

The Integrated Report places all state water bodies into at least one of five different categories.

These categories describe how a water body relates to its beneficial uses. “Support” of a beneficial use is defined in IDAPA 58.01.02.010.41.

- Category 1 waters are wholly within a designated wilderness or inventoried roadless area and presumed to be fully supporting all beneficial uses.
- Category 2 waters are fully supporting those beneficial uses that have been assessed. The use attainment of the remaining beneficial uses has not been determined due to insufficient data (or no data) and information.
- Category 3 waters have insufficient data (or no data) and information to determine if beneficial uses are being attained.
- Category 4 waters do not support one or more beneficial uses, but they do not require the development of a TMDL. Category 4 has three subcategories:
  - Category 4a waters have had a TMDL completed and approved by EPA.
  - Category 4b waters have had pollution control requirements other than a TMDL placed on them, and these waters are reasonably expected to attain the water quality standard within a reasonable period of time.
  - Category 4c waters are those failing to meet applicable water quality standards due to other types of pollution (e.g., flow alteration), not a pollutant.
- Category 5 waters do not meet applicable water quality standards for one or more beneficial uses due to one or more pollutants; therefore, an EPA-approved TMDL is needed. Category 5 water bodies make up the §303(d) list of impaired waters.

An assessment unit (AU) is a group of similar stream segments that have similar land-use practices, ownership, or land management. AUs, rather than water bodies, are classified into at least one of the five different categories. An AU may be impaired by multiple causes, and in some instances can be listed in multiple categories. As such, category listings are sometimes referred to as AU-cause combinations, rather than simply water bodies, since a particular water body may be divided into multiple AUs impaired by multiple causes.