



ADMINISTRATIVE RULES OF MONTANA



17.30.670 NUMERIC STANDARDS FOR ELECTRICAL CONDUCTIVITY (EC) AND SODIUM ADSORPTION RATIO (SAR)

- (1) No person may violate the numeric water quality standards or the criteria for determining nonsignificant changes in water quality identified in (2) through (6) .
- (2) The numeric standards for electrical conductivity (EC) and sodium adsorption ratio (SAR) for the mainstems of Rosebud Creek, the Tongue, Powder, and Little Powder rivers from November 1 through March 1 are as follows:
 - (a) for Rosebud Creek and the Tongue River, the monthly average numeric water quality standard for EC is 1500 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ and no sample may exceed an EC value of 2500 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$. The monthly average numeric water quality standard for SAR is 5.0 and no sample may exceed an SAR value of 7.5; and
 - (b) for the Powder River and the Little Powder River, the monthly average numeric water quality standard for EC is 2500 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ and no sample may exceed an EC value of 2500 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$. The monthly average numeric water quality standard for SAR is 6.5 and no sample may exceed an SAR value of 9.75.
- (3) The numeric standards for EC and SAR for the mainstems of Rosebud Creek, the Tongue, Powder, and Little Powder rivers from March 2 through October 31 are as follows:
 - (a) for Rosebud Creek and the Tongue River, the monthly average numeric water quality standard for EC is 1000 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ and no sample may exceed an EC value of 1500 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$. The monthly average numeric water quality standard for SAR is 3.0 and no sample may exceed an SAR value of 4.5; and
 - (b) for the Powder River and Little Powder River, the monthly average numeric water quality standard for EC is 2000 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ and no sample may exceed an EC value of 2500 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$. The monthly average numeric water quality standard for SAR is 5.0 and no sample may exceed an SAR value of 7.5.
- (4) For all tributaries and other surface waters in the Rosebud Creek, Tongue, Powder, and Little Powder river watersheds, the monthly average numeric water quality standard for EC is 500 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ and no sample may exceed an EC value of 500 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$. The monthly average numeric water quality standard for SAR from March 2 through October 31 is 3.0 and no sample may exceed an SAR value of 4.5. The monthly average numeric water quality standard for SAR from November 1 through March 1 is 5.0 and no sample may exceed an SAR value of 7.5.
- (5) For the Tongue River Reservoir, the monthly average numeric water quality standard for EC is 1000 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ and no sample may exceed an EC value of 1500 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$. The monthly average numeric water quality standard for SAR is 3.0 and no sample may exceed an SAR value of 4.5.

- (6) EC and SAR are harmful parameters for the purposes of the Montana Water Quality Act, Title 75, chapter 5, MCA.

Authorizing statute(s): 75-5-301, 75-5-303, MCA

Implementing statute(s): 75-5-301, 75-5-303, MCA

History: NEW, 2003 MAR p. 779, Eff. 4/25/03; AMD, 2006 MAR p. 1733, Eff. 5/19/06.