

ERB Acronym and Glossary – W

Acronym	Term	Definition
W	data qualifiers - metals analysis - W	Postdigestion spike for Furnace Atomic Absorption analysis is out of control limits (85-115%), while sample absorbance is less than 50% of spike absorbance. * - Duplicate analysis not within control limits. + - Correlation coefficients for the Method of Standard Addition is less than 0.995.
WCSD	Watershed Contaminated Source Document	The Watershed Contaminated Source Document (WCSD) is a 2-10 page summary report that documents the existence of both navy and non-Navy sources whose activities may have or could continue to have an impact on sediments in a water body adjacent to Navy property. The WCSD contains a graphical representation of the water body and identified potential contaminant sources, releases, and transport mechanisms.
WOE	Weight of Evidence	An approach to regulate chemicals that may include hazard and risk assessment, filed studies, and field sample collection.
WQCB	Water Quality Control Board	Along with the State Water Resources Control Board, they are responsible for protecting States's water resources.
WQS	Water Quality Standard	State-adopted and EPA-approved ambient standards for water bodies. The standards prescribe the use of the water body and establish the water quality criteria that must be met to protect designated uses.
WSRA	Wild and Scenic Rivers Act	Selected rivers of the Nation shall be preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they and their immediate environments shall be protected for the benefit of future generations.

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Acronym	Term	Definition
	washrack	Typically consists of a building or concrete pad designed to wash vehicles such as tanks or aircraft, or other equipment.
	waste	1) Unwanted materials left over from a manufacturing process. 2) Refuse from places of human or animal habitation.
	waste characterization	Identification of chemical and microbiological constituents of a waste material.
	waste exchange	Arrangement in which companies exchange their wastes for the benefit of both parties.
	waste minimization	Measures or techniques that reduce the amount of wastes generated during industrial production processes; term is also applied to recycling and other efforts to reduce the amount of waste going into the waste stream.
	waste reduction	Using source reduction, recycling, or composting to prevent or reduce waste generation.

Acronym	Term	Definition
	waste stream	The total flow of solid waste from homes, businesses, institutions, and manufacturing plants that are recycled, burned, or disposed of in landfills, or segments thereof such as the "residential waste stream" or the "recyclable waste stream."
	wastewater	The spent or used water from a home, community, farm, or industry that contains dissolved or suspended matter.
	water pollution	The presence in water of enough harmful or objectionable material to damage the water's quality.
	water quality criteria	Levels of water quality expected to render a body of water suitable for its designated use. Criteria are based on specific levels of pollutants that would make the water harmful if used for drinking, swimming, farming, fish production, or industrial processes.
	water solubility	The maximum possible concentration of a chemical compound dissolved in water. If a substance is water soluble it can very readily disperse through the environment.
	water storage pond	An impound for liquid wastes designed to accomplish some degree of biochemical treatment.
	water table	The surface on which the fluid pressure in the pores of a porous medium is exactly atmospheric. Generally the boundary between the saturated and unsaturated zones, not including the capillary fringe.
	water table aquifer	An aquifer which is not confined above, and in which the water level in a well indicates the water table.
	water treatment lagoon	An impound for liquid wastes designed to accomplish some degree of biochemical treatment.
	water well	An excavation where the intended use is for location, acquisition, development, or artificial recharge of groundwater (excluding sandpoint wells).
	Waterloo Profiler®	Direct push tool that collects depth-discrete groundwater samples at multiple vertical locations within a single hole with one probe entry.
	watershed	The land area that drains into a stream; the watershed for a major river may encompass a number of smaller watersheds that ultimately combine at a common delivery point.
	weathering	A process by which the physical or chemical properties of a material are altered upon its release into the environment due to physical, chemical, or biological forces.
	weir	1) A wall or plate placed in an open channel to measure or regulate the flow of water. 2) A wall or obstruction used to control flow from settling tanks and clarifiers to assure a uniform flow rate and avoid short-circuiting.
	well	A bored, drilled, or driven shaft, or a dug hole whose depth is greater than the largest surface dimension and whose purpose is to reach underground water supplies or oil, or to store or bury fluids below ground.
	well field	Area containing one or more wells that produce usable amounts of water (or oil).
	well injection	The subsurface emplacement of fluids into a well.

Acronym	Term	Definition
	well interference	The situation when the pumping of one well causes drawdown in another well so that the second well has difficulty in pumping water for some time period.
	well monitoring	Measurement, by on-site instruments or laboratory methods, of the quality of water in a well.
	well plug	A watertight and gastight seal installed in a bore hole or well to prevent movement of fluids.
	wellhead protection area	A protected surface and subsurface zone surrounding a well or wellfield supplying a public water system to keep contaminants from reaching the well water.
	wetland	Lands transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water, and having vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. For the purposes of this classification, wetlands must have one or more of the following attributes at least periodically: 1) the land supports predominantly hydrophytes; 2) the substrate is predominantly undrained hydric soil; 3) or the substrate is nonsoil and saturated with water or covered by shallow water at some time during the growing season each year. Examples are swamps, bogs, fens, marshes, and estuaries.
	wettability	The ability of a given fluid to preferentially adhere to subsurface minerals.
	wildlife refuge	An area designated for the protection of wild animals, within which hunting and fishing are either prohibited or strictly controlled.
	wood treatment facility	An industrial facility that treats lumber and other wood products for outdoor use. The process employs chromated copper arsenate, pentachlorophenol, and/or creosote, all of which are regulated as a hazardous material.