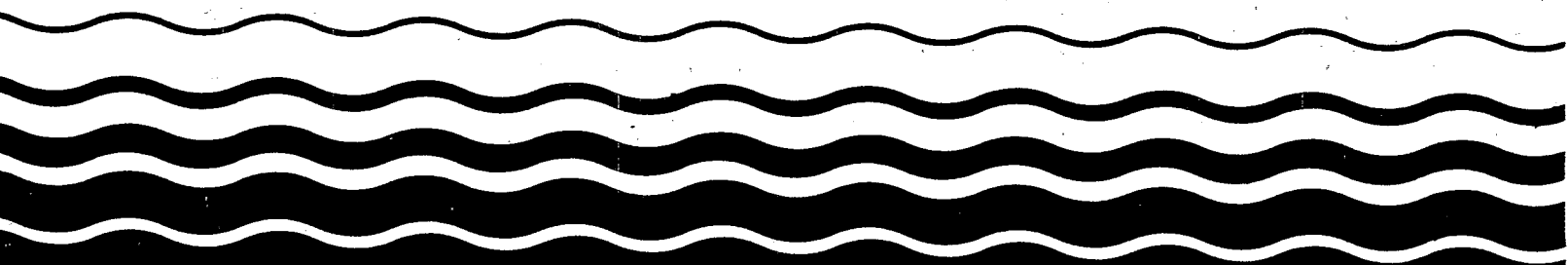


Water



# State Water Quality Standards Summary: Wyoming





#### DISCLAIMER

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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: PB89-142202.



## WYOMING

### Responsible Agency:

Wyoming Env. Qual. Council c/o William L. Garland  
Water Quality Div., Dept. of Env. Qual.  
Herschler Bldg., 4th Floor  
122 W. 25th St.  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

### State Contact:

### Standards Available From:

John F. Wagner, Technical Support Supervisor  
Water Quality Division  
Dept. Environmental Quality  
Hathaway Office Building  
Cheyenne 82002  
307-777-7781 Fee: no Mailing List: yes

### State Contact:

### State Narrative Language For: Antidegradation

General Policy - It is the policy of the Department that those surface waters not designated as Class I, but whose existing water quality is better than these standards, shall be maintained within these standards and existing instream water uses will be maintained. However, the State of Wyoming shall allow any project or development which would constitute a new source of pollution or an increased source of pollution to these waters as long as the quality will not be lowered below these standards. Any degradation of high quality waters will be allowed only within the framework of Wyoming's Continuing Planning Process.

### State Narrative Language For: Toxics

Toxic or potentially toxic materials attributable to or influenced by the activities of man shall not be present in any Wyoming surface waters in concentrations or combinations which would damage or impair the normal growth, function or reproduction of human, animal, plant or aquatic life. Unless otherwise specified in these Standards, maximum allowable concentrations shall be based on the latest edition of Quality Criteria for Water, published by EPA or its successor agency, and/or more generally accepted scientific information. In those cases where maximum allowable concentrations must be determined through bioassay, the appropriate protocol and application factors as outlined in the latest edition of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater or other methods approved by the EPA shall be used. The bioassay shall be conducted with an ecologically or economically important sensitive resident specie in the most sensitive portion of its life cycle, if applicable, as a test organism. Makeup water for the analysis should be constituted so as to approximate the most probable chemical and physical characteristics of the receiving water in question. The observed 96-hour LC50 is then to be multiplied by an application factor, where established by EPA, to determine the "safe" concentrations for the compound in question. Where appropriate application factors have not yet been established, the method for deriving said application factor shall be that described in the latest edition of Standard Methods or other methods approved by EPA.

Toxic substances specifically designed to kill or eliminate problem-causing aquatic life may be added to surface waters of the State provided such substances are administered in accordance with label directions. However, compliance with label directions shall not exempt any person from the penalty provisions of W.S. 35-11-901(b).

This Section shall not apply to the use of fish toxicants by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

### State Narrative Language For: Free From

In all Wyoming surface waters settleable solids attributable to or influenced by the activities of man that will settle to form sludge, bank or bottom deposits shall not be present in quantities which could result in significant aesthetic degradation, significant degradation of habitat for aquatic life or adversely affect public water supplies, agricultural or industrial water use, plant life or wildlife, etc.

In all Wyoming surface waters floating debris, scum, and other floating materials attributable to or influenced by the activities of man shall not be present in quantities which could result in significant aesthetic degradation, significant degradation of habitat for aquatic life, or adversely affect public water supplies, agricultural or industrial water use, plant life or wildlife, etc.

## WYOMING

All class I, II, and III waters shall not contain substances attributable to or influenced by the activities of man which produce taste, odor and color and that would:

- a. Of themselves or in combination, impart an unpalatable or off-flavor in fish flesh;
- b. Visibly alter the natural color of the water or impart color to skin, clothing, vessels, or structures;
- c. Produce detectable odor; or
- d. Directly through interaction among themselves, or with chemicals used in existing water treatment processes, result in concentrations that will impart undesirable taste or odor to public water supplies.

### State Narrative Language For: Low Flow

Where stream flow data are available, these standards shall apply at all times except during periods when flows are less than the average of the minimum seven consecutive day flow which has the probability of occurring once in ten years.

During periods when stream flows are less than the minimums described above, the Wyoming Game and Fish Dept. and the Department may require the discharger to institute operational modifications as necessary to insure the protection of aquatic life. Where stream flow data are not available, the Department must take into consideration the possible existence of markedly abnormal flows when determining violations of these standards.

In addition, Sections 15, 16, 17 and 28 shall apply at all stream-flow conditions.

### State Narrative Language For: Mixing Zones

Except for Sections 15 (Settleable Solids), 16 (Floating Solids), 17 (Taste, Odor and Color) and 28 (Undesirable Aquatic Life) of these regulations, compliance with Water Quality Standards shall be determined after allowing reasonable time for mixing. Size of the mixing zone shall be determined after consideration of the effect of the discharge on the biological community, water uses and aesthetic conditions, as well as consideration of the flow conditions and physical nature of the receiving water. The portion of a surface water body designated as a mixing zone shall be limited to that which will not interfere with biological communities or populations of important species to a degree which is damaging to the ecosystem and which will not cause substantial damage to other beneficial uses. In addition, there shall be a zone of passage through the mixing zone sufficient to allow passage of free-swimming and drifting organisms in a manner producing no significant effects on their populations, except during periods when stream flows are less than the average of the minimum 7 consecutive day flow which has the probability of occurring once in 10 years.

## WYOMING

### Classifications:

Agriculture

Fish and Wildlife

Industry

Public Water Supply

Recreation

Scenic Value

Surface Water  
Class I

Those surface waters in which no further water quality degradation by point source discharges other than from dams will be allowed. In designating Class I waters, the Environmental Quality Council shall consider water quality, aesthetic, scenic, recreational, ecological, agricultural, botanical, zoological, municipal, industrial, historical, geological, cultural, archaeological, fish and wildlife, the presence of significant quantities of developable water and other values of present and future benefit to other people

Surface Water  
Class II

Those surface waters, other than those classified as Class I, which are determined by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department to be presently supporting game fish or have the hydrologic and natural water quality potential to support game fish.

Surface Water  
Class III

Those surface waters, other than those classified as Class I, which are determined by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department to be presently supporting non-game fish or have the hydrologic and natural water quality potential to support non-game fish.

Surface Water  
Class IV

Those surface waters, other than those classified as Class I, which are determined by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department not to have the hydrologic or natural water quality potential to support fish.

## WYOMING

All  
Classes

Agriculture

Fish and Wildli.. Industry

Physical  
pH

Upper Value

9.0

Lower Value

6.5

Temperature Change

Upper Value

Narr.

Nutrients

Toxic Metals

Pesticides

Organics

Bacteria



# WYOMING

Public Water Sup. Recreation

Scenic Value

Surface Water  
Class I

## Physical

Dissolved Oxygen

Lower Value

6 mg/L

Temperature

Upper Value

Narr.

Turbidity

Upper Value

Narr.

## Nutrients

Ammonia

Upper Value

0.02 mg/L

## Toxic Metals

## Pesticides

## Organics

## Bacteria

# WYOMING

	Surface Water Class II	Surface Water Class III	Surface Water Class IV
Physical			
Dissolved Oxygen			
Lower Value	6.0 mg/L	5 mg/L	
Temperature			
Upper Value	Narr.	Narr.	
Turbidity			
Upper Value	Narr.	Narr.	
Nutrients			
Ammonia			
Upper Value	0.02 mg/L	0.02 mg/L	
Toxic Metals			
Pesticides			
Organics			
Bacteria			