



Water

---

# State Water Quality Standards Summary: American Samoa





#### DISCLAIMER

This publication was prepared by Battelle under contract to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Contract 68-03-3534). Secondary information sources were used to compile data presented in this document. Each State was given an opportunity to review and provide comments on a draft of this information document. In no event shall either the United States or Battelle have any responsibility or liability for any use, misuse, or reliance upon the information contained herein, nor does either warrant or otherwise represent in any way the accuracy, adequacy, efficacy, or applicability of the contents hereof.

The reader should consult the water quality standards of a particular State for exact regulatory language applicable to that State. Copies of State water quality standards may be obtained from the State's Water Pollution Control Agency or its equivalent.

Additional information may also be obtained from the:

Standards Branch  
Criteria and Standards Division (WH-585)  
Office of Water Regulations and Standards  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20460  
202-475-7315

This document may be obtained only from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) at the following address:

National Technical Information Service  
5285 Front Royal Road  
Springfield, Virginia 22161  
703-487-4650

The NTIS order number is: PB89-141675.



## AMERICAN SAMOA

### Responsible Agency:

American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of the Governor

Pago Pago 96799  
684-633-2304

### State Contact:

Mr. Pati Faiai  
Director  
American Samoa Environmental Protection  
Agency

Office of Governor  
Pago Pago 96799 684-633-2304

### Standards Available From:

Mr. Pati Faiai, Director  
American Samoa Environmental Protection  
Agency

Office of Governor  
Pago Pago 96799

684-633-2304 Fee: no Mailing List: no

### State Contact:

### State Narrative Language For: Antidegradation

Waters whose existing quality is better than the established standards will be maintained at their existing high quality. These and other waters of the Territory will not be lowered in quality unless it has been affirmatively demonstrated to the Environmental Quality Commission and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that such change is justifiable as a result of necessary economic or social development and will not interfere with or become injurious to any assigned uses made, or presently possible, in such waters. Any public or private development which would constitute a new source of pollution to high quality waters is required, as part of the initial project design, to provide the degree of waste treatment necessary to protect this high quality.

### State Narrative Language For: Toxics

Free from substances and conditions or combinations thereof attributable to sewage, industrial wastes, or other activities of man which may be toxic to humans, other animals, plants, and aquatic life.

- (a) All effluents containing materials attributable to the activities of man shall be considered harmful and not permissible until acceptable bioassay tests have shown otherwise. It is the obligation of the person producing the effluent to demonstrate that it is harmless, at the request of the Environmental Quality Commission.
- (b) Compliance with Section VI, A-4 of these standards will be determined by use of indicator organisms, analysis of species diversity, population density, growth anomalies, bioassays of appropriate duration or other appropriate methods as specified by the Environmental Quality Commission.
- (c) The survival of aquatic life in any waters shall not be less than that for the same water body in areas unaffected by sewage, industrial wastes or other activities of man, or, when necessary, for other control water that is consistent with the requirements for "Experimental Water" as described in Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater (latest available edition). As a minimum, compliance with the objective as stated in the previous sentence shall be evaluated with a 96 hour bioassay.
- (d) In addition, effluent limits based upon acute bioassays of effluents will be prescribed where appropriate, additional numerical receiving water limits including the water quality criteria used to support toxic effluent standards identified under Section 307(a) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972, as amended, will apply; further, numerical receiving water limits for specific toxicants will be established as sufficient data becomes available; and source control of toxic substances will be encouraged.

### State Narrative Language For: Free From

A. They shall be substantially free from materials attributable to sewage, industrial wastes or other activities of man that will produce color, odor, or taste, either of itself or in combinations, or in the biota.

B. They shall be substantially free from visible floating materials, grease, oil, scum, foam, and other floating matter attributable to sewage, industrial wastes, or other activities of man.

C. They shall be substantially free from materials attributable to sewage, industrial wastes, or other activities of man that will produce visible turbidity or settle to form deposits.

D. They shall be free from substances and conditions or combinations thereof attributable to sewage, indus-

## AMERICAN SAMOA

rial wastes, or other activities of man which may be toxic to humans, other animals, plants, and aquatic life.

### State Narrative Language For: Mixing Zones

A zone of mixing can only be granted by the Environmental Quality Commission if the application and the supporting information clearly shows that all of the following conditions have been met:

1. The beginning or continuation of the function or operation involved in a discharge by the granting of the zone of mixing is in the public interest; and
2. The proposed discharge does not substantially endanger human health or safety; and
3. Compliance with the existing water quality standards at the point of discharge would produce serious economic hardships without equal or greater benefit to the public; and
4. Alterations generated by a proposed discharge do not disrupt the marine ecology of the receiving waters outside the zone of mixing; and
5. A zone of mixing shall not be granted for fresh surface waters, Pala Lagoon, Fagatele Bay, that portion of Pago Pago Harbor described in section IV.B.3.c., or in those waters in Manu'a described in section IV.C.5. Those water quality parameters which are subject to zones of mixing are chlorophyll a, light penetration depth, nutrients, pH, temperature, turbidity, and fecal coliform. Furthermore, those water quality parameters which are subject to zones of mixing must conform to alternative within-zone limits determined by the EQC. The zone of mixing is defined in section V.B.4.g. Determination of effluent limits for toxic substances must comply with section VI.A.8,9; and
6. The proposed discharges shall be substantially free from visible floating materials, grease, oil, scum, foam and other floating matter attributable to sewage, industrial wastes, or other activities; and
7. The proposed discharge will not result in a lowering of water quality outside the zone of mixing so as to violate the standards of Section VI as they may be applicable.

## AMERICAN SAMOA

### Classifications:

Potable Water Supply

Support & Propaga.  
of Aquatic Life  
& Wildlife

Aesthetic Enjoyment

Compatible Recreat.  
In & On Water e.g.  
Fishing & Swimming

# AMERICAN SAMOA

All  
Classes

Potable Water S.. Support & Propa.. Aesthetic Enjoy..

## Physical

pH

Upper Value

8.0

Lower Value

6.5

Dissolved Oxygen

Lower Value

6.0 mg/L

Temperature

Upper Value

85 F

Temperature Change

Upper Value

1.5 F

Turbidity

Upper Value

12 NTU

## Nutrients

Total Nitrogen

Upper Value

Narr.

Phosphorus

Upper Value

150 ug P/L

## Toxic Metals

## Pesticides

## Organics

## Bacteria

Fecal Coliform

Upper Value

Narr.

## AMERICAN SAMOA

Compatible Recr..

Physical

Nutrients

Toxic Metals

Pesticides

Organics

Bacteria

