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Site-Specific Tissue Screening Concentrations for Benthic Macroinvertebrates



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Appendix P

Site-Specific Tissue Screening Concentrations for Benthic Macroinvertebrates

This appendix includes an updated version of Table 6-42 from the final Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment (BERA) for the Red Devil Mine (RDM) site (E & E 2014). The table was augmented with site-specific tissue screening concentrations (TSCs) for benthic macroinvertebrates for cadmium, lead, and selenium. The TSCs were developed as described in Section 6.3.6.1 of the final BERA for the RDM site. Table P-1 lists the site-specific benthic-macroinvertebrate TSCs used in the BERA supplement and values used to derive them, including contaminant concentrations in benthic macroinvertebrates and surface water from Red Devil Creek and chronic water quality criteria. Hardness-dependent water quality criteria were adjusted using average hardness of Red Devil Creek surface water (104.2 mg/L as CaCO₃).

Reference

Ecology and Environment, Inc. (E & E). 2014. *Final Remedial Investigation Report, Red Devil Mine, Alaska,* prepared for U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Anchorage Field Office, Anchorage, AK by E & E Seattle, WA.

Table P-1. Benthic Macroinvertebrate TSCs Developed from Water Quality Criteria and Site-Specific Bioconcentration Factors for Red Devil Creek Benthic Macroinvertebrates.

| | Geometric Mean Concentration | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|----------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Analyte | RDC Benthic Macroinvertebrate Composite Samples (mg/kg wet weight) ^a | RDC Filtered Surface Water (mg/L) | BCF (L/kg) ^b | Value (mg/L) | Basis | Benthic Macroinvertebrate TSC (mg/kg wet weight) ^{c,e} |
| Antimony | 20.23 | 0.018 | 1097 | 0.03 | Suter and Tsao (1996), Tier II SCV | 33 |
| Arsenic | 115.66 | 0.021 | 5489 | 0.15 | EPA (2009a) WQC | 823 |
| Barium | 6.29 | 0.029 | 219 | 0.194 | MacDonald et al. (1999) | 42 |
| Beryllium | 0.022 | 0.000006 | 3627 | 0.00066 | Suter and Tsao (1996), Tier II SCV | 2.4 |
| Cadmium | 0.097 | 0.0000048 | 20208 | 0.00025 | ADEC (2008d) WQC | 5.1 |
| Chromium | 0.31 | 0.000086 | 3588 | 0.074 | EPA (2009a) WQC | 266 |
| Cobalt | | 0.000063 | | 0.023 | Suter and Tsao (1996), Tier II SCV | |
| Copper | 8.44 | 0.000206 | 40917 | 0.009 | EPA (2009a) WQC | 368 |
| Iron | 985 | 0.155 | 6338 | 1 | EPA (2009a) WQC | 6,338 |
| Lead | 0.143 | 0.000022 | 6500 | 0.0026 | ADEC (2008d) WQC | 16.9 |
| Manganese | 40.11 | 0.025 | 1630 | 0.12 | Suter and Tsao (1996), Tier II SCV | 196 |
| Mercury | 0.92 | 0.000007 | 135202 | 0.000012 | EPA (2009a) WQC | 1.6 |
| Methylmercury ^d | 0.049 | 1.32E-07 | 374497 | 0.0000028 | Suter and Tsao (1996), Tier II SCV | 1.0 |
| Nickel | 1.101 | 0.000627 | 1756 | 0.052 | EPA (2009a) WQC | 91 |
| Selenium | 2.39 | 0.00015 | 16176 | 0.005 | EPA (2009a) WQC | 81 |
| Thallium | | 0.000002 | | 0.012 | Suter and Tsao (1996), Tier II SCV | |
| Vanadium | 0.360 | 0.000042 | 8555 | 0.02 | Suter and Tsao (1996), Tier II SCV | 171 |
| Zinc | 36.7 | 0.000246 | 149051 | 0.118 | ADEC (2008d) WQC | 17,588 |

Notes:

a. See Appendix H in BERA Supplement for benthos metals data.

b. BCF = (benthos concentration) / (surface water concentration) = (mg/kg) / (mg/L) = L/kg.

c. TSC = (BCF) x (chronic water quality criterion) = (L/kg) x (mg/L) = mg/kg.

d. Unfiltered surface water concentration. No filtered samples were analyzed for methylmercury.

e. See Section 6.3.6 in final RI (E&E 2014) for method of derivation.

Key:

ADEC = Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

BCF = Bioconcentration factor (benthic macroinvertebrate concentration / surface water concentration)

EPA = Environmental Protection Agency

Gray Shading = Added for BERA Supplement for Kuskowkim River Assessment Area

L/kg = liters per kilogram

mg/kg = milligrams per kilgram

mg/L = milligrams per liter

RDC = Red Devil Creek

SCV = Secondary Chronic Value

TSC = Tissue Screening Concentration

WQC = Water Quality Criterion