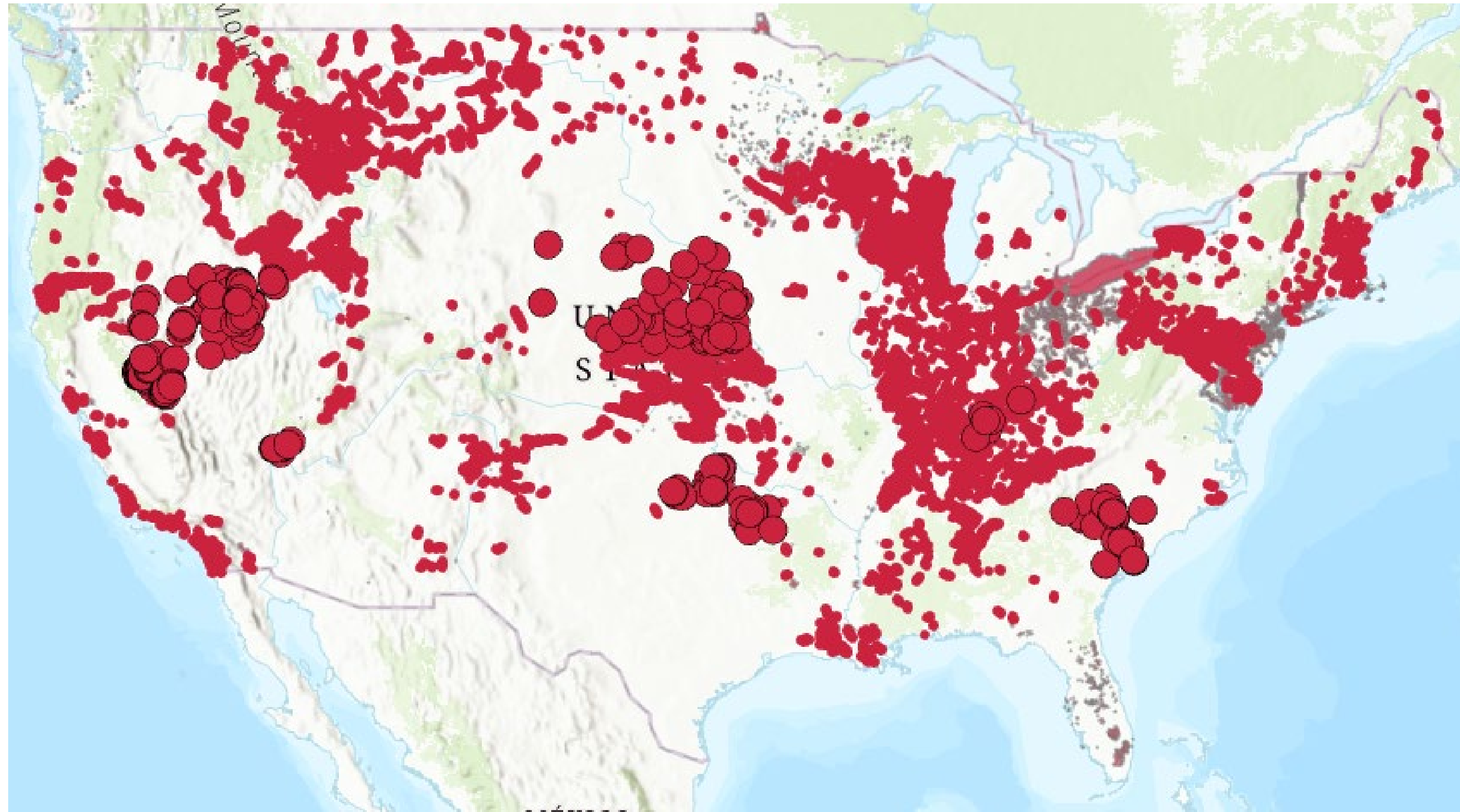
What is the most commonly reported  
impairment nationally?

Impairment_Summary					
Field:		Selection:			
	OBJECTID *	ParameterName	FREQUENCY	COUNT_parametername	
	299	PATHOGENS	26142	26142	
	347	SILTATION	24691	24691	
	188	ESCHERICHIA COLI (E....	16089	16089	
	250	MERCURY	14756	14756	
	256	METALS	11754	11754	
	311	PH	11199	11199	
	176	DISSOLVED OXYGEN	8712	8712	
	208	FLOW REGIME MODIFI...	8477	8477	
	197	FECAL COLIFORM	8016	8016	
	280	NUTRIENTS	7747	7747	

# Use the ATTAINS Geospatial Service



Where are the waters impaired for  
nutrients nationally?

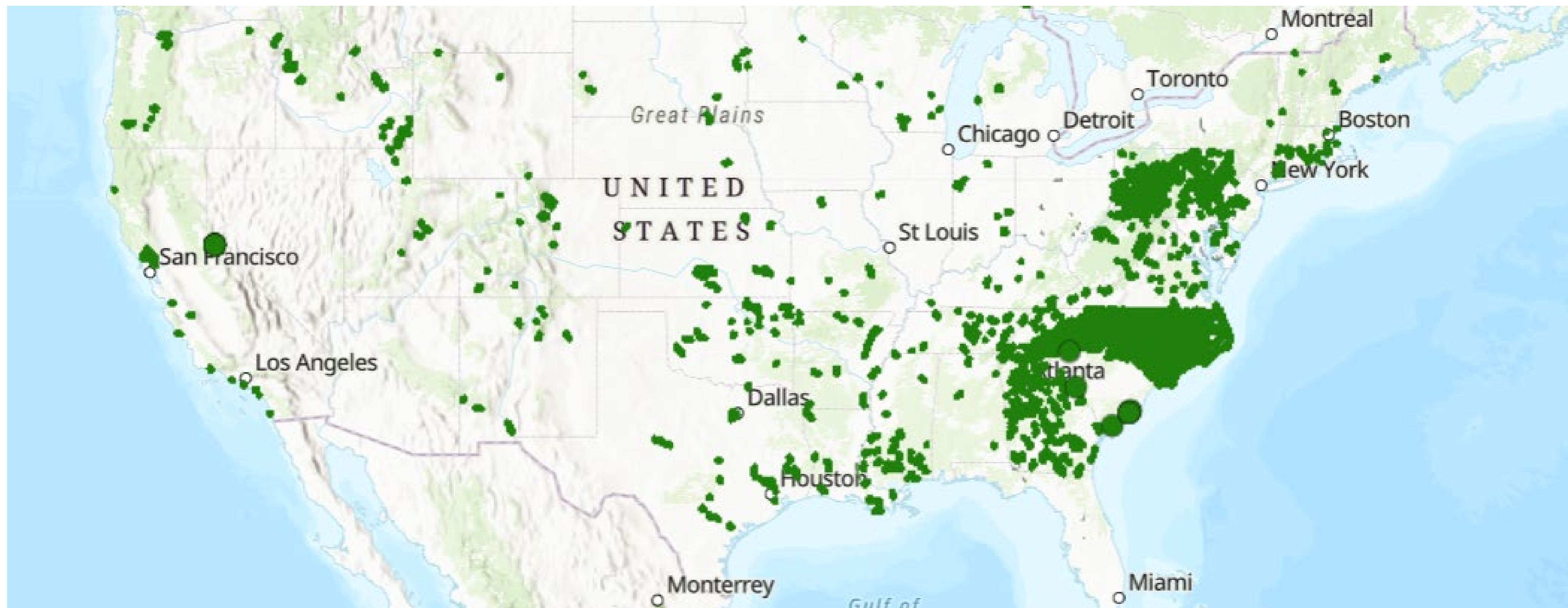


Use the ATTAINS Geospatial Service



Which waters have a TMDL and are  
fully supporting nationally?

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Use the ATTAINS Geospatial  
Service



~~Where~~ What are the waters impaired  
for nutrients nationally?

Parameter Group

NUTRIENTS x

x

▼

Parameter Name ?

Select a Parameter Name...

▼

Parameter Status

- ☒ Cause
- ☐ Insufficient Information
- ☐ Meeting Criteria
- ☐ Observed effect
- ☐ Removed

Parameter Attainment

Select a Parameter Attainment...

▼

Parameter IR Category

Select a Parameter IR Category...

▼

Parameter State IR Category

Select a Parameter State IR Category...

▼

Delisted

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes

Delisted Reason

Select a Delisted Reason...

▼

Pollutant Indicator

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes

Cycle First Listed

from:

yyyy

to:

yyyy

Alternate Listing ID

Select an Alternate Listing ID...

▼

Vision 303d Priority

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes

CWA 303d Priority Ranking

- ☐ High
- ☐ Low
- ☐ Medium

Cycle Scheduled for TMDL

from:

yyyy

to:

yyyy

Cycle Expected to Attain

from:

yyyy

to:

yyyy

Consent Decree Cycle

Season Start Date

Season End Date

On this page

1 [Pick a Data Profile](#)

2 [Apply Filters](#)

[Search for an Area of Interest](#)

[Search by Reporting Cycle](#)

[Search for a specific Assessment Unit](#)

[Search by Overall Status](#)

[Search by Use](#)

[Search by Parameter](#)

[Search by Associated Action](#)

3 [Download the Data](#)

Use Expert Query

Which TMDLs contain the word  
“phosphorus” in Region 1?

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Search by Document

SEARCH TEXT / KEYWORD ⓘ

phosphorus

DOCUMENT NAME (FILE NAME)

Select... | ▾

DOCUMENT TYPE

Select... | ▾

Search for an Area of Interest

REGION ⓘ

01 x | ▾

STATE ⓘ

Select... | ▾

ORGANIZATION ID (NAME) ⓘ

≡ Select... | ▾

Search for a specific Action

ACTION TYPE ⓘ

TMDL x | ▾

ACTION ID (NAME) ⓘ

Select... | ▾

Search by Time Frame

COMPLETION DATE ⓘ

from:

to:

TMDL DATE ⓘ

from:

to:

🔍 Preview

On this page

1 Pick a Data Profile

2 Apply Filters

Search by Document

Search for an Area of Interest

Search for a specific Action








Search by Time Frame

3 Download the Data

Use Expert Query

What are the impaired waters  
(category 4 and 5) nationally?

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Download link <i>All downloads are zipped (ZIP) CSV files</i>	Time last refreshed	Number of rows	File size	
			Zipped	Unzipped
<a href="#">Actions Profile</a> 	5/10/2024, 9:54:38 PM	77,547	2.99 MB	21.63 MB
<a href="#">Assessments Profile</a> 	5/10/2024, 9:29:22 PM	8,144,245	138.51 MB	2.56 GB
<a href="#">Assessment Units Profile</a> 	5/10/2024, 8:19:24 PM	2,575,987	57.67 MB	479.09 MB
<a href="#">Assessment Units with Monitoring Locations Profile</a> 	5/10/2024, 8:28:06 PM	2,191,139	62.34 MB	406.36 MB
<a href="#">Catchment Correspondence Profile</a> 	5/11/2024, 1:09:48 AM	107,535,232	601.8 MB	10.79 GB
<a href="#">Sources Profile</a> 	5/10/2024, 9:46:53 PM	2,173,839	39.13 MB	544.83 MB
<a href="#">Total Maximum Daily Load Profile</a> 	5/10/2024, 9:53:55 PM	607,565	11.67 MB	506.77 MB

Use Expert Query



# Summary of Suggested Tools

Different Tools work better for different types of questions

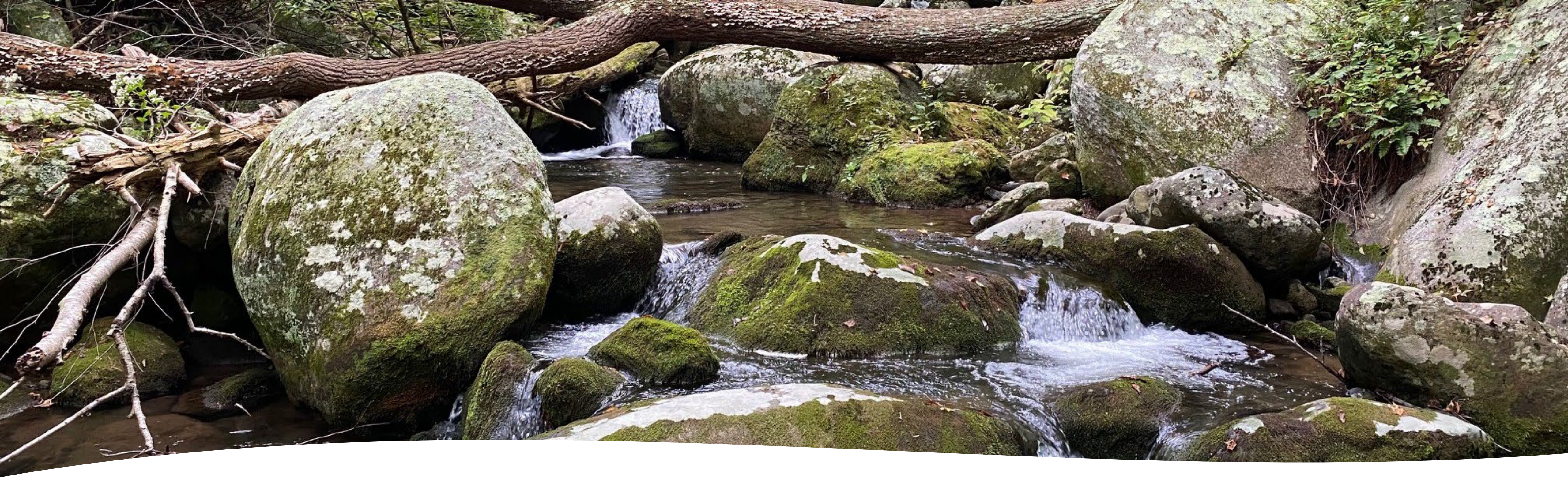
Question	How's My Waterway	ATTAINS Geospatial Service	ATTAINS Reports (Requires Login)	ATTAINS Services	Expert Query	Comment
Where?	Yes, within a state/Org or local area	Yes, at the national or state/Org level	No	No	No	"Where" questions--or questions that involve maps--require geospatial data
Summary	Yes, within a state or local area	Yes, at the Parameter Group or Use Group level	Yes, within an Organization	Depends on the question to be summarized	No	Several tools will provide limited summaries. Expert Query provides rows of data but no summaries.
Query	State Advanced tab allows limited filtering	Yes, at the Parameter Group or Use Group level, at the national or state level. Returns one record per AU	Yes, within an Organization	Limited filtering, and must be included in web service call	Yes	If you want to search or filter for rows of specific data, Expert Query may be your best option, if it is public data. (For non-public data, use Reports module within ATTAINS.) Expert Query allows querying across multiple Organizations or States but may result in very large tabular datasets.

# For Further Reference

- How's My Waterway: <https://mywaterway.epa.gov/>
- Expert Query: <https://owapps.epa.gov/expertquery/attains/>
- Public ATTAINS Website: <https://www.epa.gov/waterdata/attains>
  - Using ATTAINS Web Services: <https://www.epa.gov/waterdata/get-data-access-public-attains-data#WebServices>
  - ATTAINS Geospatial Services: <https://www.epa.gov/waterdata/get-data-access-public-attains-data#AttainsGeo>
  - ATTAINS Reports Module: <https://www.epa.gov/waterdata/upload-data-resources-registered-attains-users#reports-module>

# Participant Questions





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# Questions?

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