

STORMWATER QUALITY MANAGER (SWQM) LEVEL DETERMINATION

Environmental Services Division, Stormwater Team

Submit questions to stormwater@indot.in.gov

The Basics

If there are no 205 pay items or no permits, an SWQM level determination is not required.

The SWQM level starts at Level 1 and will be elevated to Level 2 based on meeting either the Primary or Secondary Category criteria below.

For bundled contracts where one or more projects have a SWQM Level 2, all projects in the contract will have a SWQM Level 2.

Primary Category

1. Disturbance of new terrain: Construction will include building a new roadbed, construction occurring beyond existing roadbed, or construction which realigns existing roadbed. Other examples include new trail alignment through a park not on an existing roadway, a roundabout that shifts an intersection alignment, or a roundabout with a large area of disturbance.
2. Impacts to multiple regulated waters: Impacts to two or more regulated water resources. For example, if your project is impacting a stream and wetland. Note, when determining SWQM level, wetlands within a stream are considered part of the stream and not a separate entity.
3. Stream relocation: Physically moving or altering the stream's flow from its current alignment.
4. Potential ground disturbance involving karst feature: If construction requires ground disturbance to known karst features.
5. Construction of a building: For example, the construction of a rest area facility.

Secondary Category

There may be specific cases where individual elements from the Secondary Category could raise the SWQM level determination to Level 2. For most projects, if the project includes two or more of the following elements, the project should be elevated to a SWQM Level 2.

1. High quality stream: Listed on the outstanding rivers list for Indiana.
2. Wetland impacts: High quality wetland or multiple wetlands (found in environmental document). If the project directly or indirectly affects the wetland's functionality.
3. Within the St. Joseph Sole Source Aquifer: Refer to the Sole Source Aquifer Interactive Map to determine if the project is located in the St. Joseph Sole Source Aquifer.
4. Drinking water source: Within wellhead protection area and/or source water areas.
5. Duration of contract and construction time: Two full construction seasons or more, that is, two years or more.
6. Hazardous Materials Site: Project constructed on or adjacent to a hazardous materials site. Potential chemical contamination directly or indirectly affecting the surrounding habitat or surrounding surface water resources.