



maximum observed concentrations of arsenic, cadmium, lead, molybdenum, nitrate, selenium, and uranium that exceed the EPA MCLs. Because there are currently no known exposure pathways for groundwater from the uppermost aquifer to a receptor, there are no human or ecological risks associated with the use of groundwater beneath the Maybell Disposal Site (Baseline Risk Assessment of Ground Water Contamination in the Uranium Mill Tailings Site Near Maybell, Colorado, DOE/AL62350-209, Rev. 1, March 1996). Regulatory Status of Groundwater The groundwater in the area is designated as limited use, a designation given to groundwater that is not a current or potential source of drinking water because it contains widespread ambient contamination that cannot be cleaned up by methods reasonably employed in public water systems. As a result, narrative supplemental standards (40 CFR 192.21 (g)) have been applied to groundwater at the site. In accordance with 40 CFR 192, Subpart A, an evaluation of site characterization data showed that a program to monitor groundwater for demonstrating disposal cell performance was not appropriate because groundwater in the uppermost aquifer is designated as limited use (40 CFR 192.11(e)). 40 CFR 192, Subpart A, addresses concern for potential groundwater contamination that may result due to issues regarding disposal cell performance. In accordance with 40 CFR 192, Subpart B, the NRC approved groundwater compliance strategy at the site is no remediation; also a result of the uppermost aquifer being designated as limited use. 40 CFR 192, Subpart B addresses pre-existing groundwater contamination that resulted from historical uranium processing site operations. Therefore, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission concurred in the long-term surveillance plan (LTSP) that groundwater quality monitoring is not required at the Maybell Disposal Site.