

Table 3-1: Water Quality Objectives for Bacteria ^a

Beneficial Use	Fecal Coliform ^a (MPN/100mL)	Total Coliform ^a (MPN/100mL)	Enterococcus (CFU/100mL) ^g	E. coli (CFU/100mL) ^g
Water Contact Recreation			geometric mean < 30 STV < 110	geometric mean < 100 STV < 320
Shellfish Harvesting ^b	median < 14 90th percentile < 43	median < 70 90th percentile < 230 ^c		
Non-contact Water Recreation ^d	mean < 2000 90th percentile < 4000			
Municipal Supply: Surface Water ^e	geometric mean < 20	geometric mean < 100		
Municipal Supply: Groundwater		< 1.1 ^f		

Notes:

- a. Based on a minimum of five consecutive samples equally spaced over a 30-day period.
- b. Source: National Shellfish Sanitation Program.
- c. Based on a five-tube decimal dilution test or 300 MPN/100 ml when a three-tube decimal dilution test is used.
- d. Source: Report of the Committee on Water Quality Criteria, National Technical Advisory Committee, 1968.
- e. Source: California Department of Public Health recommendation.
- f. Based on multiple tube fermentation technique; equivalent test results based on other analytical techniques, as specified in the National Primary Drinking Water Regulation, 40 CFR, Part 141.21(f), revised June 10, 1992, are acceptable.
- g. Numeric values are from Part 3 of the Water Quality Control Plan for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California based on Section 7958 of Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations, 69FR 67217 et seq., and 40 CFR Part 131.41 (effective date December 16, 2004). The Enterococcus objective applies to marine and estuarine waters where the salinity is greater than 1 part per thousand more than 5 percent of the time. The E. coli objective applies to freshwaters where the salinity is equal to or less than 1 part per thousand 95 percent or more of the time. The geometric mean for enterococcus and E. coli is computed weekly for all samples in a 6-week interval.

There is no fecal coliform objective to protect water contact recreation for inland surface waters, enclosed bays, or estuaries, but a fecal coliform objective protecting this use remains in the California Ocean Plan.

The STV is the statistical threshold value and shall not be exceeded by more than 10 percent of the samples collected in a calendar month.

The units CFU denote colony forming units. This unit of measurement is equivalent to MPN (most probable number). The use of either MPN or CFU is based on the method used to detect bacteria, and both are valid measures of bacteria density.