

Nonpoint Source Priority Watersheds List  
**RIVERS and STREAMS**

### Impaired Streams

As a starting point, all rivers and streams impaired due to nonpoint source (NPS) pollution in the following categories of the 2018/2020/2022 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report are considered for inclusion on the priority list:

- Category 4-A: Rivers and Streams with Impaired Use, TMDL Completed;
- Category 5-A: Rivers and Streams Impaired by Pollutants Other Than Those Listed in 5-B Through 5-D (TMDL Required);
- Category 5-B: Rivers and Streams Impaired for Bacteria Only, TMDL Required.

To determine if a stream or river is impaired primarily due to NPS sources, the DEP Biomonitoring database was queried as to what were the major sources of the impairments. A stream is considered impaired primarily by NPS if the sources were listed as NPS, agriculture, stormwater, impervious surfaces, habitat modification, post-development erosion and sedimentation, or source unknown.

Streams on the Integrated Report Impaired List which are expected to result in attainment (Category 4-B: Rivers and Streams Impaired by Pollutants - Pollution Control Requirements Reasonably Expected to Result in Attainment) are not included on the priority list. These streams are believed to be impaired primarily due to non-NPS reasons and are being addressed by regulatory programs and remediation work.

Streams on the Integrated Report Impaired List due to hydrologic reasons (Category 4-C: Rivers and Streams with Impairment not Caused by a Pollutant), mercury (Category 5-C: Waters Impaired by Atmospheric Deposition of Mercury), or legacy pollutants (Category 5-D: Rivers and Streams Impaired by Legacy Pollutants), are not included on the priority list. These streams are believed to be impaired primarily due to sources beyond the scope of the 319 NPS program.

Once the streams impaired by NPS are identified, they are determined to be priority stream watersheds if they meet one of the following criteria.

- Had a Total Maximum Daily Load (**TMDL**) report completed or in development. This includes streams with an individual NPS-based TMDL and those included in the Maine Impervious Cover TMDL or Maine Statewide NPS TMDL. These streams are impaired primarily due to NPS pollution and the TMDLs provide an analysis of the causes of the impairment, and therefore a first step in determining what needs to be done to improve the water quality. For streams included in the Maine Statewide Bacteria TMDL, only those whose impairment is only due to bacteria that is not caused by a point source are listed as priority streams.
- Identified as a priority watershed by the Maine Natural Resources Conservation Service National Water Quality Incentive (**NWQI**, previously identified in this priority list as Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)) or by Maine Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (**MS4**) community plans.

- High risk of future development in watershed due to its location **near a highway exit**. These streams were determined by completing a risk assessment of the likelihood of development near each Maine Turnpike, Interstate 95, and Route 295 exit that had stream watersheds within a one-mile radius. Streams were categorized as having a high, medium, or low risk of development in their watershed due to Access-related development. A screening level field survey and water quality sampling was conducted on streams with a high risk of development where more information was needed. The goal of the screening was to see if the stream was showing signs of stress or not, and to assess whether it fit the NPS priority selection principles. High risk streams were added to the priority list unless the assessment showed the stream was not showing signs of stress and land use in the area did not appear to be a high threat.
- Streams that provide critical salmon habitat were identified as **priority salmon streams** by the Department of Marine Resources (DMR), with support of partners. If these streams were determined to have probable current, or future, NPS pollution threats in the watershed they were included on the priority list.

Some streams were not included on the priority list even if they met some of the above criteria due to the following reasons:

- Believed to be impaired due to **‘natural’ reasons** such as being a backwater stream or having wetland effects which cause the stream to not meet its class.
- Streams or rivers impaired mostly due to **legacy pollutants**, particularly legacy toxins. It is believed that the legacy pollutants would have to be addressed in order for the stream to meet class, so addressing the NPS sources would not be sufficient to have it meet class and therefore the stream is not added to the NPS priority list.
- **Large rivers** (e.g., Kennebec River, Androscoggin River, Presumpscot River) were not included as priorities since the large size of their watershed makes measurable improvement in water quality due to implementation of NPS watershed-based plans very unlikely. Instead, tributaries to these larger watersheds were considered for the priority list based both on their own characteristics and their impact on the larger impaired watersheds.
- Rivers whose impairment is primarily due to **point sources** such as combined sewer overflows or wastewater discharges were also not included on the priority list. It is believed that the point sources would need to be addressed for the water quality of these rivers to be improved significantly.

**Impaired Streams Priority List (92 streams)**

<b>Stream</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>Priority List Reasoning</b>
<b>Adams Brook</b>	Berwick	TMDL
<b>Amsden Brook</b>	Ft. Fairfield	Agriculture Threat
<b>Arctic Brook</b>	Bangor	TMDL, Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Barberry Creek</b>	South Portland	TMDL
<b>Birch Brook</b>	Presque Isle	Agriculture Threat
<b>Birch Stream</b>	Bangor	TMDL, MS4 Priority Water
<b>Black Brook</b>	Windham	TMDL
<b>Bond Brook</b>	Augusta	Highway Access-related Development Threat, Development Threat
<b>Brackett Brook</b>	Palmyra	TMDL
<b>Burnham Brook</b>	Garland	TMDL
<b>Capehart Brook</b>	Bangor	TMDL
<b>Capisic Brook</b>	Portland	TMDL, MS4 Priority Water
<b>Card Brook</b>	Ellsworth	TMDL
<b>Chamberlain Brook</b>	Whitefield	TMDL
<b>Chandler River including East Branch</b>	Pownal	TMDL
<b>China Lake Outlet Stream</b>	Winslow	TMDL
<b>Cold Stream</b>	Skowhegan	High Growth Area
<b>Cole Brook</b>	Gray	TMDL
<b>Colley Wright Brook</b>	Windham	TMDL
<b>Coloney Brook</b>	Fort Fairfield	TMDL
<b>Concord Gully</b>	Freeport	TMDL, Highway Access-related Development Threat, MS4 Priority Water
<b>Cowett Brook</b>	Presque Isle	Agriculture Threat
<b>Craig Brook</b>	Littleton	TMDL
<b>Crooked Brook</b>	Corinth	TMDL
<b>Currier Brook</b>	Skowhegan	Bacteria TMDL
<b>Dole Brook</b>	Portland	TMDL
<b>Duck Brook</b>	Arundel	Bacteria TMDL
<b>Dudley Brook</b>	Chapman	TMDL
<b>Dyer River</b>	Newcastle	Bacteria TMDL, NWQI
<b>Everett Brook</b>	Fort Fairfield	TMDL
<b>Fish Brook</b>	Fairfield	TMDL
<b>French Stream</b>	Exeter	TMDL, Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Frost Gully Brook</b>	Freeport	TMDL

Stream	Town	Priority List Reasoning
<b>Goodall Brook</b>	Sanford	TMDL
<b>Goosefare Brook</b>	Saco	TMDL, Bacteria TMDL, Highway Access-related Development Threat, MS4 Priority
<b>Gray Brook</b>	Ft. Fairfield	Agriculture Threat
<b>Gully Brook</b>	Auburn	TMDL
<b>Hacker Brook</b>	Ft. Fairfield	Agriculture Threat
<b>Halfmoon Stream</b>	Thorndike	TMDL
<b>Hart (Dill) Brook</b>	Lewiston	TMDL, MS4 Priority Water
<b>Hobbs Brook</b>	Cumberland	TMDL
<b>Inkhorn Brook</b>	Westbrook	TMDL
<b>Jock Stream</b>	Wales	TMDL
<b>Kennebunk River, including Estuary</b>	Arundel, Kennebunk	Bacteria TMDL
<b>Kennedy Brook</b>	Augusta	TMDL
<b>Kennedy Brook</b>	Presque Isle	High Growth Area
<b>Kimball Brook</b>	South Portland	TMDL
<b>Logan Brook</b>	Auburn	TMDL, MS4 Priority Water
<b>Long Creek</b>	South Portland	Highway Access-related Development Threat, Development Threat
<b>Meadow Brook</b>	Bangor	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Mere Brook</b>	Brunswick	TMDL
<b>Merrit Brook</b>	Presque Isle	TMDL
<b>Mill Stream</b>	Albion	TMDL
<b>Mosher Brook</b>	Gorham	TMDL
<b>Mulligan Stream</b>	St. Albans	TMDL
<b>Nasons Brook</b>	Portland, Westbrook	TMDL
<b>No Name Brook</b>	Lewiston	TMDL
<b>North Fork McLean Brook</b>	St. Agatha	Agriculture Threat
<b>Oliver Brook</b>	Houlton	Agriculture Threat
<b>Otter Brook</b>	Windham	TMDL
<b>Otter Stream</b>	Milford, Bradley	Bacteria TMDL, MS4 Priority Water
<b>Penjajawoc Stream</b>	Bangor	Highway Access-related Development Threat, MS4 Priority Water
<b>Penley Brook</b>	Auburn	TMDL
<b>Perkins Stream</b>	Waterville	Development Threat, Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Phillips Brook</b>	Scarborough	TMDL

Stream	Town	Priority List Reasoning
<b>Pleasant River</b>	Windham	TMDL, Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Prestile Stream (Upper)</b>	Mars Hill	TMDL
<b>Red Brook</b>	Scarborough, South Portland	TMDL, Highway Access-related Development Threat, MS4 Priority Water
<b>Riggs Brook</b>	Augusta	TMDL
<b>Rocky Brook</b>	Mars Hill	Agriculture Threat
<b>Sabattus River</b>	Sabattus	TMDL
<b>Shaw Brook</b>	Bangor, Hampden	TMDL, Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Smith Brook</b>	Houlton	TMDL
<b>Stetson Brook</b>	Lewiston	High Growth Area
<b>Stroudwater River</b>	Portland, Westbrook	TMDL
<b>Sucker Brook</b>	Hampden	TMDL, Highway Access-related Development Threat, MS4 Priority Water
<b>Thatcher Brook</b>	Biddeford	TMDL, Highway Access-related Development Threat, MS4 Priority Water
<b>Thayer Brook</b>	Gray	TMDL, Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Topsham Fair Mall Stream</b>	Topsham	TMDL, Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Topsham Fairgrounds Stream</b>	Topsham	TMDL, Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Trout Brook</b>	South Portland	TMDL, MS4 Priority Water
<b>Unnamed Stream (Rte 196)</b>	Lisbon Falls	TMDL, MS4 Priority Water
<b>Unnamed Trib to Androscoggin River (near Jordan Ave)</b>	Brunswick	TMDL
<b>Unnamed Trib to Androscoggin River (near River Rd)</b>	Brunswick	TMDL
<b>Unnamed Trib to Androscoggin River (near Water St)</b>	Brunswick	TMDL
<b>Unnamed Trib to Aroostook River (at Parkhurst)</b>	Presque Isle	Agriculture Threat

Stream	Town	Priority List Reasoning
<b>Unnamed Trib to Bond Brook (entering below I-95)</b>	Augusta	TMDL, Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Warren Brook</b>	Belfast	TMDL
<b>West Branch Sheepscot River</b>	Whitefield	TMDL, NWQI
<b>West Brook</b>	North Berwick	TMDL
<b>Whitney Brook</b>	Augusta	TMDL
<b>Whitten Brook</b>	Skowhegan	TMDL

### Threatened Streams

Non-impaired streams are assessed as to whether they are being significantly impacted or have the threat of significant impact from NPS pollution and whether the use of NPS 319 funds is likely to improve or protect water quality over the long term.

Non-impaired streams are determined to be priority threatened stream watersheds if they meet one of the following criteria:

- Streams listed on the 2018/2020/2022 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report Category 3 (Waters with Insufficient Data or Information to Determine if Designated Uses are Attained) for NPS issues. For streams, Category 3 is used as a '**Watch List**' for streams of concern. Included on this list are streams that were recently impaired, and are therefore still sensitive, and streams with data that show they will likely be impaired in the future.
- Have recent increased impacts or significant potential threats from **agriculture** or **development**. This was determined through use of best professional judgment of the impact or significant threat of impact due to recent activities in the watershed. The sensitivity of the stream, extent and location of the agriculture or development, and cumulative effect of other watershed activities were considered in this determination.
- Identified as a priority watershed by partner organizations, such as the Maine Natural Resources Conservation Service National Water Quality Incentive (**NWQI**, previously identified in this priority list as Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)) or by Maine Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (**MS4**) community plans.
- High risk of future development in watershed due to location **near a highway exit**. These streams were determined by doing a risk assessment of the likelihood of development near each Maine Turnpike, Interstate 95, and Route 295 exit that had stream watersheds within a one-mile radius. Streams were categorized as having a high, medium, or low risk of development in their watershed due to Access-related development. A screening level field survey and water quality sampling was conducted on streams with a high risk of development where more information was needed. The goal of the screening was to see if the stream was showing signs of stress or not, and to assess whether it fit the NPS priority selection principles. High risk streams were added to the priority list unless the assessment showed the stream

was not showing signs of stress and land use in the area did not appear to be a high threat.

- Streams that provide critical salmon habitat were identified as **priority salmon streams** by the Department of Marine Resources (DMR) with support of partners. If these streams were determined to have probable current, or future, NPS pollution threats in the watershed they were included on the priority list.

Even if streams or rivers met some of the above criteria, they were not included on the priority list if they are **large rivers** and/or the impairment is due to **wastewater discharges**. For these streams or rivers, it is believed that larger scale and/or point source-related work is necessary and smaller tributary work is a better fit with the current NPS program.

#### Threatened Streams Priority List (76 streams)

Stream	Town	Priority List Reasoning
<b>Alder Stream</b>	Corinna	NWQI Priority Water
<b>Aroostook River Tributaries from Presque Isle to the Canadian Border (Richardson Brook, Spring Brook, Prestile Brook, Caribou Stream, McDonald Brook, Pattee Brook, Libby Brook, Hockenhull Brook, Hardwood Brook, Factory Brook, and Nichols Brook)</b>	Presque Isle, Caribou, Fort Fairfield	Agriculture Threat
<b>Beaver Brook</b>	Scarborough	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Beaverdam Stream</b>	Wesley	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Black Brook</b>	Sangerville	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Blackstone Brook</b>	Blanchard	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Bobbin Mill Brook</b>	Auburn	Watch List
<b>Cathance Stream</b>	Edmunds TWP	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Cemetery Brook (unnamed trib to Penjajwoc/Meadow)</b>	Veazie	MS4 Priority Water
<b>Chenery Brook</b>	Falmouth	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Chickering Creek</b>	Kittery	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Collyer Brook</b>	Gray	Development Threat
<b>Cottle Brook</b>	Phillips	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Cove Brook</b>	Winterport	Watch List
<b>Crooked River</b>	T30 MD BPP	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Dead Stream</b>	Meddybemps	Priority Salmon Stream

Stream	Town	Priority List Reasoning
<b>Deep Brook</b>	Saco	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Depot Stream</b>	Wells	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>East Branch Piscataqua</b>	Falmouth	Watch List, MS4 Priority Water
<b>Farnham Brook</b>	Pittsfield	Watch List
<b>Felts Brook</b>	Brewer	MS4 Priority Water
<b>Great Works River</b>	South Berwick	MS4 Priority Water
<b>Houston Brook</b>	Katahdin Iron Works TWP	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Kenduskeag Stream (above the village of Kenduskeag)</b>	Kenduskeag	Agriculture Threat
<b>Little River</b>	York	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Little River</b>	Belfast	Development Threat
<b>Maxwell Brook</b>	Sabattus	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Medomak River</b>	Waldoboro	Agriculture Threat
<b>Meduxnekeag River*</b>	Houlton	NWQI Priority Water, Watch List
<b>Merrill Brook</b>	Freeport	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Mill Brook</b>	Scarborough	Development Threat
<b>Mill Brook</b>	Westbrook	MS4 Priority Water
<b>Mill Creek</b>	Falmouth	Highway Access-related Development Threat, MS4 Priority Water
<b>Moose Brook</b>	Auburn	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Mopang Stream</b>	T25 MD BPP	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Moulton Brook</b>	York	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Mt. Blue Stream</b>	Avon	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Narraguagus River (North of Beddington Lake)</b>	T22 MD BPP	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Northern Stream</b>	Berry TWP	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Norton Brook</b>	Falmouth	Watch List, Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Old Stream</b>	Northfield	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Orbeton Stream</b>	Phillips	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Pearce Brook</b>	Houlton	Agriculture Threat, Development Threat

Stream	Town	Priority List Reasoning
<b>Perham Stream</b>	Madrid	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Perley Brook</b>	Fort Kent	Watch List
<b>Piscataqua River</b>	Falmouth	Watch List
<b>Pleasant River</b>	Milo	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Pleasant River (Above Saco Rd. crossing)</b>	T18 MD BPP	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Pollard Brook</b>	Lincoln	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Pope Creek</b>	Wells	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Rockwood Brook</b>	Augusta	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Rolling Dam Brook</b>	Gardiner	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Salmon Brook</b>	Washburn	Watch List
<b>Salmon Stream</b>	Guilford	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Sandy Stream</b>	Unity	Agriculture Threat
<b>Scitterygusset Creek</b>	Falmouth	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Sheepscot River</b>	Whitefield	NWQI, Agriculture Threat
<b>South Branch Sandy River</b>	Phillips	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Stone Brook</b>	Augusta	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Sunday River</b>	Newry, Bethel	Watch List
<b>Swan Pond Brook Tributary (crosses Buzzell Road)</b>	Dayton, Biddeford	Watch List
<b>Tannery Brook</b>	Gorham	Watch List, MS4 Priority Water
<b>Tanning Brook</b>	Manchester	Watch List
<b>Taylor Brook</b>	Auburn	Development Threat
<b>Twelvemile Brook</b>	Clinton, Waterville	Watch List
<b>Unnamed Stream at I-95 Exit 19, tributary to Webhannet River</b>	Wells	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Unnamed Stream at I-95 Exit 75, tributary to Androscoggin River</b>	Auburn	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Unnamed Stream at I-95 Exit 113, tributary to Kennebec River</b>	Augusta	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Unnamed Stream at I-95 Exit 150, downtown tributary to Farnham Brook</b>	Pittsfield	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Unnamed Trib to Piscataqua River, crosses Mountain Rd, I-95 &amp; Gray Rd</b>	Falmouth	Highway Access-related Development Threat
<b>Unnamed Tribs to Long Lake near golf course</b>	Madawaska	Agriculture Threat

Stream	Town	Priority List Reasoning
<b>Vaughan Brook</b>	Hallowell	Development Threat
<b>Violette Stream</b>	Van Buren	Development Threat
<b>West Branch Machias River</b>	T30 MD BPP	Priority Salmon Stream
<b>Weston Brook</b>	Manchester	Watch List
<b>Willowdale Brook</b>	Scarborough	Highway Access-related Development Threat

*\*While sections of the mainstem below the South Branch are listed in the 2022 Integrated Report as impaired (Categories 4-A, 5, 5D) the River is included on the threatened priority list since the mainstem between Meduxnekeag Lake and the South Branch is Category 3. See the Integrated Report for more information.*