

3745-4-02 **Definitions.**

- (A) "Compelling reasons" as to why historical data are credible means that no more recent data exist, or more recent data alone are insufficient to establish water quality, or the director identifies other circumstances supporting the use of the historical data. Historical data shall be evaluated to insure that more recent information does not indicate that the data are not representative of current conditions.
- (B) "Credible data" means scientifically valid chemical, physical, or biological water quality monitoring data concerning surface waters, including qualitative scoring of physical habitat characteristics and the sampling of fish, macroinvertebrates, and water quality, that have been collected by or submitted to the director and that comply with the requirements established in this chapter. Credible data may include historical data if the director identifies compelling reasons as to why the data are credible.
- (C) "Data quality objectives (DQOs)" means qualitative and quantitative statements derived from the DQO process that clarify study objectives, define the appropriate type of data, and specify tolerable levels of potential decision errors that will be used as the basis for establishing the quality and quantity of data needed to support decisions. The planning process for ensuring environmental data are the type, quality, and quantity needed for decision making is called the DQO process.
- (D) "Detection limit" means the lowest concentration of a target analyte that a given method or piece of equipment can reliably ascertain and report as greater than zero.
- (E) "Director" means the director of the Ohio environmental protection agency.
- (F) "Educational monitoring program" means a surface water quality data collection program designed for education or public awareness purposes and associated with an accredited or school-sponsored science education program. The program must be consistent with national or state science content standards, provide an introduction to basic water quality principles and train participants in the use of field instrumentation, sample collection and preservation, and data recording techniques.
- (G) "Federal environmental agency," as used in this chapter, means an agency of the United States government, or a department, division, or program in an agency of the United States government, whose primary function includes protection, management, study or assessment of the environment, natural resources or ecological systems, including but not limited to:
 - (1) The United States environmental protection agency;

- (2) The United States fish and wildlife service, the national park service, the office of surface mining, and the United States geological survey in the United States department of the interior;
 - (3) The United States army corps of engineers;
 - (4) The national oceanic and atmospheric administration in the United States department of commerce;
 - (5) The environmental management program in the United States department of energy;
 - (6) The forest service, the natural resources conservation service, and the agricultural research service in the United States department of agriculture; and
 - (7) The Ohio river valley water sanitation commission (ORSANCO).
- (H) "Generic study plan" means a plan for data collection, analysis, and interpretation prepared by the director designed to be used by a QDC in lieu of a project study plan.
- (I) "Headwater habitat evaluation index (HHEI)" means an assessment methodology of the principal physical and riparian stream habitat features in primary headwater habitat streams.
- (J) "Historical data" means data that are more than five years old.
- (K) "Mine affected stream" means a water body with one or more of the following characteristics:
- (1) A stream or stream segment identified as being impaired or impacted due to causes and sources related to coal mining;
 - (2) A stream or stream segment identified in a plan approved under the acid mine drainage abatement and treatment program administered by the Ohio department of natural resources;
 - (3) A stream or stream segment, not necessarily directly affected by coal mining, but contained within a watershed assessment unit with documented environmental problems related to coal mining; and
 - (4) Streams or stream segments designated limited resource water (acid mine drainage) or modified warmwater habitat (mine affected) in Chapter 3745-1 of the Administrative Code.
- (L) "Ohio EPA" means the Ohio environmental protection agency.

- (M) "Primary headwater habitat stream" means a surface water having a defined bed and bank, with either continuous or periodical flowing water, watershed area less than or equal to 1.0 square mile (two hundred fifty-nine hectare), and maximum depth of water pools equal to or less than forty centimeters.
- (N) "Project study plan" means a document describing the purpose of the data collection, the parameters or conditions that will be monitored, the methods of data collection and analysis, the identification of monitoring sites, a schedule for data collection and reporting, and how the data will be interpreted and presented.
- (O) "Quality assurance plan" (synonymous with "quality assurance manual" for the purposes of this chapter) means a document that details a laboratory's procedures to assure the accuracy and reproducibility of analytical results. A quality assurance plan includes information about laboratory personnel and their qualifications as well as laboratory equipment, methods, data management, and other specific procedures related to and including sample analysis.
- (P) "Qualified data collector (QDC)" means an individual who meets the requirements established in paragraph (A) of rule 3745-4-03 of the Administrative Code.
- (Q) "Qualitative habitat evaluation index (QHEI)" means an assessment methodology of the principal physical and riparian stream habitat features that affect fish communities and other aquatic life.
- (R) A "sampling and analysis plan (SAP)" documents the procedural and analytical requirements for a one-time or time-limited project designed to assess water quality that involves the collection of samples of water, biological assessments or other water quality indicators.
- (S) "State environmental agency," as used in this chapter, means an agency within the executive branch of the government of the state of Ohio, or a department, division, or program in an agency within the executive branch of the government of the state of Ohio, whose primary function includes protection, management, study or assessment of the environment, natural resources or ecological systems, including but not limited to:
- (1) The Ohio environmental protection agency;
 - (2) The Ohio department of natural resources;
 - (3) The bureau of environmental health in the division of prevention in the Ohio department of health;
 - (4) The livestock environmental permitting program in the Ohio department of agriculture;

- (5) The bureau of underground storage tank regulations in the state fire marshall division of the Ohio department of commerce; and
- (6) The office of environmental services in the Ohio department of transportation.
- (T) "Volunteer monitoring program" means any organized effort to collect surface water quality data using standardized sampling and testing protocols. The program must provide an introduction to basic water quality principles and train participants in the use of field instrumentation, sample collection and preservation, and data recording techniques.

Effective: 7/29/2011

R.C. 119.032 review date: 4/19/2011 and 7/29/2016

Promulgated Under: 119.03

Statutory Authority: 6111.51

Rule Amplifies: 6111.50, 6111.51, 6111.52, 6111.53, 6111.54, 6111.55,
6111.56

Prior Effective Dates: 3/24/2006