12 Steps of Lab Quality Assurance

Parameter	Method	DOC	MDL	Method Blank	LFB	LFM / LFMD	Dup	ICAL / CCV	Control Charts	Corrective Action	QC Acceptance	Batch Size	*QC Frequency
Ammonia	SM4500-NH3 D - 1997	X	X	X	X	X		X, Calibrate meter daily	X	X	X	20	Depends on Permit
BOD_5 / $CBOD_5$	SM5210 B - 2001	X		X	X		X	X, Calibrate meter daily	X	X	X	20	Depends on Permit
Chlorine, TR	SM4500-Cl G - 2000	X	X	X	X		X	X, verify meter daily w Secondary Gel Standards	X	X	X	20	Depends on Permit
pH	SM4500-H+ B - 2000	X					X	X, Calibrate meter daily		X	X	20	Depends on Permit
Oxygen, dissolved	SM4500-O G - 2001	X					X	X, Calibrate meter daily & verify with air-saturated water		X	X	20	Depends on Permit
	Hach Method 10360 Luminescence Oct. 2011	X					X	X, Calibrate meter daily & verify with air-saturated water		X	X	20	Depends on Permit
Phosphorus, total	SM4500-P B and E - 1999	X	X	X	X	X		X, verify meter	X	X	X	20	Depends on Permit
TSS	SM2540 D - 1997	X		X	X		X	X, verify scale daily		X	X	20	Depends on Permit
Sett. Solids	SM2540 F - 1997						X			X		20	Depends on Permit
Temperature	SM2550 B - 2000							X, verify against NIST thermometer		X			Annually

DOC – Demonstration of Capability

- Each analyst should have a file kept from where they have calibrated and analyzed 4 standards to demonstrate they can accurately run this test
- Documentation (signed form) that analyst has read and understands all appropriate SOPs and Methods
- Recommend backup analyst do this once a year

MDL – Method Detection Limit

- Annually run at least 7 samples at low levels

Method Blank – aka Laboratory Reagent Blank (LRB)

- Analyze distilled/deionized water as a sample

LFB – Laboratory Fortified Blank

- Analyze a known standard

LFM/LFMD – Laboratory Fortified Matrix/Laboratory Fortified Matrix Duplicate

- Analyze a sample with a known amount of standard added (spike)

Dup – Duplicate

- Analyze the same sample twice

ICAL/CCV – Initial Calibration/Continuing Calibration Verification

- Calibrate meter (DO, pH, ISE) or verify balance, thermometer and colorimeter/spectrophotometer
- Verify the calibration (especially if preset by manufacturer) at beginning of day and/or after every 10 readings, whichever comes first.

Control Charts

- Create and maintain control charts if you have 20-30 data points within 90 days.
- If you do not meet the above criteria, follow QC Acceptance Criteria below.

Corrective Action

- Have corrective action plan in SOP for each method on what to do if QC tests fail or are out of range.
- For example, if standards fail, re-calibrate and run test again.

QC Acceptance

- Have in SOP for each method the acceptance ranges for standards, duplicates, spikes, etc. and make sure they match the method requirements.

Batch Size

- Each batch could be daily, every 10 samples or every 20 samples. Check method.

*QC Frequency (depends on permit) – at least once a month

- For samples that need to be analyzed on a 5% basis or once for every 20 samples, follow these criteria:
  - If a permit stated that 3 analyses per week, we would allow for a duplicate to be analyzed at least once per month.
    - Pick a date and be consistent, the 1st of every month or the 1st Thursday of every month. Mark your calendar!!
  - If a permit stated 5 analyses per week, we would allow twice a month.
    - Pick a date and be consistent, the 1st and 15th of every month or the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month. Mark your calendar!!
  - **Please note that influent and effluent samples count as two separate samples. For example, if you are supposed to run 3 BODs a week, that should be counted as running 6 samples for that week.**
- For samples that need to be analyzed on a 10% basis or once for 10 samples, follow these criteria:
  - If a permit stated that 3 analyses per week, we would allow for a duplicate to be analyzed at least twice per month.
    - Pick a date and be consistent, the 1st and 15th of every month or the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month. Mark your calendar!!
  - If a permit stated 5 analyses per week, we would allow a duplicate to be analyzed once per week.
    - Pick a date and be consistent, every Monday or Wednesday. Mark your calendar!!
  - **Please note that influent and effluent samples count as two separate samples. For example, if you are supposed to run 5 TSSs a week, that should be counted as running 10 samples for that week and you should run your duplicates once a week.**

Standard Operating Procedure

- Here's that "13th Step", your SOP
- All procedures must be documented in some type of SOP
- It can be very simple but must provide the information necessary for someone who is not familiar with the test to perform it
  - Step by step instructions on how and where to collect the samples, how to run the test and how to report the values.
- It must include the QC Acceptance Criteria, the definition of a "Batch" and the minimum frequency of QC checks

pH, SM 4500-H^+ B, 22nd edition (2000) – Electrometric Method

Initial Demonstration of Capability (DOC)

- 4020 B.1.a. - each analyst must run a known standard concentration at least four times and compare limits listed in the method.
- **Real people language – each operator running this test needs to calibrate instrument and analyze 4 buffers at a pH of 7**
    - **Keep a folder for each analyst, keep a copy here**
    - **Documentation (signed form) that analyst has read and understands all appropriate SOPs and Methods.**
    - **Recommend backup analyst do this once a year.**
    - **Only good for that type of instrument you are using at that plant. If you have a backup instrument made by a different manufacturer or you work at another plant with a different make/model, you would need another DOC.**
        - **DOCs demonstrate you are proficient with that one instrument.**

Method Detection Limit (MDL)

- NONE

Initial Calibration Verification (ICV)

- 1020 B.11.b. – Perform initial calibration
- **Real people language – calibrate daily (day of) with fresh buffers by following manufacturer's instructions.**
- **Analyze 7 buffer solution as a sample after calibration and before samples to verify initial calibration (ICV), should be within ± 0.2 s.u.**

Method Blank

- NONE

Laboratory Fortified Blank (LFB)

- NONE

Duplicate

- 1020 B.12.f. – Calculate RPD (relative percent difference)
- 4020 B.2.f. – Randomly select routine samples to be analyzed twice.
    - Process duplicate sample independently through the entire sample preparation and analysis.
    - Include at least one duplicate for each matrix type daily or with each batch of 20 or fewer samples.
- **Real people language – on a 5% basis (see batch size for more information) analyze 2 samples for pH, after reading one, pour out sample and start with a fresh sample**
    - **Example, grab sample in bucket and dip pH probe in twice to get a duplicate reading**
    - **Target value should be close to the first value (within ± 0.2 s.u.)**

- **For reporting purposes, all duplicates should be reported according to your permit limits. If your permit sets a minimum or maximum limit such as pH, then the minimum or maximum value should be reported even if falls outside your permit limit.**

Laboratory Fortified Matrix (LFM)/Laboratory Fortified Matrix Duplicate (LFMD)

- NONE

Continuing Calibration Verification (CCV)

- 1020 B.11.c. – Analysts periodically use a calibration standard to confirm that the instrument performance has not changed significantly since initial calibration.
    - Verify calibration by analyzing one standard at a concentration near or at the mid-point of the calibration range.
- 4020.B.2.b. – Verify calibration by periodically analyzing a calibration standard during a run – typically after each batch of 10 samples and at the end of the run.
- **Real people language – read 7 Buffer after analyzing samples daily (day of and within ± 0.2 pH units).**

Control Charts

- NONE

Corrective Action - 1020 B.5., B.8,. & B.15.

QC Acceptance Criteria

- ICV/CCV within ± 0.2 s.u.
- Duplicates within ± 0.2 s.u.

Batch Size

- For samples that need to be analyzed on a 5% basis (1 for every 20 samples or once per month, whichever is more frequent) follow these criteria:
    - If a permit stated that 3 analyses per week, we would allow for a duplicate to be analyzed at least once per month.
        - Pick a date and be consistent, the 1st of every month or the 1st Thursday of every month. Mark your calendar!!
    - If a permit stated 5 analyses per week, we would allow twice a month.
        - Pick a date and be consistent, the 1st and 15th of every month or the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month. Mark your calendar!!

Calculations

- NONE

Settleable Solids, SM 2540 F, 22nd edition (1997)

Initial Demonstration of Capability (DOC)

- Documentation (signed form) that analyst has read and understands all appropriate SOPs and Methods.

Method Detection Limit (MDL)

- NONE

Initial Calibration Verification (ICV)

- NONE

Method Blank

- NONE

Laboratory Fortified Blank (LFB)

- NONE

Duplicate –

- 2540 A.2. "*To aid in quality assurance, analyze samples in duplicate.*
- **Real people language – analyze 2 samples for Sett. Solids.**
    - **For example, pour up 1000 mL of effluent into Imhoff then pour up another 1000 mL of effluent in another Imhoff. Wait 45 min, stir, wait 15 min, read. Figure RPD for both samples.**
    - **Target value should be close to the first value and have a small RPD (less than 20%)**
    - **Run on a 5% basis (see batch size for more information).**
    - **For reporting purposes, average sample and duplicate.**

Laboratory Fortified Matrix (LFM)/Laboratory Fortified Matrix Duplicate (LFMD)

- NONE

Control Charts

- NONE

Corrective Action - 1020 B.5., B.8,. & B.15.

QC Acceptance Criteria

- RPD < 20%
- Reporting Limit = lowest graduation makr on Imhoff cone

Batch Size

- For samples that need to be analyzed on a 5% basis (1 for every 20 samples or once per month, whichever is more frequent) follow these criteria:

- If a permit stated that 3 analyses per week, we would allow for a duplicate to be analyzed at least once per month.
    - Pick a date and be consistent, the 1st of every month or the 1st Thursday of every month. Mark your calendar!!
- If a permit stated 5 analyses per week, we would allow twice a month.
    - Pick a date and be consistent, the 1st and 15th of every month or the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month. Mark your calendar!!

Calculations

- RPD – relative percent differences for duplicates
    - = $\frac{\text{Difference between sample and duplicate}}{\text{Average of the sample and duplicate}}$ X 100%

The Use of Secondary Standards
for Spectrophotometer/Colorimeter Calibration

Secondary standards (gel standards) are specifically designed to verify the instrument's calibration and to check the instrument's performance. They are not intended to be used to create calibration curves or to calibrate the instrument. Because the DPD reagent cannot be mixed with the gel standards, the quality and the reaction time of the reagent cannot be assessed. For these reasons gel standards cannot take the place of primary standards.

The analyst is responsible for the following:

- Preparing the calibration curve for each instrument ***once per month*** at a minimum with chlorine standards or potassium permanganate (see instructions below for $KMnO_4$), before the use of new DPD reagents, or the use of new gel standards
- Recording reagent lot #'s for reagents and standards
- Recording calibration concentrations
- Verifying the calibration curve using a minimum of one blank and two gel standards that bracket the expected sample concentration
- Recording all verification data

POTASSIUM PERMANGANATE ($KMnO_4$) STOCK STANDARD SOLUTION

0.891 grams of reagent grade $KMnO_4$ in 1000 mL vol. flask made to mark with deionized water. Deionized water must never be stored in plastic containers or exposed to airborne contamination. Store the stock solution in an amber bottle in a cool area. The typical shelf life of the stock solution is six (6) months. If solids appear in the solution, **do not use.**

*****Avoid leaving the cap off for extended periods of time and avoid contamination.*****

INTERMEDIATE (WORKING) STANDARD SOLUTION (10 mg/L)

10 mL of *STOCK* made in *1000* mL vol. flask made to mark with deionized water. The flask should be labeled with the name, $KMnO_4$, date of preparation, and initials of who made it.
This information should also be entered into a logbook.
The intermediate stock solution should be stable for approximately 5 days if kept cool and away from light.

Care should be taken that the pipette and glassware are clean and thoroughly rinsed with deionized water to avoid contamination. Store only in a glass container (preferably amber glass) never in plastic containers. The working solution should be remade if solids appear in the bottom of the container.

CALIBRATION STANDARD SOLUTIONS

If using $KMnO_4$, four to five calibration standard solutions should be made according to the table below with the addition of DPD to create a calibration curve ***once per month*** at a minimum. The correlation coefficient of the curve should correlate to 0.995 or better. This curve is then used to check instrument calibration. Gel standards are run against the curve and must agree to within ± 10%.
The working solution should be stable for approximately 2 hours and will fade rapidly (within 15 minutes) if chlorine demand-free water is not used.

A target value (e.g. permit value for a facility) should be known, and three gel standards, 0.00 mg/L (blank) and two other standards (a low and a high standard) that bracket the target value should be chosen. Gel standards are run against the curve and must agree to within ± 10%.

mL Working Standard Diluted w/Deionized water	Chlorine Equivalent mg/L
20 mL (vol. Pipette) to **100** mL (vol. flask)	**2.0** mg/L
10 mL (vol. Pipette) to **100** mL (vol. flask)	**1.0** mg/L
5 mL (vol. Pipette) to **100** mL (vol. flask)	**0.5** mg/L
1 mL (vol. Pipette) to **100** mL (vol. flask)	**0.1** mg/L
1 mL (vol. Pipette) to **200** mL (vol. flask)	**0.05** mg/L
1 mL (vol. Pipette) to **500** mL (vol. flask)	**0.02** mg/L
100 mL of deionized water	**0.00** mg/L

Total Residual Chlorine, SM 4500-Cl G, 22nd edition (2000) – DPD Colorimetric Method

Minimum Detectable Concentration **–** 4500-Cl G.1.c. – approximately 10 μg/L (0.010 mg/L)

Initial Demonstration of Capability (DOC)

- 4020 B.1.a. - each analyst must run a known standard concentration at least four times and compare limits listed in the method.
- **Real people language – each operator running this test needs to analyze 4 samples of a chlorine or potassium permanganate ($KMnO_4$) standard at a concentration of 0.5 mg/L**
  - **Keep a folder for each analyst, keep a copy here**
  - **Documentation (signed form) that analyst has read and understands all appropriate SOPs and Methods.**
  - **Recommend backup analyst do this once a year.**
  - **Only good for that type of instrument you are using at that plant. If you have a backup instrument made by a different manufacturer or you work at another plant with a different make/model, you would need another DOC.**
    - **DOCs demonstrate you are proficient with that one instrument.**

Method Detection Limit (MDL)

- 1020 B. 4 – As a starting point for selecting the concentration to use when determining the MDL, use an estimate of five times the estimated true detection level (5 x 0.010 mg/L = 0.050 mg/L).
  - Ideally, prepare and analyze at least seven (7) portions of this solution over a 3-day period to ensure that the MDL determination is more representative of routine measurements as performed in the laboratory.
  - The replicate measurements should be in the range of one to five times the estimated MDL, and recoveries of the known addition should be between 50 and 150%, with %RSD (relative standard deviation) values ≤ 20%.
- 4020 B.1.b. – Verify MDL at least ***annually***.
  - Ideally use pooled data from several analysts rather than data from one analyst.
- **Real people language – have several operators, who run this test, analyze chlorine or Potassium Permanganate ($KMnO_4$) standards at a concentration of 0.05 mg/L over several days with a total of at least 7 samples**
  - **Joe analyzes 3 samples on Monday**
  - **Bob analyzes 3 samples on Tuesday**
  - **Mary analyzes 3 samples on Wednesday**
- **Run this once a year**

Initial Calibration Verification (ICV)

- 1020 B.11.b. – Perform initial calibration using at least three concentrations of standards for linear curves.
- 4020.B.2.a. – Calibrate initially with at least one blank and three calibration standards.
  - The appropriate linear correlation coefficient for standard concentration-to-instrument response should be greater than or equal to 0.995.
  - The back-calculated and true concentrations should agree within ± 10%.

- **Real people language – prepare a set of chlorine or potassium permanganate ($KMnO_4$) standards in accordance with Guidance for Secondary Standards Use in Calibration 12-19-2013 monthly.**

Method Blank

- 1020 B.5.– A reagent blank (method blank) consists of reagent water and all reagents that normally are in contact with a sample during the entire analytical procedure.
- 4020 B.2.d. – Include at least one method blank *daily* or with each batch of 20 or fewer samples, whichever is more frequent.
    - If any method blanks measurements are at or above the reporting level, take immediate corrective action.
- **Real people language – analyze distilled water as a sample by adding a DPD powder pillow and waiting the 3-6 minutes before reading**
    - **Target value is less than reporting limit**
        - **Reporting limit will be equal to your Method Detection Limit (MDL)**
    - **Run on a 5% basis (see batch size for more information).**

Laboratory Fortified Blank (LFB)

- 1020 B.6.– A laboratory-fortified blank is a reagent water sample to which a known concentration of the analyte of interest has been added.
    - Sample batch = 5% basis = 1 every 20 samples
    - Use an added concentration of at least 10 times the MDL, less than or equal to the midpoint of the calibration curve.
- 4020 B.2.e. – Calculate percent recovery, plot control charts and determine control limits
- **Real people language – analyze chlorine or potassium permanganate standard at a concentration of 0.5 mg/L**
    - **Run on a 5% basis (see batch size for more information).**

Laboratory Fortified Matrix (LFM)/Laboratory Fortified Matrix Duplicate (LFMD)

- NONE

Duplicate

- 1020 B.12.f. – Calculate RPD (relative percent difference)
- 4020 B.2.f. – Randomly select routine samples to be analyzed twice.
    - Process duplicate sample independently through the entire sample preparation and analysis.
    - Include at least one duplicate for each matrix type daily or with each batch of 20 or fewer samples.
- **Real people language – on a 5% basis (see batch size for more information) analyze 2 samples for chlorine, after reading one, pour out sample and start with a fresh sample**
    - **For reporting purposes, average sample and duplicate.**
    - **Target value should be close to the first value and have a small RPD (less than 20%)**

Continuing Calibration Verification (CCV)

- 1020 B.11.c. – Analysts periodically use a calibration standard to confirm that the instrument performance has not changed significantly since initial calibration.
    - Verify calibration by analyzing one standard at a concentration near or at the mid-point of the calibration range.
- 4020.B.2.b. – Verify calibration by periodically analyzing a calibration standard and calibration blank during a run – typically after each batch of 10 samples and at the end of the run.
    - For the calibration verification to be valid, check standards must not exceed 10% of its true value
- **Real people language**
    - **Read Secondary Standards in accordance with Guidance for Secondary Standards Use in Calibration 12-19-2013 daily (day of).**
    - **OR run a chlorine or potassium permanganate standard daily.**

Control Charts – 1020 B.13.

- **Real people language**
    - **Create and maintain control charts if you have 20-30 data points within 90 days.**
    - **If you do not meet the above criteria, follow QC Acceptance Criteria below.**

Corrective Action - 1020 B.5., B.8,. & B.15.

QC Acceptance Criteria

- Blanks < Method Detection Limit (MDL)
- LFB ± 15%
- ICV/CCV ± 10%
- RPD < 20%
- Reporting Limit = MDL

Batch Size

- For samples that need to be analyzed on a 5% basis (1 for every 20 samples or once per month, whichever is more frequent) follow these criteria:
    - If a permit stated 3 analyses per week, we would allow for a duplicate to be analyzed at least once per month.
        - Pick a date and be consistent, the 1st of every month or the 1st Thursday of every month. Mark your calendar!!
    - If a permit stated 5 analyses per week, we would allow twice a month.
        - Pick a date and be consistent, the 1st and 15th of every month or the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month. Mark your calendar!!
    - If sampling only once a month, need to run QC once a month (when samples are analyzed).

Calculations

- % Recovery for LFB
    - = LFB concentration X 100%
      Expected concentration

- RPD – relative percent differences for duplicates
    - = $\frac{\text{Difference between sample and duplicate}}{\text{Average of the sample and duplicate}}$ X 100%

Total Suspended Solids, SM 2540 D, 22nd edition (1997)

Initial Demonstration of Capability (DOC)

- 2020 B.1 - each analyst must run a known standard concentration at least four times and compare limits listed in the method (under Precision). Table 2020:II lists duplicates and MB for QC only.
- Recommend running replicates and compare results and calculate the standard deviation to compare with that reported in 2540 D.5.
- **Real people language - *each* operator running this test needs to analyze 4 samples of a TSS Standard**
    - **Keep a folder for each analyst, keep a copy here**
    - **Documentation (signed form) that analyst has read and understands all appropriate SOPs and Methods.**
    - **Recommend backup analyst do this once a year.**

Method Detection Limit (MDL)

- NONE

Initial Calibration Verification (ICV)

- 2020 B.2.a.– check instrument balance daily as stated below.
- 9020.B.4.b. Service balances annually or more often as conditions change or problems occur…

  Check balance routinely, preferably daily before use, with at least two working weights that bracket the normal usage range. (e.g., ANSI/ASTM Class 1 or NIST Class S accompanied by appropriate certificate) for accuracy, precision, and linearity. Record results along with date and technician's initials.

  Recertify reference weights as specified in the certificate of calibration or at least every 5 years.
- 2540 B.2. analytical balance, with a sensitivity of 0.1 mg
- **Real people language – check balance *daily* *(day of)* with at least 2 working weights that bracket the normal usage range and record results on bench sheet or separate log book.**

Method Blank

- 2020 B.2.d.– include at least 1 method blank (MB) daily or with each batch of 20 or fewer samples, whichever is more frequent.
- **Real people language – on a 5% basis (see batch size for more information) filter 100 mL of distilled water.**
    - **Should be less than 2.5 mg/L.**

Laboratory Fortified Blank (LFB)

- 1020 B.6.– A laboratory-fortified blank is a reagent water sample to which a known concentration of the analyte of interest has been added.
    - Sample batch = 5% basis

- 2020 B.2.e. – Using stock solutions, prepare fortified concentrations so they are within the calibration curve.
- **Real people language – analyze TSS Standard sample that can be prepared from recipe below or bought premade.**
    - **Run on a 5% basis (see batch size for more information).**

TSS Standard Samples

To prepare TSS check samples from dry reference material:

1. Dry the reference material* in the desiccator
2. On an analytical balance, weigh 0.1000 gram of the dry powder, put it in a 1000 mL volumetric flask, bring it to the mark with distilled or deionized water and shake well until well suspended.
3. Measure 100 mL and process as usual for environmental samples.
4. A difference of 10 mg should be obtained.
5. Calculation:

$$\frac{(A - B)\ (1000)}{\text{Vol. used}} = \frac{(10\text{ mg})\ (1000)}{100\text{ mL}} = 100\text{ mg/L}$$

*Example of material available from Fisher

- Celite 545 Fitler Aid (Powder), Fisher Chemical, 500 gram bottle – Cat#C212-500

Procedure to Omit Re-drying/Re-cooling/Re-weighing Cycle

How to acquire acceptable results for the total suspended solids comparability data:

- The maximum holding time for a total suspended solids sample prior to analysis is 7 days if stored at temperatures of 6°C and below (not 0°C). (*40CFR part 136, Table II*)
- EPA recommends that 4-7 different samples, in duplicate, be collected and analyzed for this procedure in order to prove that the step for "reheating, recooling, and reweighing" is unnecessary. "Different" could mean samples collected 4-7 consecutive days or 4-7 samples run in one day. These 4-7 samples are dried ***overnight*** at 103-105°C.
- The next morning, the filters are removed from the oven, allowed to cool in the desiccator and weighed.
- The samples are then returned to the drying oven for one hour, recooled and reweighed.
- The resulting data should be examined to determine if the difference between the overnight values and the redried values are less than 4% or 0.5 mg, whichever is less. If so, the redrying step may be omitted for a normal set of samples.
- This procedure excludes atypical samples. (i.e. high fat, oil and grease samples).
- The operator may choose not to perform this study and continue to follow the procedure for redrying/recooling/reweighing cycle as stated the method (SM 2540 D.3.c.).

  The study should be re-evaluated at least once per year or whenever a change in sample characteristics occurs and kept on file at the treatment plant.

Duplicate

- 1020 B.8. states as a minimum to include one duplicate sample with each sample set or on a 5% basis whichever is more frequent.
- 2020 B.2.f. states to include at least one duplicate for each matrix type daily or with each batch of 20 or fewer samples.
- 2540 A.2. "*To aid in quality assurance, analyze samples in duplicate. Dry samples to constant weight if possible. This entails multiple drying-cooling-weighing cycles for each determination."*
- 2540 D.3.c. Analyze at least 10% of all samples in duplicate.
- **Real people language – analyze 2 samples for TSS.**

- **For example, filter 100 mL of effluent through filter pad A then filter another 100 mL of effluent through filter pad B. Dry, cool and weigh. Figure RPD for both samples.**
- **Target value should be close to the first value and have a small RPD (less than 15%)**
- **Analyze a duplicate at a 10% rate (see batch size for more information).**

- **For reporting purposes, average sample and duplicate.**

Laboratory Fortified Matrix (LFM)/Laboratory Fortified Matrix Duplicate (LFMD)

- NONE

Control Charts

- NONE

Corrective Action - 1020 B.5., B.8,. & B.15.

QC Acceptance Criteria

- Blanks < 2.5 mg/L
- LFB ± 15%
- RPD± 15%

Batch Size

- *Influent and Effluent are 2 different samples*
- For samples that need to be analyzed on a 5% basis or once for every 20 samples follow these criteria:
  - If a permit stated that 3 analyses per week, that would be 6 samples per week, we would allow for a blank and LFB to be analyzed at least twice a month.
    - Pick a date and be consistent, the 1st and 15th of every month or the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month. Mark your calendar!!
  - If a permit stated 5 analyses per week, that would be 10 samples per week, we would allow once a week.
    - Pick a date and be consistent, every Monday. Mark your calendar!!
- For samples that need to be analyzed on a 10% basis or once for every 10 samples follow these criteria:
  - If a permit stated that 3 analyses per week, that would be 6 samples per week, we would allow for a duplicate to be analyzed at least twice a month.
    - Pick a date and be consistent, the 1st and 15th of every month or the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month. Mark your calendar!!
  - If a permit stated 5 analyses per week, that would be 10 samples per week, we would allow once a week.
    - Pick a date and be consistent, every Monday. Mark your calendar!!

Calculations

- % Recovery for LFB
  - = LFB concentration / Expected concentration X 100%
- RPD – relative percent differences for duplicates and LFM/LFMD
  - = Difference between sample and duplicate / Average of the sample and duplicate X 100%