



WPC Permits in TN **Exceptional TN Waters** WPC Permit Appeals WPC Complaints WPC Inspections Oil and Gas

Introduction to Exceptional Waters and ORNW in Tennessee

The Known Exceptional Tennessee Waters and Outstanding National Resource Waters

Tennessee water quality standards require the incorporation of the antidegradation policy into regulatory decisions (Chapter 1200-4-3-.06). Part of the policy places on the Division of Water Pollution Control the identification of exceptional Tennessee Waters (previously known as Tier 2) and Outstanding Waters (Tier 3). In exceptional waters, degradation cannot be authorized unless (1) there is no reasonable alternative to the proposed activity that would degrade and (2) the activity is in the economic or social interest of the public. In Outstanding National Resource Waters, no new discharges, expanded discharges, or mixing zones will be permitted unless such activity will not result in measurable degradation of the water quality.

The Division of Water Pollution Control has compiled the list of waters that follows based on the characteristics of Exceptional Tennessee Waters and Outstanding National Resource Waters set forth in the regulation by the Tennessee Water Quality Control Board. In general, these are waterbodies with good water quality, ecological values, valuable recreational uses, and outstanding scenery. Wherever possible, the Division has utilized objective measures to apply the basis for each listing is provided.

The following factors should be considered:

1. The list will be updated regularly and does not include waterbodies that the division has not evaluated. The fact that a waterbody does not appear does not preclude the possibility that it may be high quality.
2. In some cases, only a portion of a waterbody is considered high quality. The extent of each listing is provided.
3. This compilation of waterbodies is based on the most recent information obtained by the division and may be reconsidered upon submittal of new information.
4. The list is organized in hydrological order. Reviewers should be aware that many waterbodies share the same name. It is our goal to develop a system to locate these high quality waters.

It is our hope that this compilation of high quality waterbodies will provide a valuable planning tool for both the public and the regulated community. If you have any questions, please contact Greg Denton, (615) 532-0699, or gregory.denton@tn.gov

Search Guidance

Exceptional TN Streams

 Go Actions Help

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HUC	Watershed Name	Waterbody	County	Description	Basis for Inclusion	From Lat	To Lat	From Long	To Long	Inclusion
05130104	Cumberland-South Fork	Gum Branch	Fentress	Portion in Big South Fork NRRRA.	Big South Fork NRRRA	36.49	36.4897	-84.7512	-84.7524	
05130104	Cumberland-South Fork	Good Spring Branch	Scott	Portion in Big South Fork NRRRA.	Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area	36.363	36.3631	-84.733	-84.7376	
05130104	Cumberland-South Fork	Grand Branch	Scott	Portion in Big South Fork NRRRA.	Big South Fork NRRRA	36.5367	36.5439	-84.7129	-84.7218	
05130104	Cumberland-South Fork	Grassy Fork	Scott	Portion in Big South Fork NRRRA.	Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area	36.5784	36.5439	-84.6048	-84.6298	
05130104	Cumberland-South Fork	Greasy Creek	Scott	Portion in Big South Fork NRRRA.	Big South Fork NRRRA	36.4315	36.434	-84.5967	-84.5906	
05130104	Cumberland-South Fork	Groom Branch	Fentress	Portion in Big South Fork NRRRA.	Big South Fork NRRRA	36.4447	36.4801	-84.7151	-84.741	
05130104	Cumberland-South Fork	Hammock Branch	Fentress	Portion in Big South Fork NRRRA.	Big South Fork NRRRA	36.5154	36.5225	-84.7872	-84.7919	
05130104	Cumberland-South Fork	Harvey Branch	Scott	Portion in Big South Fork NRRRA.	Big South Fork NRRRA	36.5608	36.568	-84.6719	-84.6833	
05130104	Cumberland-South Fork	Hollow Rock Branch	Scott	Portion in Big South Fork NRRRA.	Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area	36.5849	36.5852	-84.7173	-84.7331	
05130104			Scott			36.4333	36.4266	-84.6465	-84.6578	

		Cumberland-South Fork	Honey Creek		Portions in Big South Fork NRRRA and Honey Creek Pocket Wilderness SNA.	Big South Fork NRRRA and Honey Creek Pocket Wilderness State Natural Area				
	05130104	Cumberland-South Fork	Hurricane Branch	Scott	Portion in Big South Fork NRRRA.	Big South Fork NRRRA	36.5914	36.5879	-84.6087	-84.5956
	05130104	Cumberland-South Fork	Hutts Branch	Scott	Portion in Big South Fork NRRRA.	Big South Fork NRRRA	36.5895	36.6007	-84.6599	-84.6585
	05130104	Cumberland-South Fork	Indian Creek	Morgan	Portion in Big South Fork NRRRA.	Big South Fork NRRRA	36.3366	36.3298	-84.7399	-84.7374
	05130104	Cumberland-South Fork	Indian Rock Branch	Scott	Portion in Big South Fork NRRRA.	Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area	36.5599	36.5463	-84.6155	-84.6402
	05130104	Cumberland-South Fork	Isham Creek	Scott	From mouth at Roaring Paunch Creek to headwaters.	State endangered Big South Fork Crayfish.	36.588	36.6004	-84.455	-84.4203

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Abbreviations

- NF = National Forest**
- NM = National Monument**
- NMP = National Military Park**
- NP = National Park**
- NRA = National Recreation Area**
- NRRRA = National River and Recreation Area**
- NW = National Wilderness**
- NWR = National Wildlife Refuge**
- ONRW = Outstanding National Resource Water**
- RM = River Mile**
- SAA = State Archaeological Area**
- SHP = State Historic Park**
- SNA = State National Area**
- SP = State Park**
- WA = Wilderness Area**
- WMA = Wildlife Management Area**
- WR = Wildlife Refuge**



If you have any questions or comments, Email ask.tdec@tn.gov or call at (888) 891-TDEC (8332).

