



## Water Protection

**Both water scarcity and water pollution can lead to the collapse of essential human and natural cycles. We provide findings on substances and physical stressors in the aquatic environment, identify specific pollutants and their sources, and monitor whether water temperatures have reached a critical level. If we determine that an intervention is needed, we advise authorities on practical and effective water-protection measures.**

We address issues relating to aquatic ecology, aquatic habitats, and groundwater contamination, including any micropollutants. We consider both water systems and entire watersheds.

Our strength: We think in terms of causal chains and assess the complex impact of human activities on the aquatic environment (e.g., on water temperature). This enables us to discover interrelations and focus on the source of the problem.

### **From data analyses to source-specific action plans, monitoring, and regulation concepts**

Our services:

- We carry out water-quality studies and monitoring concepts.
- We analyze substance flows and contamination pathways and assess the levels of pollutants in water systems and drainage basins.
- We generate studies and assessments of pathways by which micropollutants from industry and other more diffuse sources (e.g., pesticides) enter the aquatic environment. We then use our findings as a basis for identifying measures to eliminate the problems at their sources.
- We analyze existing and potential groundwater contamination and assess protection measures.
- We carry out studies and assessments of aquatic ecology and habitats. When doing so, we consider various factors such as the volumes of water removed from water systems, the entry of substances into water systems, and other anthropogenic impacts – on water temperature, for instance.
- We assess water-system resilience and identify optimization measures.
- We evaluate existing measures, assess policy instruments, and propose improvements.
- We identify gaps in knowledge and data, and where regulations are lacking.
- We support the efforts of regulatory agencies to prioritize, coordinate, and monitor water protection tasks.