

NC Aquatic Data Hub

Data tiers

Method Tier	Data uses	QA/QC Requirements
<i>Tier 3</i>	Assessment	Data collection follows protocols used by NCDEQ to list and delist waterbodies
<i>Tier 2</i>	Identify waters for follow up monitoring	Approved QAPP required
<i>Tier 1</i>	Education, baseline data, "red flags"	QAPP is not required

The tier level is determined by both the accuracy of the equipment used and the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP).

For example an expensive highly accurate meter used without an accepted QAPP would only qualify as Tier 1 data.