

Water quality index:

Summarizes water quality information for a number of parameters with a single number calculated mathematically

pH
conductivity
salinity
flow rate
bacterial counts

one # that refers to a specific use/comparison for that water

A water quality index simplifies the information available to us - this makes it easier to compare bodies of water.

	pH	turb.	temp.	WQ Index
Jackson Cr.	6.7	1500	12	7.4
Frazier Cr.	3	20	10	6.6

TROUT suitability

if all you have is the WQ index scores, you've lost the details for individual parameters

1 - 10 (best)

To create a WQ index table (which allows you to find the WQ index value), you need to know:

1. Which parameters will be measured
2. The purpose of the index
3. Relative importance of the parameters
4. Ideal values for the parameters
5. Arbitrary point values to assign based on how close the measurements are to the ideal values