Pennsylvania Aquatic Community Classification

Priority Restoration Areas

The goal of this portion of the study was to use all of the data compiled in the ACC project to determine which watersheds are in the worst condition and are a priority for habitat restoration. To do so, we combined information from our Least-Disturbed Stream (LDS) reach analysis, biological metric scoring (see Conservation Prioritization Chapter) and biological community locations indicative of poor quality habitat. The watersheds were assigned Tier rankings as follows:

Variable	Tier 1 Criteria	Tier 2 Criteria
LDS	None of any size	None of any size
Biological Metric Score stream reaches below 20th percentile	Multiple stream reaches of fish or MI	One or more stream reaches of fish or MI
Poor quality fish & macro- invertebrate communities	Multiple stream reaches with poor quality fish or MI comm	One or more reaches of poor quality fish or MI comm.

