

2026 Integrated Water Quality Report

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Bureau of Clean Water
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Pennsylvania
Department of
Environmental Protection

Timeline



- **Integrated Report (IR) Participation Targets**
 - Begins October 4, 2025
 - 60-day comment period (increase from previous IRs)
 - Ends December 2, 2025
- **IR Finalization**
 - Comment/response document will be created after December 2, 2025
 - Final 2026 IR projected to be submitted to EPA for approval by February 2026
 - Meets federal mandate of final submission by April 1, 2026

Pennsylvania was the first state in the nation to submit a 2024 IR to EPA, and did so ahead of the April 1 deadline!

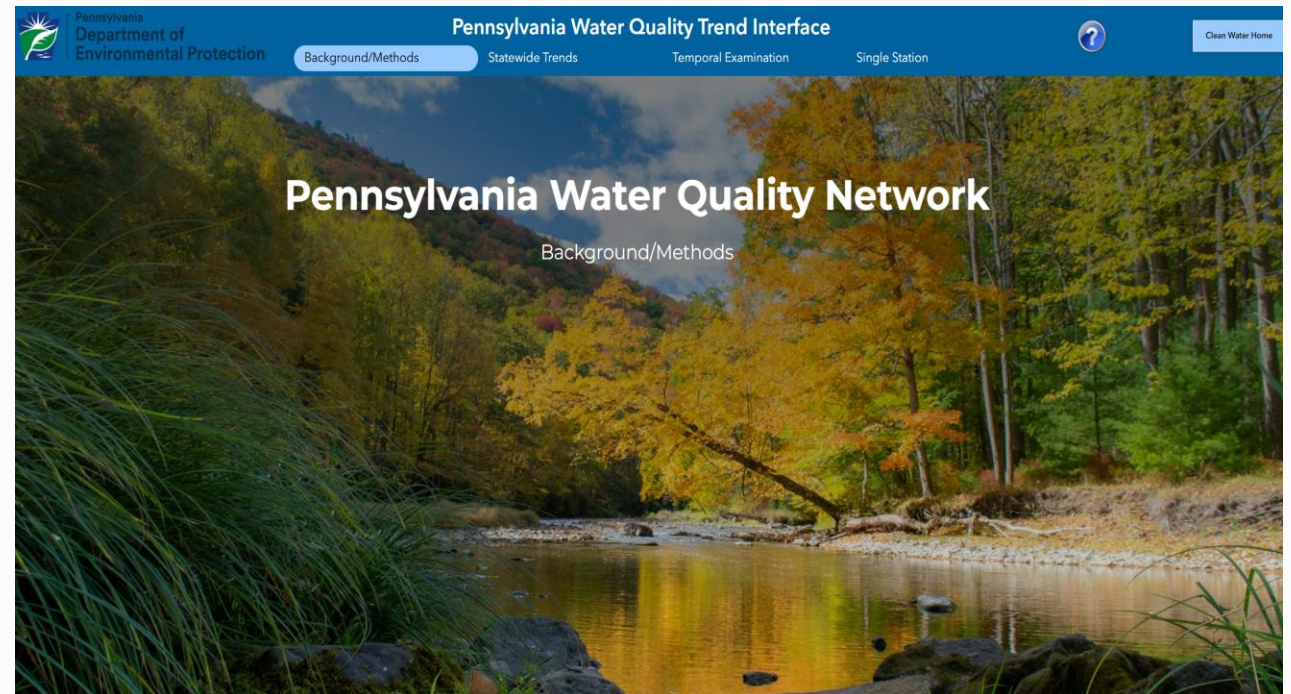
Changes and Enhancements

- Special Protection (High Quality and Exceptional Value) will be calculated as a new Use category
 - Previously, the Aquatic Life Use category included both Special Protection and Non-Special Protection assessments
 - Provides the public a snapshot of how Pennsylvania's most valued surface waters are performing



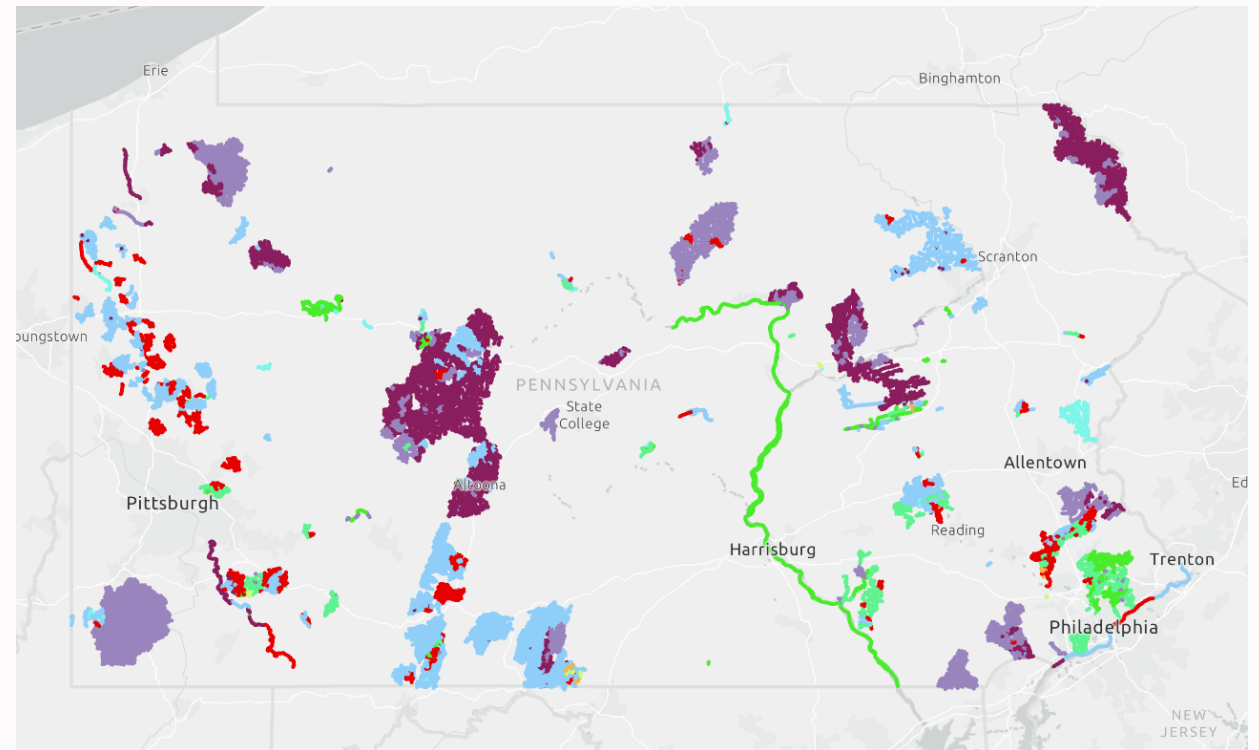
Changes and Enhancements

- New Water Quality Trends Application
 - Advanced data exploration experience with multiple ways to view trends
 - Full background and methods StoryMap embedded into the application



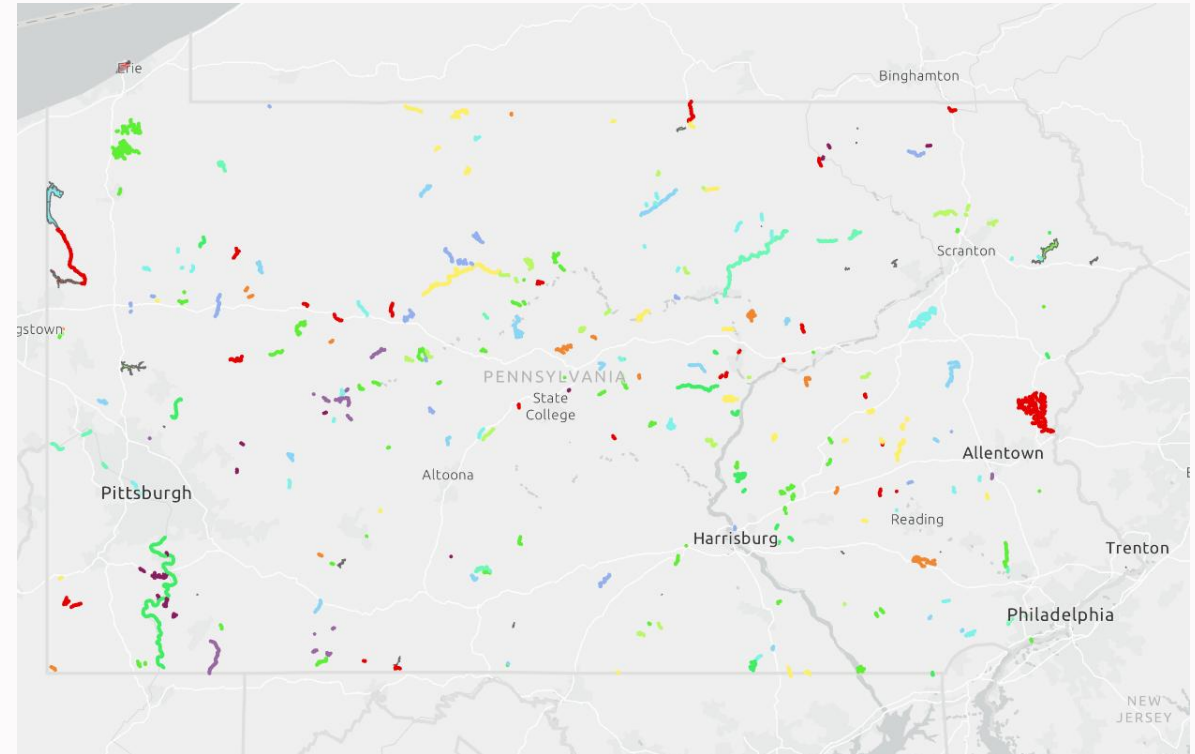
Data Highlights

- Delaware Estuary was assessed for Water Contact Sports after a collaborative sampling effort between DEP and DRBC
- Presque Isle Bay Water Contact Sports was reassessed as supporting
- DEP received triple the number of data submissions compared to previous IRs
- Cause removals and refinements were doubled compared to previous IRs



Data Highlights

- 2026 IR Assessment Metrics
 - More than 10,000 stream miles and more than 14,000 lake acres were newly assessed for a protected use or reassessed
- 2026 IR Restoration Metrics
 - Approximately 163 stream miles and 7,104 lake acres have been restored for at least one protected water use in 2026
 - A total of 1,099 stream miles and 35,504 lake acres have been restored for at least one protected water use since 2004





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Get In Touch

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The Department of Environmental Protection's mission is to protect Pennsylvania's air, land and water resources and to provide for the health and safety of its residents and visitors, consistent with the rights and duties established under the Environmental Rights Amendment (Article 1, Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution).