

13 Existing Guidance and Studies

This section presents the results of research conducted by the SBR team to identify existing guidance and soil studies that are available regarding soil background and its use in risk assessment. The information is presented in two tables, one listing existing guidance ([Table 13-1 Existing Guidance Summary](#)) and the other listing existing studies ([Table 13-2 Studies Summary Table](#)); hyperlinks are provided when possible. The information on both tables is categorized by author as follows: federal agencies, state agencies, tribal agencies, private agencies, and other. *(Note: This information was thought to be accurate at the time the document was published in 2021. Please contact the appropriate agency for updated information.)* The guidance listed on [Table 13-1 Existing Guidance Summary](#) includes a variety of types of guidance, such as guidance documents, rules, and regulations, some including background values. [Table 13-1 Existing Guidance Summary](#) also indicates some basic soil background topics that are discussed in this document and whether the topic is addressed in a specific guidance. The following is a list of these topics, along with their locations in this document:

- Soil background values ([Section 3](#))
- Soil background (default and/or site-specific) in risk assessment ([Section 4](#))
- Geochemical evaluations ([Sections 5](#) and [Section 6](#))
- Environmental forensics ([Section 7](#))
- Sampling ([Section 9](#))
- Analytical methods ([Section 10](#))
- Statistics ([Section 11](#))