

**DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**



**18 AAC 70**

**WATER QUALITY STANDARDS**

**PUBLIC COMMENT DRAFT OCTOBER 30, 2005**

**Frank Murkowski  
Governor**

**Kurt Fredriksson  
Commissioner**

18 AAC 70.020(b)(8) and (20) are amended to read:

**18 AAC 70.020. Protected water use classes and subclasses; water quality criteria; water quality standards table.**

(b) Except as modified by or under 18 AAC 70.220 or 18 AAC 70.235, the water quality criteria set out in the following table, and in the *Alaska Water Quality Criteria Manual for Toxic and Other Deleterious Organic and Inorganic Substances*, dated May 15, 2003 and adopted by reference, in combination with the classes and subclasses of water use set out in the (a) of this section, constitute the water quality standards for a particular waterbody; the water quality standards regulate human activities that result in alterations to waters within the state's jurisdiction:

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## Water Quality Standards for Fresh Water and Marine Uses

POLLUTANT & WATER USE	CRITERIA
(8) RESIDUES, FOR FRESH WATER USES: Floating solids, debris, sludge, deposits, foam, scum, or other residues (criteria are not applicable to groundwater) <b>(See note 13)</b>	
(A) Water Supply (i) drinking, culinary, and food processing	May not, alone or in combination with other substances <b><u>be present in concentrations or amounts that form objectionable deposits, constitute a nuisance, produce objectionable odor or taste, or result in undesirable or nuisance species.</u></b> [OR WASTES, MAKE THE WATER UNFIT OR UNSAFE FOR THE USE; CAUSE A FILM, SHEEN, OR DISCOLORATION ON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER OR ADJOINING SHORELINES; CAUSE LEACHING OF TOXIC OR DELETERIOUS SUBSTANCES; OR CAUSE A SLUDGE, SOLID, OR EMULSION TO BE DEPOSITED BENEATH OR UPON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER, WITHIN THE WATER COLUMN, ON THE BOTTOM, OR UPON ADJOINING SHORELINES.]
(A) Water Supply (ii) agriculture, including irrigation and stock watering	<b><u>Same as (8)(A)(i).</u></b> [MAY NOT BE PRESENT IN QUANTITIES TO CAUSE SOIL PLUGGING OR REDUCED CROP YIELD, OR TO MAKE THE WATER UNFIT OR UNSAFE FOR THE USE.]
(A) Water Supply (iii) aquaculture	<b><u>Same as (8)(A)(i).</u></b> [MAY NOT, ALONE OR IN COMBINATION WITH OTHER SUBSTANCES OR WASTES, MAKE THE WATER UNFIT OR UNSAFE FOR THE USE. ]
(A) Water Supply (iv) industrial	Same as <b><u>(8)(A)(i)</u></b> [(8)(A)(iii)].
(B) Water Recreation (i) contact recreation	Same as (8)(A)(i).
(B) Water Recreation (ii) secondary recreation	Same as (8)(A)(i).

Water Quality Standards for Fresh Water and Marine Uses

POLLUTANT & WATER USE	CRITERIA
(C) Growth and Propagation of Fish, Shellfish, Other Aquatic Life, and Wildlife	May not, alone or in combination with other substances <b><u>be present in concentrations or amounts that form objectionable deposits or result in undesirable or nuisance species.</u></b> [OR WASTES, MAKE THE WATER UNFIT OR UNSAFE FOR THE USE, OR CAUSE ACUTE OR CHRONIC PROBLEM LEVELS AS DETERMINED BY BIOASSAY OR OTHER APPROPRIATE METHODS. MAY NOT, ALONE OR IN COMBINATION WITH OTHER SUBSTANCES, CAUSE A FILM, SHEEN, OR DISCOLORATION ON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER OR ADJOINING SHORELINES; CAUSE LEACHING OF TOXIC OR DELETERIOUS SUBSTANCES; OR CAUSE A SLUDGE, SOLID, OR EMULSION TO BE DEPOSITED BENEATH OR UPON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER, WITHIN THE WATER COLUMN, ON THE BOTTOM, OR UPON ADJOINING SHORELINES.]

## Water Quality Standards for Fresh Water and Marine Uses

POLLUTANT & WATER USE	CRITERIA
(20) RESIDUES, FOR MARINE WATER USES: Floating solids, debris, sludge, deposits, foam, scum, or other residues <b>(See note 13)</b>	
(A) Water Supply (i) aquaculture	May not, alone or in combination with other substances <b><u>be present in concentrations or amounts that form objectionable deposits, constitute a nuisance, produce objectionable odor or taste, or result in undesirable or nuisance species.</u></b> [OR WASTES, MAKE THE WATER UNFIT OR UNSAFE FOR THE USE. MAY NOT CAUSE DETRIMENTAL EFFECTS ON ESTABLISHED WATER SUPPLY TREATMENT LEVELS.]
(A) Water Supply (ii) seafood processing	<b><u>Same as (20)(A)(i).</u></b> [MAY NOT, ALONE OR IN COMBINATION WITH OTHER SUBSTANCES OR WASTES, MAKE THE WATER UNFIT OR UNSAFE FOR THE USE; CAUSE A FILM, SHEEN, OR DISCOLORATION ON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER OR ADJOINING SHORELINES; CAUSE LEACHING OF TOXIC OR DELETERIOUS SUBSTANCES; OR CAUSE A SLUDGE, SOLID, OR EMULSION TO BE DEPOSITED BENEATH OR UPON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER, WITHIN THE WATER COLUMN, ON THE BOTTOM, OR UPON ADJOINING SHORELINES.]
(A) Water Supply (iii) industrial	<b><u>Same as (20)(A)(i).</u></b> [MAY NOT, ALONE OR IN COMBINATION WITH OTHER SUBSTANCES OR WASTES, MAKE THE WATER UNFIT OR UNSAFE FOR THE USE.]
(B) Water Recreation (i) contact recreation	Same as <b><u>(20)(A)(i)</u></b> [(20)(A)(ii)].
(B) Water Recreation (ii) secondary recreation	Same as <b><u>(20)(A)(i)</u></b> [(20)(A)(ii)].

**Water Quality Standards for Fresh Water and Marine Uses**

POLLUTANT & WATER USE	CRITERIA
(C) Growth and Propagation of Fish, Shellfish, Other Aquatic Life, and Wildlife	May not, alone or in combination with other substances <b><u>be present in concentrations or amounts that form objectionable deposits or result in undesirable or nuisance species.</u></b> [OR WASTES, MAKE THE WATER UNFIT OR UNSAFE FOR THE USE, OR CAUSE ACUTE OR CHRONIC PROBLEM LEVELS AS DETERMINED BY BIOASSAY OR OTHER APPROPRIATE METHODS. MAY NOT, ALONE OR IN COMBINATION WITH OTHER SUBSTANCES, CAUSE A FILM, SHEEN, OR DISCOLORATION ON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER OR ADJOINING SHORELINES; CAUSE LEACHING OF TOXIC OR DELETERIOUS SUBSTANCES; OR CAUSE A SLUDGE, SOLID, OR EMULSION TO BE DEPOSITED BENEATH OR UPON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER, WITHIN THE WATER COLUMN, ON THE BOTTOM, OR UPON ADJOINING SHORELINES.]
(D) Harvesting for Consumption of Raw Mollusks or Other Raw Aquatic Life	<b><u>Same as (20)(A)(i).</u></b> [MAY NOT MAKE THE WATER UNFIT OR UNSAFE FOR THE USE; CAUSE A FILM, SHEEN, OR DISCOLORATION ON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER OR ADJOINING SHORELINES; CAUSE LEACHING OF TOXIC OR DELETERIOUS SUBSTANCES; OR CAUSE A SLUDGE, SOLID, OR EMULSION TO BE DEPOSITED BENEATH OR UPON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER, WITHIN THE WATER COLUMN, ON THE BOTTOM, OR UPON ADJOINING SHORELINES.]

**Notes:**

**13. In deciding what constitutes a nuisance or an objectionable deposit, odor or taste, or an undesirable or nuisance species, the department will consider the extent to which the presence of residue**

**(A) results in complaints from existing users;**

**(B) is consistent with the intended use of the area as designated in a land use or other resource management plan adopted by a federal, state or local government; or**

**(C) otherwise impairs or could reasonably be expected to impair existing or designated uses of the water body.**

(Eff. 11/1/97, Register 143; am 4/29/99, Register 150; am 5/27/99, Register 150; am 6/22/2003, Register 166; am \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_, Register \_\_\_\_)

**Authority:** AS 46.03.020  
AS46.03.080

AS 46.03.050

AS 46.03.070