

Table 3-3: Marine^a Water Quality Objectives for Toxic Pollutants for Surface Waters (all values in µg/L)

Compound	4-day Average	1-hr Average	24-hr Average
Arsenic ^{b, c, d}	36	69	
Cadmium ^{b, c, d}	9.3	42	
Chromium VI ^{b, c, d, e}	50	1100	
Copper ^{c, d, f, l}			
Cyanide ^g			
Lead ^{b, c, d}	8.1	210	
Mercury ^h	0.025	2.1	
Nickel ^{b, c, d, l}	8.2	74	
Selenium ⁱ			
Silver ^{b, c, d}		1.9	
Tributyltin ^j			
Zinc ^{b, c, d}	81	90	
PAHs ^k			15

NOTES:

- a. Marine waters are those in which the salinity is equal to or greater than 10 parts per thousand 95% of the time, as set forth in Chapter 4 of the Basin Plan. Unless a site-specific objective has been adopted, these objectives shall apply to all marine waters except for the South Bay south of Dumbarton Bridge (where the California Toxics Rule (CTR) applies) or as specified in note h (below). For waters in which the salinity is between 1 and 10 parts per thousand, the applicable objectives are the more stringent of the freshwater (Table 3-4) or marine objectives.
- b. Source: 40 CFR Part 131.38 (California Toxics Rule or CTR), May 18, 2000.
- c. These objectives for metals are expressed in terms of the dissolved fraction of the metal in the water column.
- d. According to the CTR, these objectives are expressed as a function of the water-effect ratio (WER), which is a measure of the toxicity of a pollutant in site water divided by the same measure of the toxicity of the same pollutant in laboratory dilution water. The 1-hr. and 4-day objectives = table value X WER. The table values assume a WER equal to one.
- e. This objective may be met as total chromium.
- f. Water quality objectives for copper were promulgated by the CTR and may be updated by U.S. EPA without amending the Basin Plan. Note: at the time of writing, the values are 3.1 µg/l (4-day average) and 4.8 µg/l (1-hr. average). The most recent version of the CTR should be consulted before applying these values.
- g. Cyanide criteria were promulgated in the National Toxics Rule (NTR) (Note: at the time of writing, the values are 1.0 µg/l (4-day average) and 1.0 µg/l (1-hr. average)) and apply, except that site-specific marine water quality objectives for cyanide have been adopted for San Francisco Bay as set forth in Table 3-3C.
- h. Source: U.S. EPA Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Mercury (1984). The 4-day average value for mercury does not apply to San Francisco Bay; instead, the water quality objectives specified in Table 3-3B apply. The 1-hour average value continues to apply to San Francisco Bay. For enclosed bays and estuaries other than San Francisco Bay, which has site-specific objectives in Table 3-3B, refer to Part 2 of the Water Quality Control Plan for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of

California—Tribal and Subsistence Fishing Beneficial Uses and Mercury Provisions (Statewide Mercury Provisions).

- i. Selenium criteria were promulgated for all San Francisco Bay/Delta waters in the National Toxics Rule (NTR). The NTR criteria specifically apply to San Francisco Bay upstream to and including Suisun Bay and Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Note: at the time of writing, the values are 5.0 ug/l (4-day average) and 20 ug/l (1-hr. average).
- j. Tributyltin is a compound used as an antifouling ingredient in marine paints and toxic to aquatic life in low concentrations. Ambient Aquatic Life Water Quality Criteria for Tributyltin (TBT) – Final (EPA 822-R-03-031, December 2003).
- k. The 24-hour average aquatic life protection objective for total PAHs is retained from the 1995 Basin Plan. Source: U.S. EPA 1980. The U.S. EPA (1980) Water Quality Criteria document indicates acute toxicity concentrations for salt water at or below 300 µg/l. An acute-to-chronic ratio of 20 yields an objective of 15 µg/l. Total PAHs are those compounds identified by EPA method 610.
- l. Table 3-3A contains site-specific water quality objectives for copper and nickel applicable to San Francisco Bay segments.