

Notes on Applicable State and Federal Laws (ARARs)

Surface Water – Protection of the Environment

Surface Water – ARARs – Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Protection of Aquatic Life are concentrations established under applicable state and federal laws that must be considered when establishing cleanup levels for surface water [see WAC 173-340-730(2)(b)(i), (3)(b)(i), and (4)(b)(i)] are accessible in the CLARC Information System using the CLARC Database Search tool. These concentrations are defined as "ambient water quality criteria". The source for each of the values published in the table is listed in the table.

For hazardous substances for which environmental effects-based concentrations have been established under applicable state and federal laws, the most stringent of those concentrations is used. See WAC173-340-730(3)(b)(iii), (4)(b)(iii).

For hazardous substances for which environmental effects-based concentrations have not been established under applicable state and federal laws, a protective concentration must be established. Protective concentrations are defined as concentrations that do not result in adverse effects on the protection and propagation of fish, aquatic life, and wildlife. See WAC 173-340-730(3)(b)(iii), (4)(b)(iii).

Whole effluent toxicity (WET) testing may be used to demonstrate that a concentration is protective of fish and aquatic life. Other methods may need to be used to demonstrate that a concentration is protective of wildlife, if this is a concern at the site.