

Glossary

Adipose Fin – A rayless, fleshy fin situated posterior to the dorsal fin in some fishes.

Ammonia - Refers to two chemical compounds, free ammonia (NH₃) and ammonium (NH₄⁺) together. Ammonia is a food source for nitrifying bacteria and is toxic to fish, amphibians and invertebrates.

Anadromous – Fishes that primarily live in a marine environment however, migrate to a freshwater environment to spawn.

Catadromous - Fishes that primarily live in a freshwater environment however, migrate to a marine environment to spawn.

Nitrate – End product of the N cycle. A common waste product found in fish tanks. It comes from fish waste, old food and plants in the water. Less toxic to fishes.

Nitrite – Intermediate step of the N cycle. Toxic to fish, and is converted to nitrate by beneficial nitrifying bacteria.

River Basin – A land area that is made up of many watersheds that are all drained by a common river.

River Continuum Concept - Describes the entire river system as a continuously integrating series of physical gradients and associated biotic adjustments as the river flows from headwater to mouth.

Semelparous – Fishes that spawn once and die.

Stream Order - A method used to categorize streams and rivers based on size and location within a watershed.

Tetraploid – Having four sets of chromosomes.

Tributary - A small stream that flows into a larger stream or river

Vermicultions – Worm like patterning observed on the backs of Brook Trout.

Watershed Divide – An imaginary line separating different watersheds.

Watershed - An area or ridge of land that separates waters flowing to different rivers, basins, or seas.