

TIER 3: MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS & COMPLIANCE MONITORING

Determining effectiveness of management measures & permit conditions

Tier 3 monitoring provides follow-up analysis of management plans that have been implemented for problem waterbodies, and evaluates permit compliance and the effectiveness of permit conditions. Monitoring under this tier evaluates the responses of core indicators from Tier 1 and 2 to management actions. Effectiveness of waterbody-specific management actions is determined using core indicators from the more intensive sampling designs under Tier 2 that are specific to the problem being addressed. The chosen indicators are compared before and after management actions are implemented.

Regulatory monitoring of permitted entities is also included in this category. Effluent monitoring helps WDNR determine whether permitted entities are meeting their permit conditions and state regulations. This type of monitoring is often done through self-reporting by the permitted entities, combined with spot-checks by WDNR staff. Monitoring of receiving waters assesses what the effect of an effluent is on the water quality in the receiving waterbody. This monitoring helps determine whether current effluent limits are appropriate or should be altered. Monitoring of public drinking water wells is carried out to ensure that surface and groundwater meet federal public health standards for contaminants in drinking water.