

3. WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES

Table of Contents

Introduction	3-1
Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Waters in California	3-1
Regional Objectives for Inland Surface Waters	3-3
Ammonia	3-3
Bacteria, Coliform	3-3
Bioaccumulation	3-8
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD ₅)	3-8
Biostimulatory Substances	3-8
Chemical Constituents	3-8
Chlorine, Total Residual	3-9
Color	3-9
Exotic Vegetation	3-9
Floating Material	3-9
Methylene Blue Activated Substances (MBAS)	3-11
Mineral Quality	3-11
Nitrogen (Nitrate, Nitrite)	3-11
Oil and Grease	3-11
Oxygen, Dissolved (DO)	3-11
Pesticides	3-15
pH	3-15
Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)	3-15
Radioactive Substances	3-15
Solid, Suspended, or Settleable Materials	3-16
Taste and Odor	3-16
Temperature	3-16
Toxicity	3-16
Turbidity	3-17
Regional Narrative Objectives for Wetlands	3-17
Hydrology	3-17
Habitat	3-17
Regional Objectives for Ground Waters	3-17
Bacteria	3-18
Chemical Constituents and Radioactivity	3-18
Mineral Quality	3-18
Nitrogen (Nitrate, Nitrite)	3-18
Taste and Odor	3-18
Statewide Objectives for Ocean Waters	3-22
Site Specific Objectives	3-22

Introduction

The Clean Water Act (§303) requires states to develop water quality standards for all waters and to submit to the USEPA for approval all new or revised water quality standards which are established for inland surface and ocean waters. Water quality standards consist of a combination of beneficial

uses (designated in Chapter 2) and water quality objectives (contained in this Chapter).

In addition to the federal mandate, the California Water Code (§13241) specifies that each Regional Water Quality Control Board shall establish water quality objectives. The Water Code defines water quality objectives as "the allowable limits or levels of water quality constituents or characteristics which are established for the reasonable protection of beneficial uses of water or the prevention of nuisance within a specific area." Thus, water quality objectives are intended (i) to protect the public health and welfare and (ii) to maintain or enhance water quality in relation to the designated existing and potential beneficial uses of the water. Water quality objectives are achieved through Waste Discharge Requirements and other programs outlined in Chapter 4, Strategic Planning and Implementation. These objectives, when compared with future water quality data, also provide the basis for identifying trends toward degradation or enhancement of regional waters.

These water quality objectives supersede those contained in all previous Basin Plans and amendments adopted by the Los Angeles Regional Board. As new information becomes available, the Regional Board will review the objectives contained herein and develop new objectives as necessary. In addition, this Plan will be reviewed every three years (triennial review) to determine the need for modification.

Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Waters in California

A key element of California's water quality standards is the state's Antidegradation Policy. This policy, formally referred to as the *Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters in California* (State Board Resolution No. 68-16), restricts degradation of surface or ground waters. In particular, this policy protects waterbodies where existing quality is higher than is necessary for the protection of beneficial uses.

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 68-16**

**STATEMENT OF POLICY WITH RESPECT TO
MAINTAINING HIGH QUALITY OF WATERS IN CALIFORNIA**

WHEREAS the California Legislature has declared that it is the policy of the State that the granting of permits and licenses for unappropriated water and the disposal of wastes into the waters of the State shall be so regulated as to achieve highest water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the State and shall be controlled so as to promote the peace, health, safety and welfare of the people of the State; and

WHEREAS water quality control policies have been and are being adopted for waters of the State; and

WHEREAS the quality of some waters of the State is higher than that established by the adopted policies and it is the intent and purpose of this Board that such higher quality shall be maintained to the maximum extent possible consistent with the declaration of the Legislature;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. Whenever the existing quality of water is better than the quality established in policies as of the date on which such policies become effective, such existing high quality will be maintained until it has been demonstrated to the State that any change will be consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the State, will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial use of such water and will not result in water quality less than that prescribed in the policies.
2. Any activity which produces or may produce a waste or increased volume or concentration of waste and which discharges or proposes to discharge to existing high quality waters will be required to meet waste discharge requirements which will result in the best practicable treatment or control of the discharge necessary to assure that (a) a pollution or nuisance will not occur and (b) the highest water quality consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the State will be maintained.
3. In implementing this policy, the Secretary of the Interior will be kept advised and will be provided with such information as he will need to discharge his responsibilities under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Secretary of the Interior as part of California's water quality control policy submission.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Executive Officer of the State Water Resources Control Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on October 24, 1968.

Dated: October 28, 1968

Original signed by
Kerry W. Mulligan, Executive Officer
State Water Resources Control Board

Under the Antidegradation Policy, any actions that can adversely affect water quality in all surface and ground waters (i) must be consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the state, (ii) must not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial use of such water, and (iii) must not result in water quality less than that prescribed in water quality plans and policies. Furthermore, any actions that can adversely affect surface waters are also subject to the federal Antidegradation Policy (40 CFR 131.12), developed under the CWA. The USEPA, Region IX, has also issued detailed guidance for the implementation of federal antidegradation regulations for surface waters within its jurisdiction (USEPA, 1987).

Regional Objectives for Inland Surface Waters

Narrative or numerical water quality objectives have been developed for the following parameters (listed alphabetically) and apply to all inland surface waters and enclosed bays and estuaries (including wetlands) in the Region. *Water quality objectives are in italics.*

Ammonia

The neutral, un-ionized ammonia species (NH_3) is highly toxic to fish and other aquatic life. The ratio of toxic NH_3 to total ammonia ($\text{NH}_4^+ + \text{NH}_3$) is primarily a function of pH, but is also affected by temperature and other factors. Additional impacts can also occur as the oxidation of ammonia lowers the dissolved oxygen content of the water, further stressing aquatic organisms. Ammonia also combines with chlorine (often both are present) to form chloramines - persistent toxic compounds that extend the effects of ammonia and chlorine downstream.

Oxidation of ammonia to nitrate may lead to groundwater impacts in areas of recharge.

In order to protect aquatic life, ammonia concentrations in receiving waters shall not exceed the values listed for the corresponding instream conditions in Tables 3-1 to 3-4.

Timing of compliance with this objective will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Discharges will have up to 8 years following the adoption of this plan by the Regional Board to (i) make the necessary adjustments/improvements to meet these objectives or (ii) to conduct studies leading to an approved site-specific objective for ammonia. If it is determined that there is an immediate threat or impairment of beneficial uses due to ammonia, the objectives in Tables 3-1 to 3-4 shall apply.

In order to protect underlying groundwater basins, ammonia shall not be present at levels that when oxidized to nitrate, pose a threat to groundwater.

Bacteria, Coliform

Total and fecal coliform bacteria are used to indicate the likelihood of pathogenic bacteria in surface waters. Water quality objectives for total and fecal coliform vary with the beneficial uses of the waterbody and are described below:

In waters designated for water contact recreation (REC-1), the fecal coliform concentration shall not exceed a log mean of 200/100 ml (based on a minimum of not less than four samples for any 30-day period), nor shall more than 10 percent of total samples during any 30-day period exceed 400/100 ml.

In waters designated for non-water contact recreation (REC-2) and not designated for water contact recreation (REC-1), the fecal coliform concentration shall not exceed a log mean of 2000/100 ml (based on a minimum of not less than four samples for any 30-day period), nor shall more than 10 percent of samples collected during any 30-day period exceed 4000/100 ml.

In all waters where shellfish can be harvested for human consumption (SHELL), the median total coliform concentration throughout the water column for any 30-day period shall not exceed 70/100 ml, nor shall more than ten percent of the samples collected during any 30-day period exceed 230/100 ml for a five-tube decimal dilution test or 330/100 ml when a three-tube decimal dilution test is used.

Table 3-1. One-hour Average Concentration for Ammonia^{1,2} for Waters Designated as COLD (Salmonids or Other Sensitive Coldwater Species Present).

pH	Temperature, °C						
	0	5	10	15	20	25	30
Un-ionized ammonia (mg/liter NH₃)							
6.50	0.0091	0.0129	0.0182	0.026	0.036	0.036	0.036
6.75	0.0149	0.021	0.030	0.042	0.059	0.059	0.059
7.00	0.023	0.033	0.046	0.066	0.093	0.093	0.093
7.25	0.034	0.048	0.068	0.095	0.135	0.135	0.135
7.50	0.045	0.064	0.091	0.128	0.181	0.181	0.181
7.75	0.056	0.080	0.113	0.159	0.22	0.22	0.22
8.00	0.065	0.092	0.130	0.184	0.26	0.26	0.26
8.25	0.065	0.092	0.130	0.184	0.26	0.26	0.26
8.50	0.065	0.092	0.130	0.184	0.26	0.26	0.26
8.75	0.065	0.092	0.130	0.184	0.26	0.26	0.26
9.00	0.065	0.092	0.130	0.184	0.26	0.26	0.26
Total ammonia (mg/liter NH₃)							
6.50	35	33	31	30	29	20	14.3
6.75	32	30	28	27	27	18.6	13.2
7.00	28	26	25	24	23	16.4	11.6
7.25	23	22	20	19.7	19.2	13.4	9.5
7.50	17.4	16.3	15.5	14.9	14.6	10.2	7.3
7.75	12.2	11.4	10.9	10.5	10.3	7.2	5.2
8.00	8.0	7.5	7.1	6.9	6.8	4.8	3.5
8.25	4.5	4.2	4.1	4.0	3.9	2.8	2.1
8.50	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	1.71	1.28
8.75	1.47	1.40	1.37	1.38	1.42	1.07	0.83
9.00	0.86	0.83	0.83	0.86	0.91	0.72	0.58

1 To convert these values to mg/liter N, multiply by 0.822

2 Source: USEPA, 1986

Table 3-2. One-hour Average Concentration for Ammonia^{1,2} for Waters Designated as WARM (Salmonids or Other Sensitive Coldwater Species Absent).

pH	Temperature, °C				
	0	5	10	15	20
Un-ionized ammonia (mg/liter NH₃)					
6.50	0.0091	0.0129	0.0182	0.026	0.036
6.75	0.0149	0.021	0.030	0.042	0.059
7.00	0.023	0.033	0.046	0.066	0.093
7.25	0.034	0.048	0.068	0.095	0.135
7.50	0.045	0.064	0.091	0.128	0.181
7.75	0.056	0.080	0.113	0.159	0.22
8.00	0.065	0.092	0.130	0.184	0.26
8.25	0.065	0.092	0.130	0.184	0.26
8.50	0.065	0.092	0.130	0.184	0.26
8.75	0.065	0.092	0.130	0.184	0.26
9.00	0.065	0.092	0.130	0.184	0.26
Total ammonia (mg/liter NH₃)					
6.50	35	33	31	30	29
6.75	32	30	28	27	27
7.00	28	26	25	24	23
7.25	23	22	20	19.7	19.2
7.50	17.4	16.3	15.5	14.9	14.6
7.75	12.2	11.4	10.9	10.5	10.3
8.00	8.0	7.5	7.1	6.9	6.8
8.25	4.5	4.2	4.1	4.0	3.9
8.50	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3
8.75	1.47	1.40	1.37	1.38	1.42
9.00	0.86	0.83	0.83	0.86	0.91

1 To convert these values to mg/liter N, multiply by 0.822

2 Source: USEPA, 1986

Table 3-3. Four-day Average Concentration for Ammonia^{1,2} for Waters Designated as COLD (Salmonids or Other Sensitive Coldwater Species Present).

pH	Temperature, °C						
	0	5	10	15	20	25	30
Un-ionized ammonia (mg/liter NH₃)							
6.50	0.0008	0.0011	0.0016	0.0022	0.0022	0.0022	0.0022
6.75	0.0014	0.0020	0.0028	0.0039	0.0039	0.0039	0.0039
7.00	0.0025	0.0035	0.0049	0.0070	0.0070	0.0070	0.0070
7.25	0.0044	0.0062	0.0088	0.0124	0.0124	0.0124	0.0124
7.50	0.0078	0.0111	0.0156	0.022	0.022	0.022	0.022
7.75	0.0129	0.0182	0.026	0.036	0.036	0.036	0.036
8.00	0.0149	0.021	0.030	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.042
8.25	0.0149	0.021	0.030	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.042
8.50	0.0149	0.021	0.030	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.042
8.75	0.0149	0.021	0.030	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.042
9.00	0.0149	0.021	0.030	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.042
Total ammonia (mg/liter NH₃)							
6.50	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.5	1.76	1.23	0.87
6.75	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.6	1.76	1.23	0.87
7.00	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.6	1.76	1.23	0.87
7.25	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.6	1.77	1.24	0.88
7.50	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.6	1.78	1.25	0.89
7.75	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.4	1.66	1.17	0.84
8.00	1.82	1.70	1.62	1.57	1.10	0.78	0.56
8.25	1.03	0.97	0.93	0.90	0.64	0.46	0.33
8.50	0.58	0.55	0.53	0.53	0.38	0.28	0.21
8.75	0.34	0.32	0.31	0.31	0.23	0.173	0.135
9.00	0.195	0.189	0.189	0.195	0.148	0.116	0.094

1 To convert these values to mg/liter N, multiply by 0.822.

2 Source: USEPA, 1992

Table 3-4. Four-day Average Concentration for Ammonia^{1,2} for Waters Designated as WARM (Salmonids or Other Sensitive Coldwater Species Absent).

pH	Temperature, -C						
	0	5	10	15	20	25	30
Un-ionized ammonia (mg/liter NH₃)							
6.50	0.0008	0.0011	0.0016	0.0022	0.0031	0.0031	0.0031
6.75	0.0014	0.0020	0.0028	0.0039	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055
7.00	0.0025	0.0035	0.0049	0.0070	0.0099	0.0099	0.0099
7.25	0.0044	0.0062	0.0088	0.0124	0.0175	0.0175	0.0175
7.00	0.0078	0.0111	0.0156	0.022	0.031	0.031	0.031
7.75	0.0129	0.0182	0.026	0.036	0.051	0.051	0.051
8.00	0.0149	0.021	0.030	0.042	0.059	0.059	0.059
8.25	0.0149	0.021	0.030	0.042	0.059	0.059	0.059
8.50	0.0149	0.021	0.030	0.042	0.059	0.059	0.059
8.75	0.0149	0.021	0.030	0.042	0.059	0.059	0.059
9.00	0.0149	0.021	0.030	0.042	0.059	0.059	0.059
Total ammonia (mg/liter NH₃)							
6.50	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.5	1.73	1.23
6.75	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.5	1.74	1.23
7.00	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.5	1.74	1.23
7.25	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.5	1.75	1.24
7.50	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.5	1.76	1.25
7.75	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.3	1.65	1.18
8.00	1.82	1.70	1.62	1.57	1.55	1.10	0.79
8.25	1.03	0.97	0.93	0.90	0.90	0.64	0.47
8.50	0.58	0.55	0.53	0.53	0.53	0.39	0.29
8.75	0.34	0.32	0.31	0.31	0.32	0.24	0.190
9.00	0.195	0.189	0.189	0.195	0.21	0.163	0.133

1 To convert these values to mg/liter N, multiply by 0.822.

2 Source: USEPA, 1992

Bioaccumulation

Many pollutants can bioaccumulate in fish and other aquatic organisms at levels which are harmful for both the organisms as well as organisms that prey upon these species (including humans).

Toxic pollutants shall not be present at levels that will bioaccumulate in aquatic life to levels which are harmful to aquatic life or human health.

Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅)

The 5-day BOD test indirectly measures the amount of readily degradable organic material in water by measuring the residual dissolved oxygen after a period of incubation (usually 5 days at 20 °C), and is primarily used as an indicator of the efficiency of wastewater treatment processes.

Waters shall be free of substances that result in increases in the BOD which adversely affect beneficial uses.

Biostimulatory Substances

Biostimulatory substances include excess nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus) and other compounds that stimulate aquatic growth. In addition to being aesthetical unpleasant (causing taste, odor, or color problems), this excessive growth can also cause other water quality problems.

Waters shall not contain biostimulatory substances in concentrations that promote aquatic growth to the extent that such growth causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.

Chemical Constituents

Chemical constituents in excessive amounts in drinking water are harmful to human health. Maximum levels of chemical constituents in drinking waters are listed in the California Code of Regulations and the relevant limits are described below.

Surface waters shall not contain concentrations of chemical constituents in amounts that adversely affect any designated beneficial use.

Water designated for use as Domestic or Municipal Supply (MUN) shall not contain concentrations of chemical constituents in excess of the limits specified in the following provisions of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations which are incorporated by reference into this plan: Table 64431-A of Section 64431 (Inorganic Chemicals), Table 64431-B of Section 64431 (Fluoride), and Table 64444-A of Section 64444 (Organic Chemicals). This incorporation by reference is prospective including future changes to the incorporated provisions as the changes take effect. (See Tables 3-5, 3-6, and 3-7.)

Table 3-5. The Maximum Contaminant Levels: Inorganic Chemicals (for MUN beneficial use) specified in Table 64431-A of Section 64431 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations as of 9-8-94.

Constituent	Maximum Contaminant Level mg/L
Aluminum	1.
Antimony	0.006
Arsenic	0.05
Asbestos	7 MFL*
Barium	1.
Beryllium	0.004
Cadmium	0.005
Chromium	0.05
Cyanide	0.2
Mercury	0.002
Nickel	0.1
Nitrate (as NO ₃)	45.
Nitrate + Nitrite (sum as nitrogen)	10.
Nitrite (as nitrogen)	1.
Selenium	0.05
Thallium	0.002

* MFL = million fibers per liter; MCL for fibers exceeding 10 μm in length

Table 3-6. The Limiting and Optimum Concentrations for Fluoride (for MUN beneficial use) specified in Table 64431-B of Section 64431 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations as of 9-8-94.

Annual Average of Maximum Daily Air Temperature (°F)	Fluoride Concentration (mg/L)			
	Lower	Optimum	Upper	Maximum Concentration Level
53.7 and below	0.9	1.2	1.7	2.4
53.8 to 58.3	0.8	1.1	1.5	2.2
58.4 to 63.8	0.8	1.0	1.3	2.0
63.9 to 70.6	0.7	0.9	1.2	1.8
70.7 to 79.2	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.6
79.3 to 90.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.4

Chlorine, Total Residual

Disinfection of wastewaters with chlorine produces a chlorine residual. Chlorine and its reaction products are toxic to aquatic life.

Chlorine residual shall not be present in surface water discharges at concentrations that exceed 0.1 mg/L and shall not persist in receiving waters at any concentration that causes impairment of beneficial uses.

Color

Color in water can result from natural conditions (e.g., from plant material or minerals) or can be introduced from commercial or industrial sources. Color is primarily an aesthetic consideration, although extremely dark colored water can limit light penetration and cause additional water quality problems. Furthermore, color can impact domestic and industrial uses by discoloring clothing or foods. The secondary drinking water standard is 15 color units (DHS, 1992).

Waters shall be free of coloration that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.

Exotic Vegetation

Exotic (non-native) vegetation introduced in and around stream courses is often of little value as habitat (food and cover) for aquatic-dependent biota. Exotic plants can quickly out-compete native vegetation and cause other water quality impairments.

Exotic vegetation shall not be introduced around stream courses to the extent that such growth causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.

Floating Material

Floating materials can be an aesthetic nuisance as well as provide substrate for undesirable bacterial and algal growth and insect vectors.

Waters shall not contain floating materials, including solids, liquids, foams, and scum, in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

Table 3-7. The Maximum Contaminant Levels: Organic Chemicals (for MUN beneficial use) specified in Table 64444-A of Section 64444 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations as of 9-8-94.

Constituent	Maximum Contaminant Level mg/L
A. Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOCs)	
Benzene	0.001
Carbon Tetrachloride	0.0005
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	0.6
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	0.005
1,1-Dichloroethane	0.005
1,2-Dichloroethane	0.0005
1,1-Dichloroethylene	0.006
cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	0.006
trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	0.01
Dichloromethane	0.005
1,2-Dichloropropane	0.005
1,3-Dichloropropene	0.0005
Ethylbenzene	0.7
Monochlorobenzene	0.07
Styrene	0.1
1,1,2,2-Tetrachlorethane	0.001
Tetrachloroethylene	0.005
Toluene	0.15
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	0.07
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	0.200
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	0.005
Trichloroethylene	0.005
Trichlorofluoromethane	0.15
1,1,2-Trichloro-1,2,2-Trifluoroethane	1.2
Vinyl Chloride	0.0005
Xylenes (single isomer or sum of isomers)	1.750
B. Non-Volatile Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOCs)	
Alachlor	0.002
Atrazine	0.003
Bentazon	0.018

Constituent	Maximum Contaminant Level mg/L
Benzo(a)pyrene	0.0002
Carbofuran	0.018
Chlordane	0.0001
2,4-D	0.07
Dalapon	0.2
1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane	0.0002
Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	0.4
Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	0.004
Dinoseb	0.007
Diquat	0.02
Endothall	0.1
Endrin	0.002
Ethylene Dibromide	0.00005
Glyphosate	0.7
Heptachlor	0.00001
Heptachlor Epoxide	0.00001
Hexachlorobenzene	0.001
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	0.05
Lindane	0.0002
Methoxychlor	0.04
Molinate	0.02
Oxaryl	0.2
Pentachlorophenol	0.001
Picloram	0.5
Polychlorinated Biphenyls	0.0005
Simazine	0.004
Thiobencarb	0.07
Toxaphene	0.003
2,3,7,8-TCDD (Dioxin)	3X10 ⁻⁸
2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	0.05

Methylene Blue Activated Substances (MBAS)

The MBAS procedure tests for the presence of anionic surfactants (detergents) in water. Positive results can indicate the presence of domestic wastewater. This test can be used to indicate impacts from septic systems. Surfactants disturb the surface tension which affects insects and can affect gills in aquatic life. The secondary drinking water standard for MBAS is 0.5 mg/L (DHS, 1992).

Waters shall not have MBAS concentrations greater than 0.5 mg/L in waters designated MUN.

Mineral Quality

Mineral quality in natural waters is largely determined by the mineral assemblage of soils and rocks and faults near the land surface. Point and nonpoint source discharges of poor quality water can degrade the mineral content of natural waters. High levels of dissolved solids renders waters useless for many beneficial uses. Elevated levels of boron affect agricultural use (especially citrus).

Numerical mineral quality objectives for individual inland surface waters are contained in Table 3-8.

Nitrogen (Nitrate, Nitrite)

High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause health problems in humans. Infants are particularly sensitive and can develop methemoglobinemia (blue-baby syndrome). Excess nitrogen in surface waters also leads to excess aquatic growth and can contribute to elevated levels of NO_3 in ground water as well. The primary drinking water standard for nitrate (as NO_3) is 45 mg/L (DHS, 1992).

Waters shall not exceed 10 mg/L nitrogen as nitrate-nitrogen plus nitrite-nitrogen ($\text{NO}_3\text{-N} + \text{NO}_2\text{-N}$), 45 mg/L as nitrate (NO_3), 10 mg/L as nitrate-nitrogen ($\text{NO}_3\text{-N}$), or 1 mg/L as nitrite-nitrogen ($\text{NO}_2\text{-N}$) or as otherwise designated in Table 3-8.

Oil and Grease

Oil and grease are not readily soluble in water and form a film on the water surface. Oily films can coat birds and aquatic organisms, impacting respiration and thermal regulation, and causing death. Oil and grease can also cause nuisance conditions (odors and taste), are aesthetically unpleasant, and can restrict a wide variety of beneficial uses.

Waters shall not contain oils, greases, waxes or other materials in concentrations that result in a visible film or coating on the surface of the water or on objects in the water, that cause nuisance, or that otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses.

Oxygen, Dissolved (DO)

Adequate dissolved oxygen levels are required to support aquatic life. Depression of dissolved oxygen can lead to anaerobic conditions resulting in odors or, in extreme cases, in fish kills. Dissolved oxygen requirements are dependent on the beneficial uses of the waterbody.

At a minimum (see specifics below), the mean annual dissolved oxygen concentration of all waters shall be greater than 7 mg/L, and no single determination shall be less than 5.0 mg/L, except when natural conditions cause lesser concentrations.

The dissolved oxygen content of all surface waters designated as WARM shall not be depressed below 5 mg/L as a result of waste discharges.

The dissolved oxygen content of all surface waters designated as COLD shall not be depressed below 6 mg/L as a result of waste discharges.

The dissolved oxygen content of all surface waters designated as both COLD and SPWN shall not be depressed below 7 mg/L as a result of waste discharges.

For that area known as the Outer Harbor area of Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbors, the mean annual dissolved oxygen concentrations shall be 6.0 mg/L or greater, provided that no single determination shall be less than 5.0 mg/L.

Table 3-8. Water Quality Objectives for Selected Constituents in Inland Surface Waters^a.

Reaches are in upstream to downstream order.

WATERSHED/STREAM REACH ^b	TDS (mg/L)	Sulfate (mg/L)	Chloride (mg/L)	Boron ^c (mg/L)	Nitrogen ^d (mg/L)	SAR ^e (mg/L)
Miscellaneous Ventura Coastal Streams	<i>no waterbody specific objectives^f</i>					
Ventura River Watershed:						
Above Camino Cielo Road	700	300	50	1.0	5	5
Between Camino Cielo Road and Casitas Vista Road	800	300	60	1.0	5	5
Between Casitas Vista Road and confluence with Weldon Canyon	1000	300	60	1.0	5	5
Between confluence with Weldon Canyon and Main Street	1500	500	300	1.5	10	5
Between Main St. and Ventura River Estuary	<i>no waterbody specific objectives^f</i>					
Santa Clara River Watershed:						
Above Lang gaging station	500	100	50	0.5	5	5
Between Lang gaging station and Bouquet Canyon Road Bridge	800	150	100	1.0	5	5
Between Bouquet Canyon Road Bridge and West Pier Highway 99	1000	300	100	1.5	10	5
Between West Pier Highway 99 and Blue Cut gaging station	1000	400	100	1.5	5	10
Between Blue Cut gaging station and A Street, Fillmore	1300	600	100	1.5	5	5
Between A Street, Fillmore and Freeman Diversion "Dam" near Saticoy	1300	650	80	1.5	5	5
Between Freeman Diversion "Dam" near Saticoy and Highway 101 Bridge	1200	600	150	1.5	-	-
Between Highway 101 Bridge and Santa Clara River Estuary	<i>no waterbody specific objectives^f</i>					
Santa Paula Creek above Santa Paula Water Works Diversion Dam	600	250	45	1.0	5	5
Sespe Creek above gaging station, 500' downstream from Little Sespe Creek	800	320	60	1.5	5	5
Piru Creek above gaging station below Santa Felicia Dam	800	400	60	1.0	5	5
Calleguas Creek Watershed:						
Above Potrero Road	850	250	150	1.0	10	f
Below Potrero Road	<i>no waterbody specific objectives^f</i>					

Table 3-8. Water Quality Objectives for Selected Constituents in Inland Surface Waters^a (cont.)

Reaches are in upstream to downstream order.

WATERSHED/STREAM REACH ^b	TDS (mg/L)	Sulfate (mg/L)	Chloride (mg/L)	Boron ^c (mg/L)	Nitrogen ^d (mg/L)	SAR ^e (mg/L)
Miscellaneous Los Angeles County Coastal Streams	<i>no waterbody specific objectives^f</i>					
Malibu Creek Watershed	2000	500	500	2.0	10	-
Ballona Creek Watershed	<i>no waterbody specific objectives^f</i>					
Dominguez Channel Watershed	<i>no waterbody specific objectives^f</i>					
Los Angeles River Watershed:						
Above Figueroa Street	950	300	150	g	8	g
Between Figueroa Street and Los Angeles River Estuary (Willow Street). Includes Rio Hondo below Santa Ana Freeway	1500	350	150	g	8	g
Rio Hondo above Santa Ana Freeway ^h	750	300	150	g	8	g
Santa Anita Creek above Santa Anita spreading grounds	250	30	10	g	f	g
Eaton Canyon Creek above Eaton Dam	250	30	10	g	f	g
Arroyo Seco above spreading grounds	300	40	15	g	f	g
Big Tujunga Creek above Hansen Dam	350	50	20	g	f	g
Pacoima Wash above Pacoima spreading grounds	250	30	10	g	f	g
San Gabriel River Watershed:						
Above Morris Dam	250	30	10	0.6	2	2
Between Morris Dam and Ramona Blvd.	450	100	100	0.5	8	g
Between Ramona Blvd. and Firestone Blvd.	750	300	150	1.0	8	g
Between Firestone Blvd. and San Gabriel River Estuary (downstream from Willow Street) including Coyote Creek	<i>no waterbody specific objectives^f</i>					
All other minor San Gabriel Mountain streams tributary to San Gabriel Valley ⁱ	300	40	15	g	f	g
Island Watercourses:						
Anacapa Island	<i>no waterbody specific objectives^f</i>					
San Nicolas Island	<i>no waterbody specific objectives^f</i>					
Santa Barbara island	<i>no waterbody specific objectives^f</i>					
Santa Catalina Island	<i>no waterbody specific objectives^f</i>					
San Clemente Island	<i>no waterbody specific objectives^f</i>					

Table 3-8. Water Quality Objectives for Selected Constituents in Inland Surface Waters^a (cont.)

Reaches are in upstream to downstream order.

WATERSHED/STREAM REACH ^b	TDS (mg/L)	Sulfate (mg/L)	Chloride (mg/L)	Boron ^c (mg/L)	Nitrogen ^d (mg/L)	SAR ^e (mg/L)
Other Watercourses:						
San Antonio Creek ^j	225	25	6	--	--	--
Chino Creek ^j	--	--	--	--	--	--

- a. As part of the State's continuing planning process, data will continue to be collected to support the development of numerical water quality objectives for waterbodies and constituents where sufficient information is presently unavailable. Any new recommendations for water quality objectives will be brought before the Regional Board in the future.
- b. All references to watersheds, streams and reaches include all tributaries. Water quality objectives are applied to all waters tributary to those specifically listed in the table. See Figures 2-1 to 2-10 for locations.
- c. Where naturally occurring boron results in concentrations higher than the stated objective, a site-specific objective may be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- d. Nitrate-nitrogen plus nitrite-nitrogen (NO₃-N + NO₂-N). The lack of adequate nitrogen data for all streams precluded the establishment of numerical objectives for all streams.
- e. Sodium adsorption ratio (SAR) predicts the degree to which irrigation water tends to enter into cation-exchange reactions in soil.

$$SAR = Na+ / ((Ca^{++} + Mg^{++}) / 2)^{1/2}$$

- f. Site-specific objectives have not been determined for these reaches at this time. These areas are often impaired (by high levels of minerals) and there is not sufficient historic data to designate objectives based on natural background conditions. The following table illustrates the mineral or nutrient quality necessary to protect different categories of beneficial uses and will be used as a guideline for establishing effluent limits in these cases. Protection of the most sensitive beneficial use(s) would be the determining criteria for the selection of effluent limits.

Recommended objective (mg/L)	Beneficial Use Categories				
	MUN (Drinking Water Standards) ¹	PROC	AGR	AQ LIFE*(Frshwtr) ⁴	GWR
TDS	500 (USEPA secondary MCL)	50-1500 ^{2,7,9}	450-2000 ^{2,3,6}		Limits based on appropriate groundwater basin objectives and/or beneficial uses
Chloride	250 (USEPA secondary MCL)	20-1000 ^{2,9}	100-355 ^{2,3,8}	230 (4 day ave. continuous conc) ⁴	
Sulfate	400-500 (USEPA proposed MCL)	20-300 ^{2,9}	350-600 ^{2,8}		
Boron			0.5-4.0 ^{2,6,8}		
Nitrogen	10 (USEPA MCL)				

References: 1) USEPA CFR § 141 et seq., 2) McKee and Wolf, 1963, 3) Ayers and Westcot, 1985, 4) USEPA, 1988, 5) Water Pollution Control Federation, 1989, 6) USEPA, 1973, 7) USEPA 1980, 8) Ayers, 1977.

* Aquatic life includes a variety of Beneficial Uses including WARM, COLD, SPWN, MIGR and RARE.

- g. Agricultural supply is not a beneficial use of the surface water in the specified reach.
- h. Rio Hondo spreading grounds are located above the Santa Ana Freeway
- i. The stated objectives apply to all other surface streams originating within the San Gabriel Mountains and extend from their headwaters to the canyon mouth.
- j. These watercourses are primarily located in the Santa Ana Region. The water quality objectives for these streams have been established by Santa Ana Region. Dashed lines indicate that numerical objectives have not been established, however, narrative objectives shall apply. Refer to the Santa Ana Region Basin Plan for more details.

Pesticides

Pesticides are used ubiquitously for a variety of purposes; however, their release into the environment presents a hazard to aquatic organisms and plants not targeted for their use. The extent of risk to aquatic life depends on many factors including the physical and chemical properties of the pesticide. Those of greatest concern are those that persist for long periods and accumulate in aquatic life and sediments.

No individual pesticide or combination of pesticides shall be present in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses. There shall be no increase in pesticide concentrations found in bottom sediments or aquatic life.

Waters designated for use as domestic or municipal supply (MUN) shall not contain concentrations of pesticides in excess of the limiting concentrations specified in Table 64444-A of Section 64444 (Organic Chemicals) of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations which is incorporated by reference into this plan. This incorporation by reference is prospective including future changes to the incorporated provisions as the changes take effect. (See Table 3-7.)

pH

The hydrogen ion activity of water (pH) is measured on a logarithmic scale, ranging from 0 to 14. While the pH of "pure" water at 25 °C is 7.0, the pH of natural waters is usually slightly basic due to the solubility of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Minor changes from natural conditions can harm aquatic life.

The pH of inland surface waters shall not be depressed below 6.5 or raised above 8.5 as a result of waste discharges. Ambient pH levels shall not be changed more than 0.5 units from natural conditions as a result of waste discharge.

The pH of bays or estuaries shall not be depressed below 6.5 or raised above 8.5 as a result of waste discharges. Ambient pH levels shall not be changed more than 0.2 units from natural conditions as a result of waste discharge.

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) are a highly toxic and persistent group of organic chemicals that have been historically released into the environment. Many historic discharges still exist as sources in the environment.

The purposeful discharge of PCBs (the sum of chlorinated biphenyls whose analytical characteristics resemble those of Aroclor-1016, Aroclor-1221, Aroclor-1232, Aroclor-1242, Aroclor-1248, Aroclor-1254, and Aroclor-1260) to waters of the Region, or at locations where the waste can subsequently reach waters of the Region, is prohibited.

Pass-through or uncontrollable discharges to waters of the Region, or at locations where the waste can subsequently reach water of the Region, are limited to 70 pg/L (30 day average) for protection of human health and 14 ng/L and 30 ng/L (daily average) to protect aquatic life in inland fresh waters and estuarine waters respectively.

Radioactive Substances

Radioactive substances are generally present in natural waters in extremely low concentrations. Mining or industrial activities increase the amount of radioactive substances in waters to levels that are harmful to aquatic life, wildlife or humans.

Radionuclides shall not be present in concentrations that are deleterious to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life or that result in the accumulation of radionuclides in the food web to an extent that presents a hazard to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life.

Waters designated for use as domestic or municipal supply (MUN) shall not contain concentrations of radionuclides in excess of the limits specified in Table 4 of Section 64443 (Radioactivity) of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations which is incorporated by reference into this plan. This incorporation by reference is prospective including future changes to the incorporated provisions as the changes take effect. (See Table 3-9.)

Table 3-9. The Maximum Contaminant Levels: Radioactivity (for MUN beneficial use) specified in Table 4 of Section 64443 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations as of 12-22-88.

MCL Radioactivity	Maximum Contaminant Level pCi/L
Combined Radium-226 and Radium-228	5
Gross Alpha particle activity (including Radium-226 but excluding Radon and Uranium)	15
Tritium	20,000
Strontium-90	8
Gross Beta particle activity	50
Uranium	20

(pCi/L = picocuries = curies x 10⁻¹²)

Solid, Suspended, or Settleable Materials

Surface waters carry various amounts of suspended and settleable materials from both natural and human sources. Suspended sediments limit the passage of sunlight into waters, which in turn inhibits the growth of aquatic plants. Excessive deposition of sediments can destroy spawning habitat, blanket benthic (bottom dwelling) organisms, and abrade the gills of larval fish.

Waters shall not contain suspended or settleable material in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

Taste and Odor

Undesirable tastes and odors in water are an aesthetic nuisance, can impact recreational and other uses, and can indicate the presence of other pollutants.

Waters shall not contain taste or odor-producing substances in concentrations that impart undesirable tastes or odors to fish flesh or other edible aquatic resources, cause nuisance, or adversely affect beneficial uses.

Temperature

Discharges of wastewaters can cause unnatural and/or rapid changes in the temperature of receiving waters which can adversely affect aquatic life.

The natural receiving water temperature of all regional waters shall not be altered unless it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Regional Board that such alteration in temperature does not adversely affect beneficial uses. Alterations that are allowed must meet the requirements below.

For waters designated WARM, water temperature shall not be altered by more than 5 °F above the natural temperature. At no time shall these WARM-designated waters be raised above 80 °F as a result of waste discharges.

For waters designated COLD, water temperature shall not be altered by more than 5 °F above the natural temperature.

Temperature objectives for enclosed bays and estuaries are specified in the "Water Quality Control Plan for Control of Temperature in the Coastal and Interstate Waters and Enclosed Bays of California" (Thermal Plan), including any revisions thereto. See Chapter 5 for a description of the Thermal Plan.

Toxicity

Toxicity is the adverse response of organisms to chemical or physical agents. When the adverse response is mortality, the result is termed acute toxicity. When the adverse response is not mortality but instead reduced growth in larval organisms or reduced reproduction in adult organisms (or other appropriate measurements), a critical life stage effect (chronic toxicity) has occurred. The use of aquatic bioassays (toxicity tests) is widely accepted as a valid approach to evaluating toxicity of waste and receiving waters.

All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that are toxic to, or that produce detrimental physiological responses in, human, plant, animal, or aquatic life. Compliance with this objective will be determined by use of indicator organisms, analyses of species diversity, population density, growth anomalies, bioassays of appropriate duration or other appropriate methods as specified by the State or Regional Board.

The survival of aquatic life in surface waters, subjected to a waste discharge or other controllable water quality factors, shall not be less than that for the same waterbody in areas unaffected by the waste discharge or, when necessary, other control water.

There shall be no acute toxicity in ambient waters, including mixing zones. The acute toxicity objective for discharges dictates that the average survival in undiluted effluent for any three consecutive 96-hour static or continuous flow bioassay tests shall be at least 90%, with no single test having less than 70% survival when using an established USEPA, State Board, or other protocol authorized by the Regional Board.

There shall be no chronic toxicity in ambient waters outside mixing zones. To determine compliance with this objective, critical life stage tests for at least three species with approved testing protocols shall be used to screen for the most sensitive species. The test species used for screening shall include a vertebrate, an invertebrate, and an aquatic plant. The most sensitive species shall then be used for routine monitoring. Typical endpoints for chronic toxicity tests include hatchability, gross morphological abnormalities, survival, growth, and reproduction.

Effluent limits for specific toxicants can be established by the Regional Board to control toxicity identified under Toxicity Identification Evaluations (TIEs).

Turbidity

Turbidity is an expression of the optical property that causes light to be scattered in water due to particulate matter such as clay, silt, organic matter, and microscopic organisms. Turbidity can result in a variety of water quality impairments. The secondary drinking water standard for turbidity is 5 NTU (nephelometric turbidity units).

Waters shall be free of changes in turbidity that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses. Increases in natural turbidity attributable to controllable water quality factors shall not exceed the following limits:

Where natural turbidity is between 0 and 50 NTU, increases shall not exceed 20%.

Where natural turbidity is greater than 50 NTU, increases shall not exceed 10%.

Allowable zones of dilution within which higher concentrations may be tolerated may be defined for each discharge in specific Waste Discharge Requirements.

Regional Narrative Objectives for Wetlands

In addition to the regional objectives for inland surface waters (including wetlands), the following narrative objectives apply for the protection of wetlands in the Region.

Hydrology

Natural hydrologic conditions necessary to support the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics present in wetlands shall be protected to prevent significant adverse effects on:

- *natural temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, and other natural physical/chemical conditions,*
- *movement of aquatic fauna,*
- *survival and reproduction of aquatic flora and fauna, and*
- *water levels.*

Habitat

Existing habitats and associated populations of wetlands fauna and flora shall be maintained by:

- *maintaining substrate characteristics necessary to support flora and fauna which would be present naturally,*
- *protecting food supplies for fish and wildlife,*
- *protecting reproductive and nursery areas, and*
- *protecting wildlife corridors.*

Regional Objectives for Ground Waters

The following objectives apply to all ground waters of the Region:

Bacteria

Total and fecal coliform bacteria are used to indicate the likelihood of pathogenic bacteria in waters.

In ground waters used for domestic or municipal supply (MUN) the concentration of coliform organisms over any seven day period shall be less than 1.1/100 ml.

Chemical Constituents and Radioactivity

Chemical constituents in excessive amounts in drinking water are harmful to human health. Maximum levels of chemical constituents in drinking waters are listed in the California Code of Regulations and the relevant limits are described below.

Ground waters designated for use as domestic or municipal supply (MUN) shall not contain concentrations of chemical constituents and radionuclides in excess of the limits specified in the following provisions of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations which are incorporated by reference into this plan: Table 64431-A of section 64431 (Inorganic chemicals), Table 64431-B of Section 64431 (Fluoride), Table 64444-A of Section 64444 (Organic Chemicals), and Table 4 of Section 64443 (Radioactivity). This incorporation by reference is prospective including future changes to the incorporated provisions as the changes take effect. (See Tables 3-5, 3-6, 3-7, and 3-9.)

Ground waters shall not contain concentrations of chemical constituents in amounts that adversely affect any designated beneficial use.

Mineral Quality

Inorganic constituents in ground waters are largely influenced by thermodynamic reactions that occur as ground water comes into contact with various rock and soil types. For example, ground water that flows through beds of gypsum ($\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$) typically has relatively high levels of calcium cations and sulfate anions. Ground water flowing through limestone (CaCO_3) also has relatively high levels of calcium cations, but coupled with bicarbonate anions instead of sulfate. Ground waters with these ions at levels greater than 120 mg/L (expressed as CaCO_3) are considered hard waters (Hem, 1989).

Human activities and land use practices can influence inorganic constituents in ground waters. Surface waters carrying abnormally high levels of salts (e.g., irrigation return flows) can degrade the ground waters that they recharge. Abnormally high levels of inorganic constituents can impair and preclude beneficial uses. For example, high levels of boron preclude agricultural use (especially for citrus crops) of ground waters. Hard waters present nuisance problems and may require softening prior to industrial use.

Numerical mineral quality objectives for individual groundwater basins are contained in Table 3-10.

Nitrogen (Nitrate, Nitrite)

High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause health problems in humans. Infants are particularly sensitive and can develop methemoglobinemia (blue-baby syndrome). The primary drinking water standard for nitrate (as NO_3) is 45 mg/L (DHS, 1992).

Human activities and land use practices can also influence nitrogen concentration in ground waters. For example, effluents from wastewater treatment plants, septic tanks and confined animal facilities can add high levels of nitrogen compounds to the ground water that they recharge. Irrigation water containing fertilizers can add high levels of nitrogen to ground water.

Ground waters shall not exceed 10 mg/L nitrogen as nitrate-nitrogen plus nitrite-nitrogen ($\text{NO}_3\text{-N} + \text{NO}_2\text{-N}$), 45 mg/L as nitrate (NO_3), 10 mg/L as nitrate-nitrogen ($\text{NO}_3\text{-N}$), or 1 mg/L as nitrite-nitrogen ($\text{NO}_2\text{-N}$).

Taste and Odor

Undesirable tastes and odors in water are an aesthetic nuisance and can indicate the presence of other pollutants.

Ground waters shall not contain taste or odor-producing substances in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

Table 3-10. Water Quality Objectives for Selected Constituents in Regional Ground Waters^a.

DWR Basin No. ^b	BASIN	OBJECTIVES (mg/L)			
		TDS	Sulfate	Chloride	Boron
	Pitas Point Area ^c	None specified			
4-1	Ojai Valley				
	Upper Ojai Valley				
	West of Sulfur Mountain Road	1,000	300	200	1.0
	Central area	700	50	100	1.0
	Sisar area	700	250	100	0.5
4-2	Lower Ojai Valley				0.5
	West of San Antonio--Senior Canyon Creeks	1,000	300	200	0.5
	East of San Antonio--Senior Canyon Creeks	700	200	50	
4-3	Ventura River Valley				
	Upper Ventura	800	300	100	0.5
	San Antonio Creek area	1,000	300	100	1.0
	Lower Ventura	1,500	500	300	1.5
4-4	Ventura Central ^d				
	Santa Clara--Piru Creek area				
	Upper area (above Lake Piru)	1,100	400	200	2.0
	Lower area east of Piru Creek	2,500	1,200	200	1.5
	Lower area west of Piru Creek	1,200	600	100	1.5
	Santa Clara--Sespe Creek area				
	Topa Topa (upper Sespe) area	900	350	30	2.0
	Fillmore area				
	Pole Creek Fan area	2,000	800	100	1.0
	South side of Santa Clara River	1,500	800	100	1.1
	Remaining Fillmore area	1,000	400	50	0.7
	Santa Clara--Santa Paula area				
	East of Peck Road	1,200	600	100	1.0
	West of Peck Road	2,000	800	110	1.0
	Oxnard Plain				
	Oxnard Forebay	1,200	600	150	1.0
	Confined aquifers	1,200	600	150	1.0
Unconfined and perched aquifers	3,000	1,000	500	--	
4-6	Pleasant Valley				
	Confined aquifers	700	300	150	1.0
	Unconfined and perched aquifers	--	--	--	--
4-7	Arroyo Santa Rosa	900	300	150	1.0
4-8	Las Posas Valley				
	South Las Posas area				
	NW of Grimes Cyn Rd & LA Ave & Somis Rd	700	300	100	0.5
	E of Grimes Cyn Rd and Hitch Blvd	2,500	1,200	400	3.0
	S of LA Ave between Somis Rd & Hitch Blvd	1,500	700	250	1.0
	Grimes Canyon Rd & Broadway area	250	30	30	0.2
North Las Posas area	500	250	150	1.0	
4-5	Upper Santa Clara				
	Acton Valley	550	150	100	1.0
	Sierra Pelona Valley (Agua Dulce)	600	100	100	0.5
	Upper Mint Canyon	700	150	100	0.5
	Upper Bouquet Canyon	400	50	30	0.5
	Green Valley	400	50	25	--
Lake Elizabeth--Lake Hughes area	500	100	50	0.5	

Table 3-10. Water Quality Objectives for Selected Constituents in Regional Ground Waters^a (cont.)

DWR Basin No. ^b	BASIN	OBJECTIVES (mg/L)			
		TDS	Sulfate	Chloride	Boron
4-4.07	Eastern Santa Clara				
	Santa Clara--Mint Canyon	800	150	150	1.0
	South Fork	700	200	100	0.5
	Placerita Canyon	700	150	100	0.5
	Santa Clara--Bouquet & San Francisquito Canyons	700	250	100	1.0
	Castaic Valley	1,000	350	150	1.0
	Saugus Aquifer	--	--	--	--
4-9	Simi Valley				
	Simi Valley Basin				
	Confined aquifers	1,200	600	150	1.0
	Unconfined aquifers	--	--	--	--
	Gillibrand Basin	900	350	50	1.0
4-10	Conejo Valley	800	250	150	1.0
4-11	Los Angeles Coastal Plain				
	Central Basin	700	250	150	1.0
	West Coast Basin	800	250	250	1.5
	Hollywood Basin	750	100	100	1.0
	Santa Monica Basin	1,000	250	200	0.5
4-12	San Fernando Valley				
	Sylmar Basin	600	150	100	0.5
	Verdugo Basin	600	150	100	0.5
	San Fernando Basin				
	West of Highway 405	800	300	100	1.5
	East of Highway 405 (overall)	700	300	100	1.5
	Sunland-Tugunga area *	400	50	50	0.5
	Foothill area *	400	100	50	1.0
	Area encompassing RT-Tujunga-Erwin-N. Hollywood-Whithall-LA/Verdugo-Crystal Springs-Headworks-Glendale/Burbank Well Fields	600	250	100	1.5
	Narrows area (below confluence of Verdugo Wash with the LA River)	900	300	150	1.5
	Eagle Rock Basin	800	150	100	0.5
4-13	San Gabriel Valley				
	Raymond Basin				
	Monk Hill sub-basin	450	100	100	0.5
	Santa Anita area	450	100	100	0.5
	Pasadena area	450	100	100	0.5
	Main San Gabriel Basin				
	Western area †	450	100	100	0.5
Eastern area †	600	100	100	0.5	
	Puente Basin	1,000	300	150	1.0
4-14 8-2 ^g	Upper Santa Ana Valley				
	Live Oak area	450	150	100	0.5
	Claremont Heights area	450	100	50	--
	Pomona area	300	100	50	0.5
	Chino area	450	20	15	--
	Spadra area	550	200	120	1.0
4-15	Tierra Rejada	700	250	100	0.5
4-16	Hidden Valley	1,000	250	250	1.0
4-17	Lockwood Valley	1,000	300	20	2.0
4-18	Hungry Valley and Peace Valley	500	150	50	1.0

Table 3-10. Water Quality Objectives for Selected Constituents in Regional Ground Waters^a (cont.)

DWR Basin No. ^b	BASIN	OBJECTIVES (mg/L)			
		TDS	Sulfate	Chloride	Boron
4-19	Thousand Oaks area	1,400	700	150	1.0
4-20	Russell Valley	1,500	500	250	1.0
	Russell Valley	2,000	500	500	2.0
	Triunfo Canyon area	2,000	500	500	2.0
	Lindero Canyon area	2,000	500	500	2.0
	Las Virgenes Canyon area	2,000	500	500	2.0
4-21	Conejo-Tierra Rejada Volcanic area ^h	--	--	--	--
4-22	Santa Monica Mountains--southern slopes ⁱ	1,000	250	250	1.0
	Camarillo area	1,000	250	250	1.0
	Point Dume area	2,000	500	500	2.0
	Malibu Valley	2,000	500	500	2.0
	Topanga Canyon area	2,000	500	500	2.0
	San Pedro Channel Islands ^j	--	--	--	--
	Anacapa Island	1,100	150	350	--
	San Nicolas Island	1,000	100	250	1.0
	Santa Catalina Island	--	--	--	--
	San Clemente Island	--	--	--	--
	Santa Barbara Island	--	--	--	--

- a. Objectives for ground waters outside of the major basins listed on this table and outlined in Figure 1-9 have not been specifically listed. However, ground waters outside of the major basins are, in many cases, significant sources of water. Furthermore, ground waters outside of the major basins are either potential or existing sources of water for downgradient basins and, as such, objectives in the downgradient basins shall apply to these areas.
- b. Basins are numbered according to Bulletin 118-80 (Department of Water Resources, 1980).
- c. Ground waters in the Pitas Point area (between the lower Ventura River and Rincon Point) are not considered to comprise a major basin, and accordingly have not been designated a basin number by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) or outlined on Figure 1-9.
- d. The Santa Clara River Valley (4-4), Pleasant Valley (4-6), Arroyo Santa Rosa Valley (4-7) and Las Posas Valley (4-8) Ground Water Basins have been combined and designated as the Ventura Central Basin (DWR, 1980).
- e. The category for the Foothill Wells area in previous Basin Plan incorrectly groups ground water in the Foothill area with ground water in the Sunland-Tujunga area. Accordingly, the new categories, Foothill area and Sunland-Tujunga area, replace the old Foothill Wells area.
- f. All of the ground water in the Main San Gabriel Basin is covered by the objectives listed under Main San Gabriel Basin – Eastern area and Western area. Walnut Creek, Big Dalton Wash, and Little Dalton Wash separate the Eastern area from the Western area (see dashed line on Figure 2-17). Any ground water upgradient of these areas is subject to downgradient beneficial uses and objectives, as explained in Footnote a.
- g. The border between Regions 4 and 8 crosses the Upper Santa Ana Valley Ground Water Basin.
- h. Ground water in the Conejo-Tierra Rejada Volcanic Area occurs primarily in fractured volcanic rocks in the western Santa Monica Mountains and Conejo Mountain areas. These areas have not been delineated on Figure 1-9.
- i. With the exception of ground water in Malibu Valley (DWR Basin No. 4-22), ground waters along the southern slopes of the Santa Monica Mountains are not considered to comprise a major basin and accordingly have not been designated a basin number by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) or outlined on Figure 1-9.
- j. DWR has not designated basins for ground waters on the San Pedro Channel Islands.

Statewide Objectives for Ocean Waters

The State Board's *Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California* (Ocean Plan) and the *Water Quality Control Plan for Control of Temperature in the Coastal and Interstate Waters and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California* (Thermal Plan) and any revision thereto, shall also apply to all ocean waters of the Region. These plans are described in Chapter 5, Plans and Policies. Copies of these plans can be obtained at the Office of Legislative and Public Affairs (OLPA) in Sacramento or at the Regional Board office.

Site Specific Objectives

While many pollutants are regulated under federal, state or regionally applied water quality standards, the Regional Board supports the idea of developing site-specific objectives (SSOs) in appropriate circumstances. Site-specific, or reach-specific, objectives are already in place for some parameters (i.e., mineral quality). These were established to protect a specific beneficial use or were based on antidegradation policies. The development of site-specific objectives requires complex and resource intensive studies; resources will limit the number of studies that will be performed in any given year. In addition, a Use Attainability Analysis (UAA) study will be necessary if the attainment of designated aquatic life or recreational beneficial uses is in question. UAAs include waterbody surveys and assessments which define existing uses, determine appropriateness of the existing and designated uses, and project potential uses by examining the waterbody's physical, chemical, and biological characteristics. Under certain conditions, a designated use may be changed if attaining that use would result in substantial and widespread economic and social impacts. Uses that have been attained can not be removed under a UAA analysis. If a UAA study is necessary, that study must be completed before a SSO can be determined. Early planning and coordination with Regional Board staff will be critical to the development of a successful plan for developing SSOs.

Site-specific objectives must be based on sound scientific data in order to assure protection of beneficial uses. There may be several acceptable methods for developing site-specific objectives. A

detailed workplan will be developed with Regional Board staff and other agencies (if appropriate) based on the specific pollutant and site involved. State Board staff and the USEPA will participate in the development of the studies so that there is agreement on the process from the beginning of the study.

Although each study will be unique, there are several elements that should be addressed in order to justify the need for a site-specific objective. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Demonstration that the site in question has different beneficial uses (e.g., more or less sensitive species) as demonstrated in a UAA or that the site has physical or chemical characteristics that may alter the biological availability or toxicity of the chemical.
- Provide a thorough review of current technology and technology-based limits which can be achieved at the facility(ies) on the study reach.
- Provide a thorough review of historical limits and compliance with these limits at all facilities in the study reach.
- Conduct a detailed economic analysis of compliance with existing, proposed objectives.
- Conduct an analysis of compliance and consistency with all federal, state, and regional plans and policies.

Once it is agreed that a site-specific objective is needed, the studies are performed, and an objective is developed, the following criteria must be addressed in the proposal for the new objective.

- Assurance that aquatic life and terrestrial predators are not currently threatened or impaired from bioaccumulation of the specific pollutant and that the biota will not be threatened or impaired by the proposed site-specific level of this pollutant. Safe tissue concentrations will be determined from the literature and from consultation with the California Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

For terrestrial predators, the presence, absence, or threat of harmful bioaccumulated pollutants will be determined through consultation with the

California Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

- Assurance that human consumers of fish and shellfish are currently protected from bioaccumulation of the study pollutant, and will not be affected from bioaccumulation of this pollutant under the proposed site-specific objective.
- Assurance that aquatic life is currently, and will be protected from chronic toxicity from the proposed site-specific objective.
- Assurance that the integrity of the aquatic ecosystem will be protected under the proposed site-specific objective.
- Assurance that no other beneficial uses will be threatened or impaired by the proposed site-specific objective.