



Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003

2003 asp 3

PART 1

PROTECTION OF THE WATER ENVIRONMENT

CHAPTER 2

RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANNING

River basin districts

5 Characterisation of river basin districts

- (1) SEPA must, by 22nd December 2004, carry out a characterisation of each river basin district.
- (2) In this section “characterisation”, in relation to a river basin district, means—
 - (a) an analysis of the characteristics of the water environment,
 - (b) a review of the impact of human activity on the status of the water environment, and
 - (c) an economic analysis of water use.
- (3) SEPA must review and, where necessary, update each characterisation carried out under subsection (1) by 22nd December 2013 and by the end of each period of 6 years thereafter.
- (4) A characterisation under subsection (1) and a review under subsection (3) must be carried out in accordance with the technical specifications set out in Annexes II and III to the Directive.
- (5) The Scottish Ministers may by regulations make further provision as to the characterisations and reviews to be carried out under this section, including provision as to—

Status: *This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).*

- (a) the criteria by reference to which characterisations and reviews are to be carried out, including criteria for designating bodies of surface water as artificial or heavily modified,
- (b) the methods and procedures to be followed in carrying out characterisations and reviews.