Levels of Water Quality Protection	Appropriate Level of Treatment
Complete protection for areas where the aquatic environment should be free of any identifiable risk from the discharge of untreated waste (i.e., shellfish beds for year-round harvesting)	Maintenance Level A: Secondary treatment up to 20-year recurrence interval; above 20-year overflows allowed
Areas that do not need complete year-round protection, such as shellfish beds for dry- weather harvesting, public beaches, and other water contact areas	Maintenance Level B: Secondary treatment for all flows up to two- year recurrence interval; primary treatment up to 20-year recurrence interval; above 20-year overflows allowed
Areas where water quality or aquatic productivity may be limited due to the pollution effects of a dense human population or other urban activities that are largely uncontrollable. Such areas may include some shipyards and harbors	Maintenance Level C: Secondary treatment to half-year recurrence interval; primary treatment to five-year recurrence interval; above five-year overflows allowed