

Annexure 2

TABLE 1
Agreed position of scientists on water quality¹

Attribute	Water body type	Threshold to indicate waterbody in need of improvement	Threshold is consistent with Table in NPS-FM 2020 and is below a national bottom-line or minimum acceptable state.
Suspended sediment (water quality). Visual clarity.	Class 1b river Class 2b river Class 3b river Class 4b river	<1.34m <0.61m <2.22m <0.98m	Is consistent with NPS-FM, Table 8. NBL applied. Areas mapped are below the national bottom line for this attribute.
E.coli (med) E.coli (Q95) E.coli (G260) E.coli (G540)	All rivers	>130 per 100 ml >1200 per 100 ml >34% >20%	NPS-FM, Table 9, Band C. There are exceedances in one or more thresholds of Band C. There is no NBL. Band C is the 'minimum acceptable state' for the human contact value. Both experts map areas in Band D and E.
MCI (median)	All wadeable rivers	<90	Is consistent with NPS-FM, Table 14. NBL applied. Both experts map areas below the NBL. The NPS-FM does not differentiate between upland and lowland rivers. For lowland rivers, both experts

¹ Water Quality JWS, dated 7 July 2022.

			map areas < 90. For upland rivers, both experts map areas <100 (i.e. above the NBL for MCI).
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