Multimetric Indices and Regulatory Thresholds
For Benthic Macroinvertebrate Data In Wadeable Streams

AMNET site Assessment Attributes

Excellent: Minimal changes in structure of biological community and minimal changes in ecosystem function. Virtually all native taxa are maintained with some changes to biomass and/or abundance; ecosystem functions are fully maintained within the range of natural variability.

Good: Some evident changes in structure of the biotic community and minimal changes in ecosystem function. Some changes in structure due to loss of some rare native taxa; shifts in relative abundance of taxa but sensitive-ubiquitous taxa are common and abundant; ecosystem functions are fully maintained.

Fair: **Moderate to major changes in structure of biological community and moderate changes in ecosystem function.** Sensitive taxa are markedly diminished; conspicuously unbalanced distribution of major groups from that expected; organism condition shows signs of physiological stress; system function shows reduced complexity.

Poor: Extreme changes in structure of biological community and major loss of ecosystem function. Extreme changes in structure; wholesale changes in taxonomic composition; extreme alterations from normal densities and distributions; organism condition is often poor; ecosystem functions are severely altered.
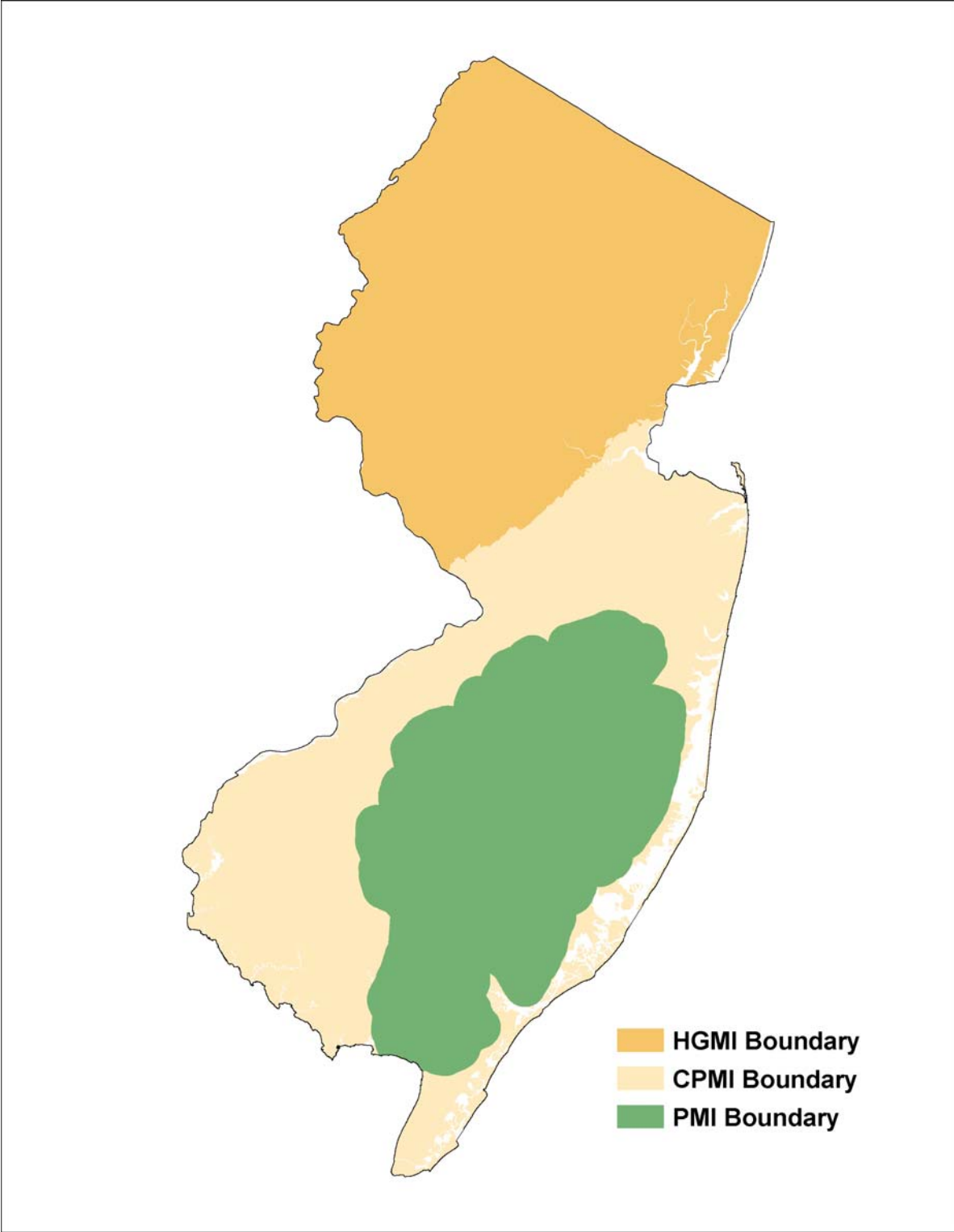
Figure A1. Boundaries for generic level index use.

Table A1: Descriptive and regulatory thresholds for Fresh Water High Gradient (Highlands, Ridge And Valley, Piedmont), Low Gradient (Coastal Plain, Excluding Pinelands Waters) and Pinelands Waters.

High Gradient Macroinvertebrate Index (HGMI) (Highlands, Ridge and Valley, Piedmont):		
Assessment category	**Index Score**	**Regulatory Threshold**
Excellent	63 - 100	Full Attainment
Good	<63-42	Full Attainment
Fair	<42-21	Non-Attainment
Poor	< 21	Non-Attainment
Coastal Plain Macroinvertebrate Index (CPMI)		
Assessment category	**Index Score**	**Regulatory Threshold**
Excellent	22 - 30	Full Attainment
Good	20 - 12	Full Attainment
Fair	10 - 6	Non-Attainment
Poor	< 6	Non-Attainment
Pinelands Macroinvertebrate Index (PMI)		
Assessment category	**Index Score**	**Regulatory Threshold**
Excellent	63 - 100	Full Attainment
Good	<63-56	Full Attainment
Fair	<56-34	Non-Attainment(PL) Full Attainment(FW2)
Poor	< 34	Non-Attainment