

Programs

Freshwater Biology Program

- Freshwater Biology Team

Coastal and Ecosystems Program

- Coastal Science Team
- Wetlands Science Team

Vision

Healthy waters in all our region's streams, rivers, wetlands, estuaries, and coasts through monitoring and identification of impairments, and restoration and program development through partnerships.

Roles

The Office assesses the health of the region's inland and coastal aquatic habitats through application of sound science and collection of robust data, and supports development of state programs through science, partnerships, and grants.

Teams are based in Philadelphia and in Wheeling, West Virginia and include such expertise as stream bioassessments, water and sediment quality sampling, electrofishing studies, regional dive program, aerial coastal assessments, and wetlands restoration and program development.

Measuring and Maintaining the Pulse of Aquatic Habitats Through Science, Data and Partnerships



Freshwater Biology Program Wheeling, West Virginia

Freshwater Biology Team

- assesses effects of waterborne contaminants on aquatic biological resources
- provides technical, field and laboratory services for bioassessment and biocriteria programs
- provides technical expertise and training in bioassessment evaluations of aquatic invertebrates, collection methods, taxonomy, data interpretation, and quality control
- conducts freshwater acute and chronic toxicity testing in the laboratory



Freshwater Biology Team
stream sampling by
electrofishing

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Coastal and Wetlands Ecosystem Program Philadelphia, Pa.

Coastal Science Team

- conducts ocean, coastal, estuary sampling and assessments
- performs assessments for dredging, ocean disposal and discharge decisions, and for the National Marine Debris program and the Marine Protection and Sanctuaries Act
- performs dive operations for underwater assessments and evaluations
- conducts aerial surveillance of coastal environments



Coastal Science Team lowering a water quality sampler into the Atlantic Ocean

Wetlands Science Team

- conducts wetland monitoring and assessment
- supports watershed and wetland restoration and mitigation projects
- partners with other government agencies, non-profits and businesses
- coordinates with the Army Corps of Engineers to implement the Mitigation Rule
- provides grants to states, local governments, interstate agencies and state universities
- collaborates with EPA's Wetlands Regulatory and Enforcement Program



Wetlands Science Team establishing wetlands monitoring equipment

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