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Environmental Engineering Water Pollution and Control

Boron Investigation Survey, March Air Force Base, California

Authors: [John G. Garland III](#); [ARMSTRONG LAB BROOKS AFB TX](#)

Abstract: Armstrong Laboratory conducted a field survey to investigate the source of **boron** in the March AFB CA wastewater treatment plant effluent. The survey measured **boron** contributions from drinking water, domestic sources, and industrial sources over a 10-day period. The survey also evaluated the effluent to the treatment plant over the same 10 days. **Boron** results at the regulatory discharge point averaged 0.48 mg/1, which complies with the base permit. The results also showed drinking water levels averaged 0.225 mg/1, domestic contribution combined with drinking water levels averaged 0.396 mg/1, and mixed industrial and domestic levels ranged from 0.246 mg/1 to 1.84 mg/1. The report presents bulk **boron** sample results from a variety of soaps and bleaches. Recommendations include further investigation into industrial activity generating high **boron** levels, discouraging the use of **boron**-containing products by military, contract, and domestic users and negotiating with the regulating agency for permitting **boron** at a higher level. **boron**, wastewater characterization.

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