



October 2, 2012

Office of Water Quality Water-Quality Information Note 2013.01

Subject: Revised Arsenic and Alkalinity sections of the National Field Manual

The purpose of this WaQI Note is to alert all field personnel that two sections of the National Field Manual (NFM) have been revised and published to the [NFM web pages](#).

- [Chapter 5, section 5.6.4.A, "Arsenic Speciation" Version 2.0](#) is listed as a separate file on the NFM contents page.
- [Chapter 6, section 6.6, "Alkalinity and Acid Neutralizing Capacity" Version 4.0](#).

These revisions are effective immediately and should be promptly adopted as standard field procedures.

Field methods and equipment for *Arsenic Speciation* have been modified, and field personnel are advised to become familiar with the revised protocols for processing the arsenic sample for speciation analysis.

In addition to general updates, the *Alkalinity and ANC* section has been revised to provide guidance using the advanced speciation method for calculation of carbonate species, which replaces the "simple speciation method" as the USGS standard practice. Detailed information about this change in policy is given in OWQ Technical Memorandum 2012.05 and can be found on the Office of Water Quality web page: <http://water.usgs.gov/admin/memo/QW/qw12.05.pdf>

WaQI Notes are archived on the Office of Water Quality web site,
<http://water.usgs.gov/usgs/owq/WaQI/index.html>

Signed,

The Office of Water Quality
10/2/2012

Distribution: All WRD Employees