Content

Title：	Surface Water Classification and Water Quality Standards Ch	
Date：	2026.03.27	
Legislative：	1.Promulgated by Environmental Protection Administration order on September 25, 1985 2.Amended on August 2, 1993 3.Amended on January 21, 1998 4.Amended on June 24, 1998 5.Amended on September 13, 2017 6.Latest revisions promulgated by Environmental Protection Administration order on March 27, 2026	
Content：	Article 1	These Surface Water Body Classification and Water Quality Standards (herein referred to as "these Standards") are determined pursuant to Article 6, Paragraph 1 of the Water Pollution Control Act.
	Article 2	Terms used in these Standards are defined as follows. 1."Class 1 public water" means water sources that have been disinfected and can be used as public water supplies. 2."Class 2 public water" means water sources that must undergo commonly-used purification methods, such as coagulation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection, etc., before they may be used as public water sources. 3."Class 3 public water" means water sources that must undergo special or intensive treatment, such as activated carbon adsorption, ion exchange, and reverse osmosis, etc., before they may be used as public water sources. 4."Class 1 aquaculture water" means terrestrial surface water sources that may be used to provide water for raising trout, sweetfish and perch. 5."Class 2 aquaculture water" means terrestrial surface water sources that may be used to provide water for raising carp, grass carp, and mollusks. 6."Class 1 industrial water" means water sources that may be used for manufacturing. 7."Class 2 industrial water" means water sources that may be used for cooling water.
	Article 3	These classifications of terrestrial surface water bodies are intended to specify the scope of application and relevant environmental standards of water bodies on the basis of their characteristics, and are not intended to restrict the uses of water bodies. If the relevant environmental standards of a water body are linked to the protection of human health and the living environment, then relevant environmental standards pertaining to protection of the living environment and to protection of human health shall be as listed in appended tables 1 and 2 respectively.

	Article 4	Terrestrial surface water bodies are classified as Categories A, B, C, D, and E, and have the following applications: 1.Category A water bodies may be used for Class 1 public water and as Categories B, C, D, and E water bodies. 2.Category B water bodies may be used for Class 2 public water, Class 1 aquaculture water and as Categories C, D, and E water bodies. 3.Category C water bodies may be used for Class 3 public water, Class 2 aquaculture water, Class 1 industrial water, water recreation and as Categories D and E water bodies. 4.Category D water bodies may be used for irrigation water, Class 2 industrial water, and environmental conservation. 5.Category E water bodies may be used for environmental conservation.
	Article 5	If a terrestrial surface water body meets relevant environmental standards after treatment or natural purification, the classification and relevant environmental standards of the water body shall not be downgraded.
	Article 6	Water quality inspection methods listed in these Standards shall be determined by the central competent authority.
	Article 7	These regulations shall take effect on the date of promulgation.
Files：	Surface Water Classification and Water Quality Standards.odt Surface Water Classification and Water Quality Standards.odt	
Attachments：	Appended Table 1 Relevant Environmental Standards Pertaining to Protection of the Living Environment.odt Appended Tables 2 Relevant Environmental Standards Pertaining to Protection of Human Health.odt	

Data Source：Ministry of Environment Laws and Regulations Retrieving System