

[^{F1}][^{F2}SCHEDULE 1]

Regulation 8

Groundwater Threshold Values

Textual Amendments

- F1** Sch. inserted (31.7.2014) by The Groundwater (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 (S.R. 2014/208), regs. 1, 12
- F2** Sch. renumbered as Sch. 1 (31.12.2020) by The Water (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/112), regs. 1(1), 7(9); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

[^{F3}Table 1

Threshold values for assessing groundwater chemical status

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>To examine if groundwater abstraction is causing saline or other intrusions</i>	<i>To examine if groundwater is providing a significant contribution to the failure of the environmental objectives of associated surface water bodies</i>	<i>To examine if the quality of groundwater that is abstracted for potable use is deteriorating, possibly resulting in a need for increased purification</i>	<i>To examine the spatial extent of a groundwater body or group of bodies that are exceeding an EU Standard or threshold value</i>
Ammonium	mg/l				0.29
Arsenic	µg/l				7.5
Atrazine	µg/l				0.075
Cadmium	µg/l				3.75
Chloride	mg/l	25			
Electrical Conductivity	µS/cm	800		1875	
Lead	µg/l				7.5
MCPA	µg/l				0.075
Mecoprop	µg/l				0.075
Mercury	µg/l				0.75
Nitrate (as NO ₃)	mg/l			37.5	37.5

- (1) The surface water environmental standards are set out in Schedule 1 to The Water Framework Directive (Classification, Priority Substances and Shellfish Waters) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015(S.R. 2015 No. 351).
- (2) The “dilution factor” is taken to be the fraction of the average annual river flow derived from groundwater inflows. It can be estimated from established hydrological indices such as the baseflow index, or from the ratio of catchment groundwater recharge to effective precipitation.]

Changes to legislation: There are outstanding changes not yet made by the legislation.gov.uk editorial team to Groundwater Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>To examine if groundwater abstraction is causing saline or other intrusions</i>	<i>To examine if groundwater is providing a significant contribution to the failure of the environmental objectives of associated surface water bodies</i>	<i>To examine if the quality of groundwater that is abstracted for potable use is deteriorating, possibly resulting in a need for increased purification</i>	<i>To examine the spatial extent of a groundwater body or group of bodies that are exceeding an EU Standard or threshold value</i>
Nitrite	µg/l			375	375
Simazine	µg/l				0.075
Sulphate	mg/l				187.5
Tetrachloroethylene	µg/l			7.5	7.5
Trichloroethylene	µg/l			7.5	7.5
Any pollutant in relation to which a surface water environmental standard has been set ⁽¹⁾			0.5 x (surface water standard divided by dilution factor) ⁽²⁾		

(1) The surface water environmental standards are set out in Schedule 1 to The Water Framework Directive (Classification, Priority Substances and Shellfish Waters) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015(S.R. 2015 No. 351).

(2) The “dilution factor” is taken to be the fraction of the average annual river flow derived from groundwater inflows. It can be estimated from established hydrological indices such as the baseflow index, or from the ratio of catchment groundwater recharge to effective precipitation.]

Textual Amendments

F3 Sch. Table 1 substituted (20.6.2016) by [The Groundwater \(Amendment\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2016 \(S.R. 2016/119\)](#), regs. 1(1), 5

Table 2

Threshold values for assessing the risk to wetlands

<i>Column header</i>	Annual mean nitrate concentration (mg/l NO ₃)		
	Altitude Above Ordnance Datum		
<i>Wetland type</i>	<i>up to 175 metres</i>	<i>more than 175 metres</i>	<i>any</i>
Quaking bog	18	4	
Wet dune			13
Fen (mesotrophic) and Fen Meadow	22	9	

Changes to legislation: There are outstanding changes not yet made by the legislation.gov.uk editorial team to Groundwater Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

<i>Column header</i>	Annual mean nitrate concentration (mg/l NO ₃)		
	Altitude Above Ordnance Datum		
<i>Wetland type</i>	<i>up to 175 metres</i>	<i>more than 175 metres</i>	<i>any</i>
Fen (oligotrophic and wetlands at tufa forming springs)	20	4	
Wet grassland	26	9	
Wet heath	13	9	
Peatbog and woodland on peatbog			9
Wetland directly irrigated by spring or seepage			9
Swamp (mesotrophic) and reedbed			22
Swamp (oligotrophic)			18
Wet woodland	22	9]	

Changes to legislation:

There are outstanding changes not yet made by the legislation.gov.uk editorial team to Groundwater Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- [Regulations power to amend or modify conferred by 2021 c. 30 s. 89](#)
- [Regulations power to amend or modify conferred by 2021 c. 30 s. 91](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Rule associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Rule (including any effects on those provisions):

- Sch. inserted by [S.R. 2014/208 reg. 12](#)
- Sch. Table 1 substituted by [S.R. 2016/119 reg. 5](#)
- Sch. 1 Sch. renumbered as Sch. 1 by [S.I. 2019/112 reg. 7\(9\)](#)
- Sch. 2 inserted by [S.I. 2019/112 reg. 7\(10\)](#)
- reg. 2(5) inserted by [S.I. 2019/112 reg. 7\(3\)](#)
- reg. 8(6)(7) inserted by [S.R. 2014/208 reg. 6\(3\)](#)
- reg. 9(3) word substituted by [S.R. 2017/81 Sch. 4 para. 4\(3\)](#)
- reg. 10(6A) inserted by [S.R. 2014/208 reg. 8\(3\)](#)
- reg. 14(2) substituted by [S.R. 2017/81 Sch. 4 para. 4\(8\)](#)
- reg. 15(2) substituted by [S.R. 2017/81 Sch. 4 para. 4\(9\)](#)
- reg. 16(i) inserted by [S.R. 2011/211 reg. 2\(2\)](#)
- reg. 16(i) substituted by [S.I. 2019/112 reg. 7\(8\)\(b\)](#)