

NATURAL RESOURCES

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Chapter NR 160

POINT RATING SYSTEM

NR 160.01 Point rating system                      NR 160.03 Project priority ranking  
NR 160.02 Priority value

**NR 160.01 Point rating system.** In ranking projects for priority for federal grants the following factors will be considered:

(1) **SEGMENT SCORE.** The segment score will be determined using the following formula:

$$S = P_p + 10P_T + 10P_{WQ} + P_{GL} + P_{PAB} + 10P_W + P_{SD}$$

$P_p$  = Log<sub>10</sub> population per square mile based on 1970 census population of communities with sewage treatment plants.

$P_T$  = Number of trout streams (Ref.: DNR "Wisconsin Trout Streams" Publication 213-72) per square mile for the basin within which the segment is located.

$P_{WQ}$  = Percentage difference from maximum observed average (of period of record) of "Water Quality Index" (Ref.: "Social Accounting System for Evaluating Water Resources," by S. H. Dinius, *Water Resources Research*, Vol. 8, No. 5, October 1972, pp. 1159 ff.) modified and calculated by DNR staff for Wis. DNR 42 monthly manual monitoring station data values. Modification was made to reflect the *reduced*, not *increased*, water quality indicated by dissolved oxygen values above saturation.

$P_{GL}$  = ½ if the segment is in the Great Lake Basin.  
= 0 if the segment is not in the Great Lake Basin.

$P_{PAB}$  = ½ if U. S. EPA considers the segment part of a "Priority Accomplishment Basin."  
= 0 if the U. S. EPA does not consider the segment part of a "Priority Accomplishment Basin."

$P_W$  = Miles of state or federally designated wild rivers per square mile for the basin within which the segment is located.

$P_{SD}$  = 2 if the segment is "Water Quality Limited."  
= 0 if the segment is "Effluent Limited."

(2) **VIOLATION FACTOR.** The violation factor is the sum of the following point assignments:

<i>Violation Factor</i>	<i>Points</i>
Significant Health Hazard .....	5
Water Quality Standards Violation .....	5
Nutrient Control Required .....	2
No Water Quality Standards Violation .....	0

A discharge constitutes a significant health hazard when:

(a) Municipal wastewater treatment plant effluent is discharged without disinfection or with inadequate disinfection. Chlorinated primary treatment plant effluent shall be considered inadequately disinfected;

(b) Discharge from 10 or more, or 10% (whichever is greater), of the private waste disposal systems in the project area results in pollution of the ground surface or surface water or groundwater;

(c) Untreated sewage is discharged from a public system or treatment facility.

(3) POPULATION FACTOR. Each 1/6 pound of 5-day B.O.D. equals one population equivalent.

Points are expressed as the  $\log_{10}$  of the population equivalent served:

<i>Equivalent Population Served</i>	<i>Points</i>
100	2.00
500	2.69
1,000	3.00
2,000	3.30
3,000	3.48
4,000	3.60
5,000	3.69
10,000	4.00
15,000	4.18
20,000	4.30
50,000	4.69
75,000	4.88
100,000	5.00
200,000	5.30
400,000	5.60
800,000	5.90

(4) CATEGORY OF PROJECT FACTOR.

<i>Category of Project</i>	<i>Number of Points</i>
(a) Existing primary treatment plant requiring higher degree of treatment -----	20
(b) Replacement, improvement or expansion of existing secondary treatment facilities, provision of advanced waste treatment, or construction of intercepting sewers to eliminate existing municipal plant -----	16
(c) Separation of combined storm/sanitary sewers, or construction of interceptor sewers -----	10
(d) New collection sewers, or new treatment facilities to eliminate malfunctioning private waste disposal systems -----	10
(e) Methods for reducing, storing, treating, separating, or disposing of storm water runoff -----	2

**History:** Cr. Register, August, 1973, No. 212, eff. 9-1-73.

**NR 160.02 Priority value.** The priority value (PV) shall be determined using the following formula:

$$PV = A + B + C + D$$

A = Segment Score

B = Violation Factor

C = Population Factor

D = Category of Project Factor

**History:** Cr. Register, August, 1973, No. 212, eff. 9-1-73.

**NR 160.03 Project priority ranking.** (1) Projects will be ranked in order of priority with the highest PV ranked first and the next highest PV ranked second and so on. Exceptions may be made in the following instances:

- (a) Where several mutually required projects, of different ranking are considered for a single discharger the group will be assigned the highest applicable priority value. For projects adjudged by the DNR to be separable, this "group priority" concept will not be applied.
- (b) Where EPA or DNR enforcement actions (e.g., 180-day notices or pollution abatement orders) are pending, exceptions may be justified in writing by the Department in certifying projects to the U.S. EPA.
- (c) Where "step three" (construction) grants are not justified, the department will certify for "step one" (preliminary plans) or "step 2" (plans and specifications) grants. If full step one or step 2 grants are not justified, grants may be delayed, despite high priority, while miscellaneous requirements are fulfilled pursuant to P.L. 92-500 and the applicable federal regulations.

**History:** Cr. Register, August, 1973, No. 212, eff. 9-1-73.