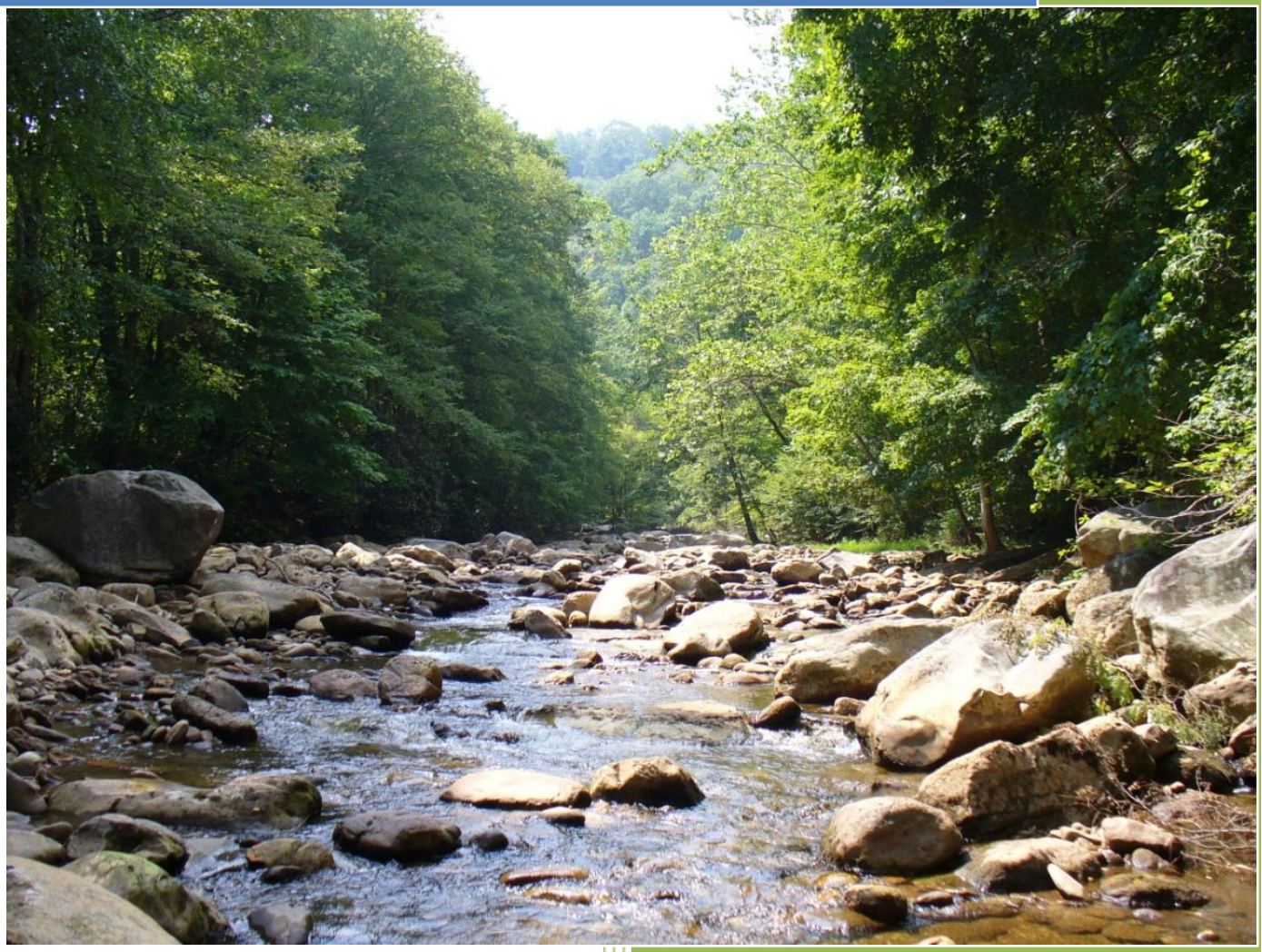
West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

Watershed Branch 2010 Standard Operating Procedures



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Acknowledgements

This document is the result of over a decade of contributions by several staff members: Jeff Bailey, Chris Barry, Ben Lowman, Jason Morgan, Nick Murray, Kevin Seagle, Janice Smithson, Michael Whitman, John Wirts, and Doug Wood. It was edited and formatted by Michael Whitman and Jeff Bailey.

Since our sampling activities are always evolving and growing, this document is a "living document" that grows accordingly each year. It is intended as a reference document not only for agency staff, but also for collaborating federal, state, or local agencies and other government organizations or entities, the private sector (*e.g*., industry consultants), and public organizations (*i.e*., watershed groups) and individuals.

While reviewing or consulting this document, should you encounter a typographical or grammatical error or wish for some guidance or clarification in methodology please feel free to contact us at:

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Preferred Citation

WVDEP (West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection). 2010. Watershed Branch 2010 Standard Operating Procedures. Division of Water and Waste Management, Watershed Branch, Charleston, WV.

Disclaimer

While this document does cover the use and care of some of the instrument models that WVDEP uses, any instructions in this document are meant to be used only as a quick reference for those already familiar with the operation and specialized maintenance of the instrument. Any information in this document is not meant to supersede the instrument manufacturer's operations manual but only to supplement it.

List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

AMD-Acid Mine Drainage or sometimes Alkaline Mine Drainage
AML-Abandoned Mine Lands
AWQN-Ambient Water Quality Network
COC-Chain-of-Custody
CWA-Clean Water Act
DO-Dissolved Oxygen
DS-Downstream
USEPA-United States Environmental Protection Agency
GIS-Geographic Information Systems
GPS-Geographic Positioning System
HUC-Hydrologic Unit Code
IBI-Index of Biotic (or Biologic) Integrity
LTMS-Long-Term Monitoring Station
NHD-National Hydrographic Dataset
NPS-Non-Point Source
PS-Point Source
QA/QC-Quality Assurance/Quality Control
RBP-Rapid Bioassessment Protocols
RTE-Rare, Threatened, or Endangered
SOP-Standard Operating Procedure
TMDL-Total Maximum Daily Loads
US-Upstream
USGS-United Stated Geological Survey
WAB-Watershed Assessment Branch
WQ- A general shorthand for water quality
WV-West Virginia
WVDEP-West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
WVDNR- West Virginia Division of Natural Resources
WVEQB-West Virginia Environmental Quality Board
WVSCI-West Virginia Stream Condition Index