Ground Water Quality in Basins Fill and Bedrock Aquifers, Mineral and Missoula Counties, Western Montana

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Abstract. This chapter is part of the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology (MBMG), Ground Water Quality Atlas of Montana, a set of maps and accompanying reports showing water quality information in Montana.

The chapter reviews water quality information in Mineral and Missoula Counties with an emphasis on the effects of geologic setting. Montana waters are managed to protect the water resources for people and their use. Water quality data are available from a number of sources, including the U.S. Geological Survey, Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, Montana Department of Environmental Quality, and local water quality monitoring. The chapter illustrates some areas in both counties where water quality standards are not met.

Dissolved Constituents

The dissolved constituents map reveals areas where the concentrations of dissolved constituents exceed the health standard for public drinking water. The health standard for public drinking water is based on a combination of available information and the effects of contaminants on human health. The health standard is met when the concentration of dissolved constituents is less than or equal to the health standard for public drinking water.

Nitrate

The nitrate concentration map reveals areas where the concentration of nitrate exceeds the health standard for public drinking water. The health standard for public drinking water is based on the effects of nitrate on human health. The health standard is met when the concentration of nitrate is less than or equal to the health standard for public drinking water.

Arsenic

The arsenic concentration map reveals areas where the concentration of arsenic exceeds the health standard for public drinking water. The health standard for public drinking water is based on the effects of arsenic on human health. The health standard is met when the concentration of arsenic is less than or equal to the health standard for public drinking water.

REFERENCES
