DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY: PRIMARY CLASSIFICATIONS

**Saltwater (S) A**
- Aquatic life propagation;
- Secondary Recreation including projects for fishing, boating, and water related activities involving minimal skin contact.
  - Not to exceed 200 (geometric mean of five consecutive samples in a 30-day period), and
  - Not to exceed 400 in 20 percent of samples.
  - No categorical restrictions. However, DWQ may prohibit discharges on a case-by-case basis for protection of water quality.
  - Refer to Supplemental Classification, and to the N.C. Division of Coastal Management, N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, Shellfish Sanitation, and Recreational Water Quality Section.
  - Not to exceed 200 (geometric mean of five consecutive samples in a 30-day period), and
  - Not to exceed 400 in 20 percent of samples.

**Saltwater (S) C**
- Not to exceed 200 (geometric mean of five consecutive samples in a 30-day period), and
- Not to exceed 400 in 20 percent of samples.
- No categorical restrictions. However, DWQ may prohibit discharges on a case-by-case basis for protection of water quality.
- Refer to Supplemental Classification, and to the N.C. Division of Coastal Management, N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, Shellfish Sanitation, and Recreational Water Quality Section.

**DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES (DMF)**

**Concern (AECs)**
- One primary classification (SW = Saltwater Wetlands) and one supplemental classification (UWL = Unique Wetlands) are not discussed.
- All SA waters are HQW (see below).
- Not to exceed 200 (geometric mean of five consecutive samples in a 30-day period), and
  - Not to exceed 400 in 20 percent of samples.
  - No categorical restrictions. However, DWQ may prohibit discharges on a case-by-case basis for protection of water quality.
  - Refer to Supplemental Classification, and to the N.C. Division of Coastal Management, Division of Marine Fisheries, Shellfish Sanitation and Recreational Water Quality Section.

**DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY: SUPPLEMENTAL CLASSIFICATIONS**

**High Quality Waters (HQW)**
- Water quality standards are associated with Primary Classification.
  - New or expanded discharges must meet higher treatment requirements.
  - Refer to the Division of Coastal Management, Division of Marine Fisheries, Shellfish Sanitation, and Recreational Water Quality Section.

**Outstanding Resource Waters (ORW)**
- Water quality standards are associated with Primary Classification.
- All SA waters, Outstanding Resource Waters (ORW), and Primary Nursery Areas (PNAs) (or other functional nursery areas) are HQW.

**DIVISION OF COASTAL MANAGEMENT (DCM)**

**Estuarine Areas of Environmental Concern (AECs)**
- Refer to DWQ Tidal Saltwater Classifications and Standards.
- Refer to DWQ Tidal Saltwater Classifications and Standards.
- Refer to the Division of Coastal Management, Division of Marine Fisheries, Shellfish Sanitation, and Recreational Water Quality Section.

**DIVISION OF FISHERIES RESOURCES (DFR)**

**Primary Nursery Areas (PNAs)**
- Growing areas where populations of juvenile finfish and shellfish of economic importance exist.
- All SA waters are HQW (see above).
- Commercial shellfish harvesting; Commercial shellfish harvesting; Commercial shellfish harvesting.
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- Projects require major Coastal Management Act (CAMA) development permit.
- Projects must conform to Specific Use Standards.
- Refer to DWQ Tidal Saltwater Classifications and Standards, and to Division of Land Resources.
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- Refer to the Stormwater Management Rules for specific stormwater control requirements in the 20 coastal counties.
- Stormwater management measures in the 20 coastal counties are the same as the primary classification requirements.
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