

**WAC 173-201A-430 Site-specific criteria.** (1) Where the attainable condition of existing and designated uses for the water body would be fully protected using an alternative criterion, site-specific criteria may be adopted.

(a) The site-specific criterion must be consistent with the federal regulations on designating and protecting uses (currently 40 C.F.R. 131.10 and 131.11); and

(b) The decision to approve a site-specific criterion must be subject to a public involvement and intergovernmental coordination process.

(2) The site-specific analyses for the development of a new water quality criterion must be conducted in a manner that is scientifically justifiable and consistent with the assumptions and rationale in "*Guidelines for Deriving National Water Quality Criteria for the Protection of Aquatic Organisms and their Uses*," EPA 1985; and conducted in accordance with the procedures established in the "*Water Quality Standards Handbook*," EPA 1994, as revised.

(3) The decision to approve the site-specific criterion must be based on a demonstration that it will protect the existing and attainable uses of the water body.

(4) Site-specific criteria are not in effect until they have been incorporated into this chapter and approved by the USEPA.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters 90.48 and 90.54 RCW. WSR 03-14-129 (Order 02-14), § 173-201A-430, filed 7/1/03, effective 8/1/03.]