

STREAM CLASSIFICATION

Stream Type	Private land	State land	Other public land
All Regions	Use 11 AAC 95.265 (b) through (f) for specific procedures on classifications (i.e., water body classification changes along its length, field inspections, field reviews, reclassifications, saltwater bodies). [11 AAC 95.265 (b)-(f)]		
Region I	See also 11 AAC 95.265(g) and its Table A for clarifications on determining when a stream is anadromous.	Classification of surface waters must indicate whether or not the surface waters are anadromous or contain high value resident fish under AS 41.17.950. [AS 41.17.950(1),(10) and 11 AAC 95.265(a)(4)] In the absence of a site-specific determination by the deputy commissioner, the state forester shall presume for planning purposes that a stream is anadromous if it is connected to anadromous waters that are without department documentation of a physical blockage and has a stream gradient of 8 percent or less. [AS 41.17.118(c)]	Classification of surface waters must indicate whether or not the surface waters are anadromous or contain high value resident fish under AS 41.17.950. [AS 41.17.950(1),(10) and 11 AAC 95.265(a)(4)]
Type I-A waterbody	An anadromous water body that (A) is a stream or river of any size having an average gradient of eight percent or less, with banks held in place by vegetation, channels that are not incised, and a substrate composed of rubble, gravel, sand, or silt; (B) consists of wetlands and lakes, including their outlets; <i>and</i> (C) is an estuarine area delimited by the presence of salt-tolerant vegetation. [11 AAC 95.265(a)(1) and AS 41.17.950(27)]		
Type I-B waterbody	An anadromous water body that does not meet the definition of a Type I-A water body. [11 AAC 95.265(a)(1) and AS 41.17.950(28)]		
Type I-C waterbody	A water body that is not anadromous, that is a tributary to a Type I-A or Type I-B water body, and that has a gradient of 12 percent or less. [11 AAC 95.265(a)(1) and AS 41.17.950(29)]		
Type I-D waterbody	A water body that is not anadromous, that is tributary to a Type I-A or Type I-B water body, and that has a gradient greater than 12 percent. [11 AAC 95.265(a)(1) and AS 41.17.950(30)]		
Other waterbodies	Any surface waters that do not meet the criteria set out in AS 41.17.950(27)-(30) do not have a riparian area, but are subject to surface water quality protection best management practices in accordance with this chapter. [11 AAC 95.265(a)(1)] (See also All Regions Other waterbodies, below)		
Region II	Classification of surface waters must indicate whether or not the surface waters are anadromous or contain high value resident fish under AS 41.17.950 [11 AAC 95.265(a)(2)]		
Region III		In the absence of a site-specific determination by the deputy commissioner, the state forester shall presume for planning purposes that a stream is anadromous if it is connected to anadromous waters that are without department documentation of a physical blockage and has a stream gradient of 8 percent or less. [AS 41.17.118(c) - state, and AS 41.17.119(2) - other public land]	
Type III-A waterbody	(A) nonglacial high value resident fish water body greater than three feet in width at the ordinary high water mark; (B) nonglacial anadromous water body; or (C) backwater slough; [11 AAC 95.265(a)(3) - private, 95.265(a)(5) – other public land, and AS 41.17.950(31) - definition]		
Type III-B waterbody	A glacial high value resident fish water body or a glacial anadromous water body; does not include a glacial backwater slough; [11 AAC 95.265(a)(3) - private, 95.265(a)(5) – other public land, and AS 41.17.950(32) - definition]		
Type III-C waterbody	A nonglacial high value resident fish water body that is less than or equal to three feet in width at the ordinary high water mark and that does not contain anadromous fish. [11 AAC 95.265(a)(3) - private, 95.265(a)(5) – other public land, and AS 41.17.950(33) - definition]		
All Regions Other waterbodies	For all lands, the operations recognized under this chapter shall be conducted in a manner that does not cause or constitute a substantial factor in causing a degradation of water quality. [11 AAC 95.185(b)] All surface waters, regardless if those waters are classified under AS 41.17.950, are protected under 18 AAC 70 [11 AAC 95.900(82)].		

RIPARIAN STANDARDS

General guidance: AS 41.17.115 (Intent for riparian areas)

Stream Type	Private land	State land	Other public land
Region I	Private forest land adjacent to the following types of waters and located in Region I is subject to the riparian protection standards established in this subsection. [AS 41.17.116(a)]		
Type I-A waterbody	(A) operations within 100 feet of the water body or to the break of the slope, whichever area is smaller, shall be conducted in compliance with slope stability standards established in regulations adopted under this chapter; and (B) harvest of timber may not be undertaken within 66 feet of the water body; [AS 41.17.116(a)(1)]	(A) harvest of timber may not be undertaken within 100 feet immediately adjacent to an anadromous or high value resident fish water body; (B) between 100 and 300 feet from the water body, harvest of timber may occur but must be consistent with the maintenance of important fish and wildlife habitat as determined by the state forester with due deference to the deputy commissioner. [AS 41.17.118(a)(2)]	Harvest of timber may not be undertaken within 100 feet of an anadromous or high value resident fish water body; [AS 41.17.119(1)]
Type I-B waterbody	(A) operations within 100 feet of the water body or to the break of the slope, whichever area is smaller, shall be conducted in compliance with slope stability standards established in regulations adopted under this chapter; and (B) harvest of timber may not be undertaken within 66 feet of the water body or to the break of the slope, whichever area is smaller; [AS 41.17.116(a)(2)]		
Type I-C waterbody	(A) operations within 100 feet of the water body or to the break of the slope, whichever area is smaller, shall be conducted in compliance with slope stability standards established in regulations adopted under this chapter; and (B) the operator shall, where prudent, retain low value timber within 25 feet of the water body or to the limit of the area described in (A) of this paragraph, whichever area is greater, where the width of the water body is (i) greater than 13 feet at the ordinary high water mark; or (ii) greater than eight feet at the ordinary high water mark if the channel is incised; [AS 41.17.116(a)(3)]		
Type I-D waterbody	(A) operations within 50 feet of the water body or to the break of the slope, whichever area is smaller, shall be conducted in compliance with slope stability standards established in regulations adopted under this chapter; and (B) the operator shall, where prudent, retain low value timber within 25 feet of the water body or to the limit of the area described in (A) of this paragraph, whichever area is greater, where the width of the water body is (i) greater than 13 feet at the ordinary high water mark; or (ii) greater than eight feet at the ordinary high water mark if the channel is incised. [AS 41.17.116(a)(4)]		

RIPARIAN STANDARDS, continued

Stream Type	Private land	State land	Other public land
Region II	A timber harvest operation within 100 feet from the shore or bank of an anadromous or high-value resident fish water body must be located and designed primarily to protect fish habitat and surface water quality from significant adverse effects [11 AAC 95.260(b)].	(Same as Region I, previous page) (A) harvest of timber may not be undertaken within 100 feet immediately adjacent to an anadromous or high value resident fish water body; (B) between 100 and 300 feet from the water body, harvest of timber may occur but must be consistent with the maintenance of important fish and wildlife habitat as determined by the state forester with due deference to the deputy commissioner. [AS 41.17.118(a)(2)]	(Same as Region I, previous page) Harvest of timber may not be undertaken within 100 feet of an anadromous or high value resident fish water body; [AS 41.17.119(1)]
Region III	Private forest land adjacent to the following types of waters and located in Region III is subject to the riparian protection standards established in this subsection: [AS 41.17.116(b)]	See below.	
Type III-A waterbody	Harvest of timber may not be undertaken within 66 feet of the water body; [AS 41.17.116(b)(1)]	Harvest of timber may not be undertaken within 100 feet of the water body, except that, between 66 feet and 100 feet from the water body, harvest of timber may be undertaken where consistent with the maintenance of important fish and wildlife habitat as determined by the state forester with the concurrence of the deputy commissioner; [AS 41.17.118(a)(1)(A) and AS 41.17.119(2)]	
Type III-B waterbody	Harvest of timber may not be undertaken within 33 feet of the water body; between 33 feet and 66 feet from the water body, up to 50 percent of standing white spruce trees having at least a nine-inch diameter at breast height may be harvested without requiring a variation; [AS 41.17.116(b)(2)]	Harvest of timber may not be undertaken within 50 feet of the water body; between 50 feet and 100 feet from the water body, up to 50 percent of standing white spruce trees having at least a nine-inch diameter at breast height may be harvested; [AS 41.17.118(a)(1)(B) and AS 41.17.119(2)]	
Type III-C waterbody	Harvest of timber within 100 feet of the water body must be located and designed primarily to protect fish habitat and surface water quality as determined by the state forester with due deference to the deputy commissioner. [AS 41.17.116(b)(3)]	Harvest of timber within 100 feet of the water body must be consistent with the maintenance of important fish and wildlife habitat as determined by the state forester with due deference to the deputy commissioner; [AS 41.17.118(a)(1)(C) and AS 41.17.119(2)]	

SLOPE STABILITY STANDARDS

An operator shall adhere to the following standards when conducting timber harvest activity in an area identified in the table below, summarizing 11 AAC 95.280(a) and (b):

- (1) avoid constructing a road that will undercut the toe of a slope that has a high risk of slope failure;
- (2) within the riparian area of streams not subject to AS 41.17.116(a)(3)(B) or 41.17.116 (a)(4)(B) [guidelines for retaining low-value timber on Type I-C and Type I-D streams], in the operator's discretion, leave low-value timber where prudent;
- (3) achieve full or partial suspension in yarding operations;
- (4) fall timber away from streams in V-notches; and
- (5) avoid sidecasting of displaced soil from road construction to the maximum extent feasible. [11 AAC 95.280(d)]

Stream Type	Private land	State land and other public land
Region I	The area within 100 feet of an ordinary high water mark of a Type I-A, I-B, or I-C water body or to the break of the slope to that water body, whichever occurs first [11 AAC 95.280(a)(1)]	Within 100 feet of an ordinary high water mark of an anadromous or high value resident fish water body, or a water body with a gradient of 12 percent or less that is tributary to an anadromous or high value resident fish water body, and within 50 feet of all other tributaries to anadromous and high value resident fish water bodies; [11 AAC 95.280(b)(1)]
Type I-A		
Type I-B		
Type I-C		
Type I-D	The area within 50 feet of an ordinary high water mark of a Type I-D water body or to the break of the slope, whichever occurs first [11 AAC 95.280(a)(2)]	
Region II	None.	Within 100 feet of an ordinary high water mark of an anadromous or high value resident fish water body [11 AAC 95.280(b)(2)].
Region III	None.	