

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)**

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



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