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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2017 No. 407**

**The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017**

**PART 2**

**River basin districts and water bodies**

**Map of river basin districts**

4.—(1) The areas shown on the official map are identified as river basin districts for the purposes of these Regulations.

(2) In this regulation, “the official map” means the map of river basin districts produced by the Agency and published on its website.

(3) NRW must ensure that the official map is published on its website.

(4) The Agency and NRW must ensure that the official map is made available to the public at their principal offices.

**Characterisation of river basin districts**

5.—(1) The appropriate agency must undertake and periodically review and (where appropriate) update, in accordance with Annex II to the WFD (characterisation of waters)—

- (a) an analysis of the characteristics of each river basin district, and
- (b) a review of the impact of human activity on the status of surface water and groundwater in each river basin district.

(2) A review and any update must be done—

- (a) by 22nd December 2019, and
- (b) subsequently, by 22nd December of the sixth year following that date and of each sixth year following that.

(3) In relation to a review of the characteristics of each river basin district under paragraph (1) (a), the appropriate agency must include in the relevant river basin management plan an explanation of the approach taken to the use of System A or B in paragraph 1.1 and 1.2 to 1.2.4 (characterisation of surface water body types) of Annex II to the WFD.

**Classification of water bodies**

6. The appropriate agency must classify the status of bodies of water in accordance with Annex V to the WFD and such directions as the appropriate authority may give to the appropriate agency.

**Economic analysis of water use in river basin districts**

7.—(1) The appropriate authority must undertake and periodically review and (where appropriate) update, in accordance with Annex III to the WFD (economic analysis), an economic analysis of water use in each river basin district.

(2) A review and any update must be done—

(a) by 22nd December 2019, and

(b) subsequently, by 22nd December of the sixth year following that date and of each sixth year following that.