

APPENDIX 1

SUMMARY OF ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT DESIGNATIONS

Essential Fish Habitat Designations:

Should an operator detect adverse impacts to essential fish habitat (EFH), EPA must be notified. Consultation with the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries (NOAA Fisheries) Habitat Conservation and Ecosystem Services Division and/or an individual permittee may be necessary. Additional information regarding EFH consultations is available on the NOAA Fisheries website at:

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/habitat-conservation/consultations-essential-fish-habitat> and from the Greater Atlantic Regional website at:

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/habitat-conservation/conserving-habitat-greater-atlantic-region>

A summary of species and life stages with designated EFH in coastal areas in the vicinity of discharges potentially eligible for coverage under the AQUAGP can be found in Section 5.1, Table 1 of the Draft AQUAGP supporting Fact Sheet. An online interactive mapping platform (EFH Mapper) provides a comprehensive list of species and life stages with designated EFH in coastal areas, estuaries, bays, and rivers along the Northeast United States Coast at:

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/map/essential-fish-habitat-mapper>.

The current version of the EFH Mapper does not include all species with designated EFH. Most notably for the purposes of the AQUAGP, Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) EFH is not included on the EFH Mapper as of March 25, 2020. EFH for Atlantic salmon includes rivers used for seasonal spawning, including portions of the Connecticut and Merrimack Rivers and their tributaries. The most updated descriptions of designated EFH for Atlantic salmon are found on pages 176-182 and Table 31 of the 2017 Omnibus Essential Fish Habitat Amendment 2: Volume 2 available at

<https://www.habitat.noaa.gov/application/efhmapper/atlanticSalmonEFH.pdf>. EPA has prepared an assessment of the impacts of the proposed discharges to designated EFH for Atlantic salmon and coastal species and has provided a copy of this assessment for review by NOAA Fisheries Habitat Conservation and Ecosystem Services Division. EPA has also made the Draft AQUAGP and supporting Fact Sheet available to NOAA Fisheries.