

# Site Specific Criteria based on Biotic Ligand Model and Water Effect Ratio

- Adding 391-3-6-.03(18) Site Specific Metal Criteria based on Biotic Ligand Models and Water Effect Ratio
  - The Biotic Ligand Model (BLM) is a metal bioavailability model that uses receiving water body characteristics and monitoring data to develop site-specific water quality criteria. A study plan and findings shall be submitted and approved that conforms to the requirements outlined in the *2007 Aquatic Life Ambient Freshwater Quality Criteria-Copper 2007 Revision EPA-822-R-07-001*.
  - A Water Effect Ratio (WER) is site specific and is the ratio of the toxicity of a metal in site water to the toxicity of the same metal in standard laboratory. A study plan and findings shall be submitted and approved that conforms to the requirements outlined in the *1994 Interim Guidance on Determination and Use of Water Effect Ratios for Metals EPA-823-B-94-001*. If the WER is for Copper, the *Interim Guidance* may be complemented with the *2001 Streamline Water Effect Ratio Procedure for Discharges of Copper EPA-822-R-01-005*.