

Oregon Administrative Rule Relating to the Total Dissolved Gas Water Quality Standard

Oregon's Water Quality Standards are contained in Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 340, Division 41. The standards relevant to the total dissolved gas (TDG) TMDL [OAR 340-041-0205(2)(n)] are:

- (A) The concentration of total dissolved gas relative to atmospheric pressure at the point of sample collection shall not exceed 110 percent of saturation, except when stream flow exceeds the ten-year, seven-day average flood. However, for Hatchery receiving waters and waters of less than two feet in depth, the concentration of total dissolved gas relative to atmospheric pressure at the point of sample collection shall not exceed 105 percent of saturation;
- (B) The Commission may modify the total dissolved gas criteria in the Columbia River for the purpose of allowing increased spill for salmonid migration. The Commission must find that:
 - (i) Failure to act would result in greater harm to salmonid stock survival through in-river migration than would occur by increased spill;
 - (ii) The modified total dissolved gas criteria associated with the increased spill provides a reasonable balance of the risk of impairment due to elevated total dissolved gas to both resident biological communities and other migrating fish and to migrating adult and juvenile salmonids when compared to other options for in-river migration of salmon;
 - (iii) Adequate data will exist to determine compliance with the standards; and
 - (iv) Biological monitoring is occurring to document that the migratory salmonid and resident biological communities are being protected.
- (C) The Commission will give public notice and notify all known interested parties and will make provision for opportunity to be heard and comment on the evidence presented by others, except that the Director may modify the total dissolved gas criteria for emergencies for a period not exceeding 48 hours;
- (D) The Commission may, at its discretion, consider alternative modes of migration.