

NATIONAL WATER PROGRAM

FY 2007 MID-YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT

Office of Water
Environmental Protection Agency
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I) INTRODUCTION

In April 2006, the National Water Program published *National Water Program Guidance* describing how EPA, States, Tribes, and others would work together in FY 2007 to implement the water elements of the 2003 *Strategic Plan*. This *FY 2007 Mid-Year Performance Report* describes the progress being made in 2007 towards the goals and objectives described in the *Guidance* and the *EPA Strategic Plan*. *The Strategic Plan* and the *FY 2007 Guidance* are available on the Internet at www.epa.gov/water/waterplan), as is this *Report*.

This *FY 2007 Mid-Year Performance Report* is based on materials and analysis developed by teams of Headquarters and EPA Regional staff addressing each of ten subobjectives within the 2003 *EPA Strategic Plan* related to the National Water Program (see Table I, below). The briefing materials developed by these Subobjective Teams provide data concerning progress toward environmental and public health goals and accomplishment of key program activities along with recommendations for needed actions. Much of this work is accomplished through grants and this *Report* serves as the Office of Water's primary summary of progress under the Environmental Results Grants Order.

This *Report* includes two key elements:

- performance overviews, highlights, and next steps for each subobjective; and
- an appendix of data for environmental and program related measures, including national, and in many cases EPA Region, data.

TABLE I
NATIONAL WATER PROGRAM – KEY SUBOBJECTIVES

- 1) **Water Safe to Drink**
- 2) **Fish and Shellfish Safe to Eat**
- 3) **Water Safe for Swimming**
- 4) **Restore and Improve Water Quality on a Watershed Basis**
- 5) **Protect Coastal and Ocean Waters/Estuaries**
- 6) **Protect Wetlands**
- 7) **Protect Mexico Border Water**
- 8) **Protect the Chesapeake Bay**
- 9) **Protect the Great Lakes**
- 10) **Protect the Gulf of Mexico**

II) MEASURE STATUS OVERVIEW

A. FY 2007 Regional Breakout of Priority Measures Summary at Mid-Year

▲ = Measure on track at mid-year	Data in blue/bold = FY 07 Regional Commitment
▼ = Measure not on track at mid-year	Data in black = FY 07 Regional Mid-Year Result
N/A = Data Not Provided	

FY 07 Code	Language	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	Nat'l	Nat'l
2.1.1	Percentage of the population served by community water systems that receive drinking water that meets all applicable health-based drinking water standards through effective treatment and source water protection.	87% 92.8%	75% 57.4%	94% 94.8%	91% 93.3%	92% 92.2%	86% 93%	92.4% 93.6%	94% 96.6%	95% 97.2%	90% 93.5%	90% 90%	▲
E	Percent of the population served by community water systems in Indian country that receive drinking water that meets all applicable health-based standards.	93% 99.9%	90% 100%	93% N/A	95% 89%	85% 100%	90% 83%	90% 87.5%	90% 88.5%	85% 97.3%	81% 91.1%	87% 90.1%	▲
SS-2	Number, and national percent, of CSO (combined sewer overflow) permits with schedules in place in permits or other enforceable mechanisms to implement approved Long Term Control Plans (LTCPs.)	75 74	50 50	140 112	9 9	230 155	N/A N/A	11 2	N/A N/A	3 3	14 15	64% 51%	▲
L	Percentage of those waterbodies identified in 2000 as not attaining standards where water quality standards are restored. (cumulative).	297 256	137 137	500 474	500 436	535 535	250 237	368 337	241 227	52 68	162 204	14.1% 13.5%	▲

FY 07 Code	Language	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	Nat'l	Nat'l
WQ-6a	Percent of State water quality standards submissions (received in the 12 month period ending April 30th of the fiscal year) that are fully or partially approved/disapproved by EPA within 150 days.	75% 55.4%	88% 100%	75% 33%	85% 71%	80% 100%	75% 90%	75% 0	79% 33%	75% 100%	60% 42.9%	76.7% 66.9%	▲
WQ-11	Number of States and Territories using the Assessment Database (ADB (or compatible electronic format)) to record their assessment decisions (Integrated Report/303(d)/305(b)) and provide geo-reference information for assessment unit locations. (cumulative.)	4 5	3 3	6 6	5 5	5 4	4 4	1 1	6 5	4 4	1 1	39 38	▲
WQ-13a	Number of TMDLs, and national percent, that are established by states or EPA on a schedule consistent with national policy (Total TMDLs)	200 14	115 1	584 1,038	360 244	325 547	113 18	149 41	253 51	180 64	375 71	82% 64%	▲
WQ-16	Number of waterbodies identified by States (in 2000 or subsequent years) as being primarily NPS-impaired that are partially or fully restored. (cumulative.) * FY 07 regional commitments not in ACS. Regional commitments are estimates and are based on informal discussions w/ HQ in determining a national target of 69"	3 7	2 0	2 4	15 9	10 3	7 1	22 4	6 0	1 1	1 0	69 29	▼
WQ-29a	Number, and national percent, of high priority EPA non-tribal NPDES permits that are issued as scheduled. *National Commitment Only	4	10	15	39	46	37	7	11	13	10	95% 43%	▲

B. Office of Water Measures Status Overview at Mid-Year

▲ = Measure on track at mid-year	E = Measure exempt from mid-year reporting
▼ = Measure not on track at mid-year	I = Indicator measure (not measured against target)
N/A = Data Not Provided	

FY 2007 Code	Measure Language	Mid-Year Status
2.1.1	Drinking Water: Percentage of the population served by community water systems that receive drinking water that meets all applicable health-based drinking water standards through effective treatment and source water protection.	▲
A	Percentage of the population served by community water systems that receive drinking water that meets health-based drinking water standards with which systems need to comply as of December 2001.	▲
B	Percent of population served by community water systems that receive drinking water that meets health-based standards with a compliance date of January 2002 or later.	▲
C	Percent of community water systems that provide drinking water that meets health-based standards with which systems need to comply as of December 2001.	▲
D	Percent of community water systems that provide drinking water that meets health-based standards with a compliance date of January 2002 or later.	▲
E	Percent of the population served by community water systems in Indian country that receive drinking water that meets all applicable health-based drinking water standards.	▲
F	Percent of source water areas (both surface and ground water) for community water systems that achieve minimized risk to public health.	E
G	Number of households on Tribal lands lacking access to safe drinking water.	E
SDW-1a	Percent of community water systems (CWSs) that have undergone a sanitary survey within three years of their last sanitary survey (five years for outstanding performers) as required under the Interim Enhanced and Long-Term 1 Surface Water Treatment Rules.	N/A
SDW-1b	Number of tribal community water systems that have undergone a sanitary survey within three years of their last sanitary survey (five years for outstanding performers) as required under the Interim Enhanced and Long-Term 1 Surface Water Treatment Rules.	▲
SDW-2	Percent of the data for violations of health-based standards at public water systems that is accurate and complete in SDWIS-FED for all maximum contaminant level and treatment technique rules (excluding Lead and Copper Rule). [based on three-year rolling data from data verification audits.]	E
SDW-3	Percent of the Lead and Copper Rule action level data for community water systems serving over 3,300 people that is complete in SDWIS-FED.	I
SDW-4a	Percent of community water systems that do not exceed the action level for lead of 15 ppb at the 90th percentile value.	I
SDW-4b	Percent of non-transient, non-community water systems that do not exceed the action level for lead of 15 ppb at the 90th percentile value.	I
SDW-5	Percent of "person months" (i.e., the population served by community water systems times 12 months) during which community water systems provide drinking water that meets all applicable health-based drinking water standards.	I
SDW-6	Fund utilization rate [cumulative dollar amount of loan agreements divided by cumulative funds available for projects] for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.	E
SDW-7a	Number of Drinking Water State Revolving Fund projects that have initiated operations. (cumulative)	E

SDW-7b	Number of Drinking Water State Revolving Fund projects that will assist in returning a community water system to compliance with drinking water standards.	E
SDW-8	EPA will install and begin initial operations of monitoring and surveillance pilots to provide early warning of contamination in select drinking water systems.	▲
SDW-9a	Separately for each class of well, the percent of Class I wells identified in significant violation that are addressed by the Underground Injection Control (UIC) program.	N/A
SDW-9b	Separately for each class of well, the percent of Class II wells identified in significant violation that are addressed by the Underground Injection Control (UIC) program.	N/A
SDW-9c	Separately for each class of well, the percent of Class III wells identified in significant violation that are addressed by the Underground Injection Control (UIC) program.	N/A
SDW-9d	Separately for each class of well, the percent of Class V wells identified in significant violation that are addressed by the Underground Injection Control (UIC) program.	N/A
SDW-10	Percent of identified Class V Motor Vehicle Waste Disposal wells that are closed or permitted.	N/A
SDW-11a	Separately for each class of well, the percent of Class I (salt solution mining wells Class III only) that maintain mechanical integrity.	I
SDW-11b	Separately for each class of well, the percent of Class II (salt solution mining wells Class III only) that maintain mechanical integrity.	I
SDW-11c	Separately for each class of well, the percent of Class III (salt solution mining wells Class III only) that maintain mechanical integrity.	I
SDW-12	Number and percent of high priority Class V wells identified in ground water based community water system source water areas that are closed or permitted.	I
SDW-13	Percent of community water system intakes using source water that has been designated for a drinking water use.	I
SDW-14	Percent of community water system intakes for which the source water was assessed for the drinking water use during the most recent reporting cycle.	E
SDW-15a	Percent of waterbody impairments identified by States in 2002, in which there is a community water system intake and the impairment cause is for either a drinking water use or a pollutant that is regulated as a drinking water contaminant, for which there is a TMDL.	E
SDW-15b	Percent of waterbody impairments identified by States in 2002, in which there is a community water system intake and the impairment cause is for either a drinking water use or a pollutant that is regulated as a drinking water contaminant, for those waterbodies that have been restored..	E
H	Fish and Shellfish: Improve the quality of water and sediments to allow for increased consumption of safe fish in a percentage of the river miles/lake acres identified by states or tribes as having a fish consumption advisory in 2002.	E
I	Increase the percentage of shellfish-growing acres monitored by states that are approved or conditionally approved for use.	▼
FS-1a	Number of States, Territories that have adopted the new fish tissue criterion for mercury.	I
FS-1b	Number of authorized Tribes that have adopted the new fish tissue criterion for mercury.	I
FS-2a	Percent of river miles where fish tissue will be assessed to support waterbody-specific or regional consumption advisories or a determination that no consumption advice is necessary. (Great Lakes measured separately; AK not included.)	E
FS-2b	Percent of lake acres where fish tissue will be assessed to support waterbody-specific or regional consumption advisories or a determination that no	E

	consumption advice is necessary. (Great Lakes measured separately; AK not included.)	
2.1.3	Safe Swimming: Restore water quality to allow swimming in waters identified by states in 2000 as unsafe for swimming.	E
K	Percent of days of the beach season that coastal and Great Lakes beaches monitored by state beach safety programs will be open and safe for swimming.	E
SS-1a	Number of States, Territories that have adopted current pathogen criteria for non-coastal recreational waters (i.e. waters not covered by the BEACH Act.)	I
SS-1b	Number of Tribes that have adopted current pathogen criteria for non-coastal recreational waters (i.e. waters not covered by the BEACH Act.)	I
SS-2	Number, and national percentage of CSO (combined sewer overflow) permits with schedules in place in permits or other enforceable mechanisms to implement approved Long Term Control Plans (LTCPs).	▲
SS-3	Number of States that have adopted the Voluntary Management Guidelines for on-site sewage management. (cumulative)	I
SS-4	Percent of all Tier I (significant) public beaches that are monitored and managed under the BEACH Act program.	E
2.2.1 (a,b)	Water Quality: Use both pollution prevention and restoration approaches to increase watersheds where water quality standards are met in at least 80% of the assessed waters segments; and, the number of the watersheds where all assessed water segments maintain their quality and at least 20% of assessed water segments show improvement above conditions as of 2002.	E
L	Percentage of those waterbodies identified in 2000 as not attaining standards where water quality standards are restored. (cumulative)	▲
N	Show improvement of at least 10% in each of four key parameters at a number of the 900 water monitoring stations in tribal waters.	E
O	Reduce the number of households on tribal lands lacking access to basic sanitation.	E
WQ-1	Number of new or revised pollutant criteria documents published in draft or final by Headquarters annually that assist States and Tribes to better control water pollution through improved water quality standards and ecological/human health risk assessment under the Clean Water Act.	▲
WQ-2a	Number and percent of States and Territories that have adopted EPA approved nutrient criteria into their water quality standards.	▲
WQ-2b	Number and percent of States and Territories that are on schedule with a mutually agreed-upon plan to adopt nutrient criteria into their water quality standards.	▼
WQ-3	Number of States and Territories that have incorporated into their water quality programs for streams and small rivers, biological criteria designed to support determination of attainment of water quality standard use designations standards. [Note: biological criteria may include quantitative endpoints or narrative criteria with quantitative implementation procedures or translators]. (cumulative)	▲
WQ-4	Number of Tribes that have water quality standards approved by EPA. (cumulative)	▲
WQ-5a	Number of States, Territories that have completed a review of water quality standards within the past three years under Section 303(c) of the CWA. (56 State/Territories, & 24 authorized Tribes).	▼
WQ-5b	Number of authorized Tribes that have completed a review of water quality standards within the past three years under Section 303(c) of the CWA. (56 State/Territories, & 24 authorized Tribes).	▲
WQ-6a	Percent of State water quality standards submissions (received in the 12 month period ending April 30th of the fiscal year) that are fully or partially approved/disapproved by EPA within 150 days.	▲
WQ-6b	Percent of Tribal water quality standards submissions (received in the 12 month period ending April 30th of the fiscal year) that are fully or partially approved/disapproved by EPA within 150 days.	▲

WQ-7	Number of States and Territories that have adopted and are implementing their monitoring strategies in keeping with established schedules.	▲
WQ-8a	Number of Tribes that currently receive funding under Section 106 of the Clean Water Act that have developed and begun implementing monitoring strategies that are appropriate to their water quality program consistent with EPA Guidance.	▲
WQ-8b	Number of Tribes that are providing water quality data in a format accessible for storage in EPA's data system.	▲
WQ-9	Number of national probabilistic monitoring assessments completed.	N/A
WQ-10	Number of States and Territories that provided Integrated Reports consistent with EPA's guidance for Assessment, Listing, and Reporting Requirements Pursuant to Sections 303(d), 305(b) and 314 of the Clean Water Act. (cumulative)	▲
WQ-11	Number of States and Territories using the Assessment Database (ADB (or compatible electronic format) to record their assessment decisions (Integrated Report/303(d)/305(b)) and provide geo-referencing information for assessment unit locations. (cumulative)	▲
WQ-12	Number of methods developed or validated for new or emerging biological or chemical contaminants.	▲
WQ-13a	Number of TMDLs, and national percent, that are established by states or EPA on a schedule consistent with national policy (Total TMDLs)	▲
WQ-13b	Number of TMDLs, and national percent, that are established by states or EPA on a schedule consistent with national policy (TMDLs developed by States)	▲
WQ-14	Number of TMDLs for impaired waterbodies which affect Tribal waters approved by EPA where the Tribe participated in the TMDL or comparable watershed restoration planning process.	I
WQ-15a	Estimated annual reduction in lbs/tons of nitrogen from nonpoint sources to waterbodies (section 319 funded projects only).	E
WQ-15b	Estimated annual reduction in lbs/tons of phosphorus from nonpoint sources to waterbodies (section 319 funded projects only).	E
WQ-15c	Estimated annual reduction in lbs/tons of tons of sediment from nonpoint sources to waterbodies (section 319 funded projects only).	E
WQ-16 (a,b)	Number of waterbodies identified by States (in 2000 or subsequent years) as being primarily NPS-impaired that are partially or fully restored. (cumulative)	▼
WQ-17	Number, and national percent, of follow-up actions that are completed by assessed NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) programs. (cumulative)	I
WQ-18a	Number, and national percent, of non-tribal NPDES permits that are considered current.	▲
WQ-18b	Number, and national percent, tribal NPDES permits that are considered current.	▲
WQ-19a	Number, and national percent of Phase I and Phase II stormwater permits that are issued and current for industrial stormwater general permits.	▼
WQ-19b	Number, and national percent of Phase I and Phase II stormwater permits that are issued and current for construction stormwater general permits.	▲
WQ-19c	Number, and national percent of Phase I and Phase II stormwater permits that are issued and current for MS-4 general and individual permits.	▲
WQ-20a	Number, and national percent, of facilities covered under either an individual or general permit by type: MS-4s (including co-permittees).	I
WQ-20b	Number, and national percent, of facilities covered under either an individual or general permit by type: industrial storm water.	I
WQ-20c	Number, and national percent, of facilities covered under either an individual or general permit by type: construction storm water.	I
WQ-20d	Number, and national percent, of facilities covered under either an individual or general permit by type: CAFOs (concentrated animal feeding operations.)	I
WQ-21a	Percent of Significant Industrial Users (SIUs) in POTWs with Pretreatment Programs that have control mechanisms in place that implement applicable	▲

	pretreatment requirements.	
WQ-21b	Percent of known Categorical Industrial Users (CIUs) in non-pretreatment POTWs that have control mechanisms in place that implement applicable pretreatment requirements.	I
WQ-22a	Percent of major dischargers in Significant Noncompliance (SNC) at any time during the fiscal year.	N/A
WQ-22b	Of those major dischargers in SNC at any time during the fiscal year, the number, and national percent, discharging the pollutant(s) of concern on impaired waters.	E
WQ-23	Number, and national percent, of all major publicly-owned treatment works (POTWs) that comply with their permitted wastewater discharge standards (i.e., POTWs that are not in significant non-compliance.)	N/A
WQ-24	Fund utilization rate [cumulative loan agreement dollars to the cumulative funds available for projects] for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund.	E
WQ-25a	Number of waterbodies restored or improved per million dollars of CWSRF assistance provided.	▲
WQ-25b	Number of waterbodies protected per million dollars of CWSRF assistance provided.	▲
WQ-26*	EPA will work with water and wastewater utilities and others to begin implementing a strategy for promoting sustainable management practices.	E
WQ-27	Number of watershed-based plans supported under State Nonpoint Source Management Programs since the beginning of FY 2002 that have been substantially implemented. (cumulative)	I
WQ-28	Number of Tribes that have developed and begun to implement a watershed based-plan for Tribal waters.	I
WQ-29a	Number, and national percent, of high priority state NPDES permits that are issued as scheduled.	▲
WQ-29b	Number, and national percent, of high priority EPA non-tribal NPDES permits that are issued as scheduled.	▲
WQ-29c	Number, and national percent of high priority tribal NPDES permits that are issued as scheduled.	▲
WQ-30a	Number of permits providing for trading between the discharger and other water pollution sources.	I
WQ-30b	Number of permits providing for trading between the discharger and other water pollution sources, and in those permits, the number of dischargers that carried out trades (cumulative).	I
WQ-31	Number of current watershed-based permit(s) issued. (cumulative)	I
WQ-32	Number of impaired watersheds (at the 12-digit scale) where water quality conditions improve (cumulative).	E
WQ-33	Number of water segments known to be impaired or threatened for which States and EPA agree that initial restoration planning is complete (e.g. EPA has approved all needed TMDLs for pollutants causing impairments to the waterbody or has approved a 303(d) list that recognizes that the waterbody is covered by a Watershed Plan (Category 4/B)). (cumulative)	I
2.2.2	Improve Coastal and Ocean Waters. Improve national and regional coastal aquatic system health on the “good/fair/poor” scale of the National Coastal Condition Report. (Rating is a 5-point system where 1 is poor and 5 is good.)	E
P (a,b)	Maintain water clarity (a) and dissolved oxygen (b) in coastal waters at the national levels reported in the 2002 National Coastal Condition Report.	E
Q1	Improve ratings reported on the national "good/fair/poor" scale of the National Coastal Condition Report for coastal wetlands loss.	E
Q2	Improve ratings reported on the national "good/fair/poor" scale of the National Coastal Condition Report for contamination of sediments.	E
Q3	Improve ratings reported on the national "good/fair/poor" scale of the National Coastal Condition Report for benthic quality.	E
Q4	Improve ratings reported on the national "good/fair/poor" scale of the National	E

	Coastal Condition Report for eutrophic conditions.	
IV-D	Working with National Estuary Program partners, protect or restore additional acres of habitat within the study areas for the 28 estuaries that are part of the National Estuary Program (NEP). (cumulative)	E
C/O-1	Headquarters to publish a revised national Coastal Condition Report describing the quality of the Nation's ocean and coastal waters.	E
C/O-2	Number of coastal waterbody impairments restored.	I
C/O-3	Number of coastline miles protected from vessel sewage by "no discharge zone(s)."	I
C/O-4	Number of coastal waterbody impairments restored within NEP study areas.	I
C/O-5a	Number of National Estuary Program priority actions in Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plans (CCMPs) that have been initiated in the current reporting year.	I
C/O-5b	Number of National Estuary Program priority actions in Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plans (CCMPs) that have been completed.	I
C/O-6	Rate of return on Federal investment for the National Estuary Programs [dollar value of "primary" leveraged resources (cash or in-kind) divided by Section 320 funds received by the National Estuary Programs (including supplemental, line items, earmarks, and (for LIS) Sections 119)].	I
C/O-7	Number of dredged material management plans that are in place for major ports and harbors.	I
C/O-8a	Number of active dredged material ocean dumping sites that are monitored in the reporting year.	I
C/O-8b	Number of active dredged material ocean dumping sites where action has been initiated in the reporting year to ensure that the site meets environmentally acceptable conditions.	I
C/O-9	Number of active dredged material ocean dumping sites achieving environmentally acceptable conditions (as reflected in each site's Site Management Plan) in the reporting year.	I
4.3.2	Wetlands. Working with partners, achieve net increase of wetlands with additional focus on biological and functional measures.	E
IV - E	Annually, beginning in FY 2004, work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) and other partners to achieve no net loss of wetlands under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act regulatory program.	E
WT-1	Number of wetland acres restored and enhanced, under the President's 2004 Earth Day Initiative. (cumulative)	▲
WT-2a	Number of States that have built capacities in wetland monitoring, regulation, restoration, water quality standards, mitigation compliance, and partnership building.	I
WT-2b	Number of Tribes that have built capacities in wetland monitoring, regulation, restoration, water quality standards, mitigation compliance, and partnership building.	I
WT-3a	Number of watershed-based wetlands and stream corridor projects in States (combined 5-Star and non-5-Star projects) for which EPA has provided /contributed significant financial and/or technical assistance. (cumulative projects)	I
WT-3b	Number of watershed-based wetlands and stream corridor projects on Indian Reservations (combined 5-Star and non-5-Star projects) for which EPA has provided /contributed significant financial and/or technical assistance. (cumulative projects)	I
WT-4	Number of States where the trend in wetland condition has been measured as defined through biological metrics and assessments.	▲
IV-A	Achieve water quality standards currently being exceeded in shared and transboundary waters where standards are currently being exceeded.	E
MB-1	Provide safe drinking water to homes in the Mexico Border area that lacked	E

	access to wastewater sanitation in 2003.	
MB-2	Provide adequate wastewater sanitation to homes in the Mexico Border area that lacked access to wastewater sanitation in 2003.	E
4.3.3	Great Lakes Prevent water pollution and improve the overall aquatic ecosystem health of the Great Lakes using the Great Lakes 40-point scale.	N/A
IV-G	Reduce the average concentrations of PCBs in whole lake trout and walleye samples from 2000 levels.	E
IV-H	Reduce the average concentrations of toxic chemicals (PCBs) in the air in the Great Lakes basin from 2000 levels.	N/A
IV-I	Restore and de-list Areas of Concern (AOCs) within the Great Lakes basin.	▲
IV-J	Remediate cubic yards (in millions) of contaminated sediment remediated in the Great Lakes. (cumulative from 1997)	▲
GL-1	Percent of all NPDES permitted discharges to the Lakes or major tributaries that have permit limits that reflect the Guidance's water quality standards, where applicable.	▲
GL-2	Percent of all CSO permits in the Great Lakes basin that are consistent with the national CSO Policy.	▲
GL-3	Number of sediment remedial actions (annual). (U.S. partners have completed about 3 per year since 1997.)	▲
GL-4	Percent of high priority Tier 1 (significant) Great Lakes beaches where States and local agencies have put into place water quality monitoring and public notification programs that comply with the USEPA National Beaches Guidance.	N/A
4.3.4	Chesapeake Bay. Prevent water pollution and protect aquatic systems so that overall aquatic system health of the Chesapeake Bay is improved and acres of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) increase. (cumulative)	▼
IV-K	Reduction in number of pounds of nitrogen entering the Chesapeake Bay each year from 1985 levels.	E
IV-L	Reduction in number of pounds phosphorus entering the Chesapeake Bay each year from 1985 levels.	E
IV-M	Reduction in number of tons of sediment entering the Chesapeake Bay each year from 1985 levels.	E
CB-1a	Percent of the point source nitrogen reduction goals achieved.	▲
CB-1b	Percent of the point source phosphorus reduction goals achieved.	▲
CB-2	Percent of the forest buffer planting goal achieved.	▲
IV-N	Prevent water pollution and improve the overall aquatic ecosystem health of coastal waters of the Gulf of Mexico by 0.2 on the "good/fair/poor" scale of the National Coastal Condition Report, a 5-point scale in which 1 is poor and 5 is good. *The NCCR III report will not be released until late FY 07 or early FY 08.	E
IV-O	Reduce releases of nutrients throughout the Mississippi River Basin to reduce the size of the hypoxic zone in the Gulf of Mexico.	E
GM-1	Number of the impaired segments in the 12 priority coastal areas where water and habitat quality is restored to levels that meet state water quality standards.	E
GM-2	Number of additional acres important coastal and marine habitats that are restored, enhanced, or protected, above improvements accomplished through 2003. (USGS 2000 baseline for all Gulf of Mexico coastal wetland habitats - 3,769,370 acres)	▲
GM-3	Implement integrated bi-national (U.S. and Mexican Border States) early-warning system to support State and coastal community efforts to manage harmful algal blooms.	N/A
GM-4	Reduce the rate of shellfish-borne <i>Vibrio vulnificus</i> illnesses caused by consumption of commercially-harvested raw or undercooked oysters from the average illness rate for the years 1995-1999.	N/A

III) MID-YEAR PERFORMANCE BY SUBOBJECTIVE: OVERVIEW, HIGHLIGHTS AND NEXT STEPS

This section provides a summary of the progress at mid-year toward accomplishment of environmental and program goals described in the *National Water Program Guidance FY 2007*.

Each subobjective report includes all of the following key information:

- overview of performance with respect to the outcome (i.e. environmental or public health goal) stated in the EPA *Strategic Plan*;
- an assessment of the current statuses (▲ on track/▼ not on track) of Strategic Targets with mid-year data
- description of “Performance Highlights” with respect to program implementation, including both areas of success and areas needing attention; and
- “Needed Adjustments” identifying key next steps to strengthen implementation of the subobjective and improve performance for the future.
- Additional information concerning performance under outcome measures and program activity measures is provided in the FY 07 Mid-Year slides at the end of this report.

It is important to note that more detailed information concerning performance under each of the outcome and program measures is provided in the Appendix to this Report and is available on the Internet at www.epa.gov/water/waterplan. Furthermore, there are several measures in the *National Program Guidance* that were exempt from Mid-Year reporting based on a the knowledge that these measures are only reported annually or historical data showing that these measures have never been able to report data at the mid-year point.



1) SUBOBJECTIVE: WATER SAFE TO DRINK

Subobjective 2.1.1: Percent of the population served by community water systems (CWSs) that receive drinking water that meets all applicable health-based drinking-water standards through effective treatment and source water protection.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	Mid-Year Status
Baseline	93.5% (2002)	93.5% (2002)	93.5% (2002)	93.5% (2002)	▲
Commitment		93%	90.9%	90%	
Mid-Year		90.2%	88.4%	90%	
End-of-Year	90%	88.5%	89.4%		

The Agency and its partners have made significant progress in providing the public with drinking water that meets health-based standards. From the most recent data available as of mid-year 2007, the percentage of Americans served by community water systems meeting drinking water standards is currently meeting the 2007 target of 90%. Water systems are challenged every day with protecting public health by applying existing regulations and implementing new standards. The Regions and OGWDW have been successful in communicating and educating systems on the Early Implementation requirements of Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment and Stage 2 Disinfection By-product Rules.

Strategic Target A: Percentage of the population served by community water systems that receive drinking water that meets health-based drinking water standards with which systems need to comply as of December 2001.

	2005	2006	2007	Mid-Year Status
Baseline	93.6% (2002)	93.6% (2002)	93.6% (2002)	▲
Commitment	91.8%	92.5%	91%	
Mid-Year	92.4%	91.6%	92.5%	
End-of-Year	91%	91.5%		

Nine out of ten regions had exceeded their commitment at mid-year.

Strategic Target B: Percentage of the population served by community water systems that receive drinking water that meets health-based drinking water standards with a compliance date of January 2002 or later.

	2005	2006	2007	Mid-Year Status
Baseline	N/A	N/A	N/A	▲
Commitment	75.2%	75%	83%	
Mid-Year	96.8%	95.8%	97.2%	
End-of-Year	96.3%	96.9%		

Ten out of ten regions had exceeded their commitment at mid-year.

Strategic Target C: Percent of community water systems that provide drinking water that meets health-based standards with which systems need to comply as of December 2002.

	2005	2006	2007	Mid-Year Status
Baseline	91.6% (2002)	91.6% (2002)	91.6% (2002)	
Commitment	N/A	94%	90%	
Mid-Year	N/A	92%	92.3%	
End-of-Year	91.7%	91.7%		

Ten out of ten regions had exceeded their commitment at mid-year.

Strategic Target D: Percent of community water systems that provide drinking water that meets health-based standards with a compliance date of January 2002 or later.

	2005	2006	2007	Mid-Year Status
Baseline	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Commitment	N/A	75%	83%	
Mid-Year	N/A	97.2%	96.7%	
End-of-Year	97.2%	97.3%		

Ten out of ten regions had exceeded their commitment at mid-year.

Strategic Target E: Percent of the population served by community water systems in Indian country that receive drinking water that meets all applicable health-based drinking water standards.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	Mid-Year Status
Baseline	91.1% (2002)	91.1% (2002)	91.1% (2002)	91.1% (2002)	
Commitment			90.0%	87%	
Mid-Year			86.2%	90.1%	
End-of-Year	90%	86.3%	86.6%		

Five out of ten regions had exceeded their commitment at mid-year.

**Strategic Targets F and G are exempt from reporting due to lack of Mid-Year data.*

Performance Highlights

Progress in FY 2007 includes:

- Previously there has been a concern about the quality of data in Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS). OGWDW is implementing the Data Reliability Improvement Plan and is tracking and reporting on the accuracy and completeness of the data in SDWIS.

- The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program is closely monitoring the use of funds to improve the utilization of DWSRF funds to effectively support the Office of Water’s priority of sustainable water infrastructure.
- Activities to improve security and preparedness at drinking water and wastewater facilities to reduce the risks associated with potentially catastrophic natural and deliberate incidents are continuing. Regions have been conducting emergency response preparedness exercises to improve response in the event of a catastrophic natural or deliberate incident. In FY 2007 OGWDW will prepare and disseminate guidance materials that will assist utilities with self-assessment, plan development, design and implementation of a contamination warning system. We anticipate selecting up to four additional Water Security Initiative pilots through a competitive grant process in FY 2008 utilizing funds from both FY 2007 and FY 2008.
- The Underground Injection Control Program continues to be faced with the challenge of implementing the Class V 1999 rule on motor vehicle waste disposal wells and large capacity cesspools and the integration of high priority Class V wells with source water protection areas for ground water-based community water systems. [SDW-9a: 5 out of 6 regions met or exceeded their commitment. SDW-9b: 4 out of 6 regions met or exceeded their commitment. SDW-9c: 7 out of 8 regions met or exceeded their commitment. SDW-9d: 7 out of 9 regions met or exceeded their commitment. SDW-10: 7 out of 9 regions met or exceeded their commitment at mid-year. Regional data is incomplete for both SDW-9a,b,c,d and SDW-10.]

Next Steps

A key next step and needed adjustment identified by the Subobjective Team includes:

- OGWDW needs to continue the development of measures that are more focused on the outcomes of the activities of the Drinking Water program. OGWDW is working toward developing measures that better quantify changes in public health outcomes related to drinking water rules. OGWDW is currently working with the National Drinking Water Advisory Council to develop a national measure on waterborne disease.

2) SUBOBJECTIVE: FISH AND SHELLFISH SAFE TO EAT



Strategic Target I: Increase the percentage of shellfish-growing acres monitored by States that are approved or conditionally approved for use.

	2005	2006	2007	Mid-Year Status
Baseline	77% of 21.6 million acres open for use (1995)	77% of 21.6 million acres open for use (1995)	77% of 21.6 million acres open for use (1995)	
Commitment	80% improved	91% improved	91% improved	
Mid-Year	0% improved	91% improved	81% improved	
End-of-Year	N/A	N/A		

**Strategic Target H is exempt from reporting due to lack of Mid-Year data.*

Performance Highlights

Progress in 2007 includes:

- The results shown for the Shellfish measure (Measure I) are misleading. In March of 2007 the ISSC released an amended report with revised 2003 and 2005 acreage data. The 2003 reported data is the basis for the strategic plan results that have been reported until now. This report is the source of the 91% result and the basis for the 91% commitment. The revised data documented increased acreages, which for 2003 supports a result of 81.1%, not 91%. The 2005 report data yields a result of 80.8%. The reported data from these two sources yields essentially the same result and therefore should not be shown as a decline in performance.

Next Steps

A key next step and needed adjustment identified by the Subobjective Team includes:

- In the next Strategic Plan the shellfish measure will continue to present a challenge to reporting progress on the shellfish-growing acres given that the data source is not one that EPA owns.



3) SUBOBJECTIVE: WATER SAFE FOR SWIMMING

**Subobjective 2.1.3 and Strategic Target K are exempt from reporting due to lack of Mid-Year data.*

Performance Highlights

Progress in 2007 includes:

- Eight states (RI, NJ, FL, NC, IA, AZ, OK and AL) have adopted EPA’s Voluntary Management Guidelines for onsite sewage management (Measure SS-3). We expect several states to adopt the guidelines in the next two years. VA, MN, GA, and TN are the most likely candidates and the regional coordinators are working with these states.
- Beach data will be reported upon the release of the Annual Beach Report in July.
- Data challenges are still preventing the reporting of progress on the percent of waters restored for swimming.

Next Steps

Key next steps and needed adjustments identified by the Subobjective Team include:

- EPA has worked internally to clarify the SS-2 (CSOs with LTCPs in place) measure. As implementation of the measure proceeded, the need for additional clarification became clear, in the areas of LTCP schedules and quality requirements. OW, OECA, and Regions have agreed to a new measure for 2008.
- In order to assist in identifying prospective states that will be eligible for adoption of the voluntary management guidelines for on-site sewage management, and to better target future EPA’s efforts, OWM is conducting a review of state onsite wastewater programs. This review will be a multi-year effort, dependent on availability of resources. Since the EOY 2006 report, OWM has partnered with the National Small Flows Clearinghouse by suggesting questions to be added to their annual survey. The results of that survey should be available soon and will help determine where to focus our state reviews. [SS-3: As of April 1, eight states have adopted EPA’s Voluntary Management Guidelines for on-site sewage management.]

4) SUBOBJECTIVE: PROTECT WATER QUALITY ON A WATERSHED BASIS



Strategic Target L: Percentage of those waterbodies identified in 2000 as not attaining standards where water quality standards are restored.

	2005	2006	2007	Mid-Year Status
Baseline				▲
Commitment	432 (2%)	2,235 (10.3%)	3,042 (14.1%)	
Mid-Year	N/A	2,427 (11%)	2,911 (13.5%)	
End-of-Year	1,955 (9.0%)	2,841 (13.1%)		

Three out of ten regions exceeded their commitment at mid-year.

**Subobjective 2.2.1 and Strategic Targets N and O are exempt from reporting due to lack of mid-year data.*

Performance Highlights

Progress in 2007 includes:

- The program continues to make strong progress in restoring impaired waters. At 2007 Mid Year, the program has restored a cumulative 13.46% of impaired waters since 2000, compared to the FY 2007 target of 14.1%.
- An increasing component of this progress has resulted from known restoration activities, or from new monitoring data showing water quality standards attainment where the reason for recovery is unspecified.
- The pace of progress will likely decrease as listings become more accurate and “easy” restorations are completed. Many remaining problems are complex and may take many years to solve (e.g., urban wet weather impairments, persistent legacy pollutants, temperature problems addressed by restoring stream bank trees).
- The program is on schedule for improving future outcome reporting. In 2006 EPA released the first statistically valid assessment of national stream condition, the Wadeable Stream Assessment, which reported that 28% of the Nation’s streams are in good condition. Across the U.S., 25-30% of streams have high levels of nutrients or excess sedimentation. These streams are twice as likely to have poor biology.
- The Wadeable Stream Assessment report is a landmark step in providing scientifically defensible assessments of different water types and evaluating trends in water condition that will allow EPA to determine national progress in achieving the Clean Water Act goal of fishable, swimmable waters. In the

past, states have largely used site-specific monitoring to focus limited resources on heavily used or problem waters, which resulted in an assessment of only a small percentage of all the Nation's waters.

- States, Tribes and EPA have completed the design and selection of indicators for the national lakes survey and samples will be collected this summer. A report on lake conditions will be published in 2009. In addition, States, Tribes, EPA and other federal partners are planning the national rivers survey, which will be combined with the next streams survey. This report will be published in 2011.
- Two new or revised pollutant criteria documents were published in draft or final at FY2007 Mid-Year. These were: (a) the revised recommended aquatic life ambient freshwater quality criteria for copper (final); and, (b) the nutrient criteria technical guidance manual for wetlands (draft). The FY2007 Target is for three published criteria.
- Regions are on target to achieve the national commitment of approving 77 percent of water quality standards revisions submitted by states and territories. At Mid-Year, with almost all the expected submissions in hand, Regions have approved 66.9%. They have until September 30 for approvals to count towards the measure. [WQ-6a: 2 out of 10 regions met or exceeded their commitment at mid-year.]
- At FY2007 Mid-Year, fifty-five States / Territories have adopted and are implementing monitoring strategies in keeping with established schedules. The FY2007 Target is fifty-six. [WQ-7: 9 out of 10 regions met or exceeded their commitment at mid-year.]
- The program reported at Mid-Year 2007 the completion of 2,089 TMDLs, significantly exceeding half of the Annual Commitment of 2,654. This early success can be attributed in part to the approval of a large-scale mercury TMDL effort in Minnesota as well as the successful completion of Consent Decree deadlines in Region 3. However, TMDL rates in 2008 are expected to decline due to the increasing complexity of the TMDLs remaining to be completed, increasing effort needed to comply with recent litigation, and the changing capacities of the states (which complete 90% of TMDLs annually). [WQ-13a, b: 2 out of 10 regions met or exceeded their commitment at mid-year.]
- The CWSRF program continues to show strong performance in committing funds to protect, improve, and restore waterbody quality. Periodic discussions with the states indicate that CWSRF performance as measured by the fund utilization rate is expected to continue to be strong at over 90% nationally. However, if H.R. 720 (the reauthorization bill for the CWSRF program) becomes law and when its provisions take effect, there will be a

significant decline in the funds utilization rate due to the numerous additional federal requirements that would be placed on the program. The bill has passed the House.

- While midyear numbers for priority permits may appear low, we believe that we will be on target this year for three reasons: (1) the numbers have increased significantly in the month since midyear reporting; and, (2) the numbers as reported were better than last years' midyear when we met the target at the end of the year; and (3) no Regions have reported being unable to meet their targets.

Next Steps

Key next steps and needed adjustments identified by the Subobjective Team include:

- The program has identified specific actions that will be taken to accelerate the rate of restoration of impaired waters and the documentation of restoration success to achieve our 2012 strategic targets. These actions include defining the incentives that are needed to get all states and territories using ADB version 2 for submittal of their 2008 integrated reports; working with states to develop strategies to increase monitoring in areas having the greatest likelihood for improvement; and prioritizing the reissuance of permits to facilities discharging to primarily point source impaired waters. Efforts to increase monitoring include working more closely with volunteer monitoring groups which routinely monitor conditions in their local watersheds, in addition to ensuring state monitoring programs incorporate periodic sampling of impaired waters to detect improvements in water quality.
- Regions will continue to work with states to improve their written plans to develop water quality criteria for nitrogen and phosphorus pollution. At mid year, 34 States and Territories are on schedule with mutually agreed upon plans. Because many of the plans for remaining States are out of date, it will require concerted effort to achieve the FY 2007 commitment of 42. OST is developing a new policy memo from senior EPA leadership to State and Regional managers emphasizing the need for State action to establish numeric nutrient criteria, updating the nutrient criteria plans, and implementing an expanded, targeted support strategy. [WQ-2: 3 out of 5 regions met or exceeded their commitment at mid-year.]
- At mid year, only 37 states/territories have met the goal of adopting updated water quality criteria within the past three years. It appears unlikely that the commitment of 41 will be met by the end of this fiscal year. Program innovations in water quality standards development and adoption, such as the Kaizen process piloted in Region 7, may improve performance in this area in coming years.

- The program will place increased emphasis on working with TAS-approved tribes to submit approvable water quality standards to meet or exceed the FY 2007 commitment of 33 tribes. At mid year, 31 tribes have such standards. Staff limitations and turnover make the technical work to develop standards difficult for some tribes. [WQ-4: 7 out of 7 regions met or exceeded their commitment at mid-year.]

- The program needs to complete integration of the National TMDL Tracking System and ADB. Work is underway to (1) clarify required fields and to ensure they are populated with the necessary information; and (2) improve tracking of waters removed from lists of impaired waters (e.g., waters meeting water quality standards as a result of restoration activities, waters meeting standards as a result of new assessment method). The program intends to begin pilot reporting at the end of Fiscal Year 2007 using the newly-aligned system. Changes in the methodology for counting TMDLs will be made in August 2007 to better align the tracking of TMDLs with pollutants, and to respond to Office of Inspector General recommendations.

- Increase Fund Utilization Rate: Although Nationally the CWSRF has a high fund utilization rate – 95 percent of fund resources have been committed to projects, further advancements are hampered by states with issues. To help state improve their utilization rate, we’ve embarked on an ambitious outreach strategy. In collaboration with state partners, OWM has made significant progress in implementing a CWSRF outreach strategy designed to accelerate high priority water quality projects, build demand for the program, maximize the use of available funds, insure that funds are directed to critical projects, and reach new borrowers. Several actions are already completed or underway that maximize CWSRF effectiveness. [WQ-24: 2 out of 10 regions met or exceeded their commitment at mid-year.]
 - EPA has developed a Financial Assistance Comparison Tool (FACT) to compare the relative advantages of alternative financing structures. FACT will aid municipalities, utilities, and environmental organizations in selecting the appropriate financing option to fund their water quality projects. The reports and graphs generated by FACT can also aid the outreach efforts of managers of SRF programs

 - Texas developed a new marketing plan focused on raising customer awareness of the benefits of CWSRF financing and understanding the attitudes and needs of potential borrowers. Together with Texas, EPA co-sponsored a first ever forum that gathered qualitative feedback from local government leaders and utility managers from Texas entities that had not applied for CWSRF funding. This forum provided insights into potential borrowers’ attitudes and opinions about the CWSRF and opportunities to expand the program’s customer base.

- EPA is assisting several states (including Michigan, Oklahoma, and Alaska) to develop mailing lists and surveys of their potential borrowing communities to strengthen the CWSRF's marketing and outreach efforts. This initiative will aid states to gain a better understanding of how communities make wastewater infrastructure financing decisions; determine real and perceived barriers to using CWSRF financing; and identify ways to improve the CWSRF program to attract new borrowers.
- After the completion of the Office of Management and Budget review, EPA will finalize issuance of the expired Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) which covers industrial facilities in 7 of the 10 Regions and represents the majority of expired permits under this measure. This permit is expected to be issued in the next two months. [WQ-19: No regions had met or exceeded their commitment at mid-year.]
- EPA continues to work to finalize national Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) regulations which are in keeping with the Waterkeeper Court decision, issued in February 2005. No CAFO permit targets will be set until a national CAFO rule is finalized. The CAFO compliance date for the issuance of CAFO permits and Nutrient Management Plans (NMPs) has been proposed to be moved to February 2009.
- In September 2006, a Court order revoking regulatory exclusions for discharges incidental to the normal operation of a vessel from NPDES permitting requirements was issued. The Court's order appears to affect a very large number of vessels (around 14 million, compared to approximately 600,000 facilities in the current NPDES universe) and a wide range of discharges incidental to normal boat operations. Based on the District Court's Order, in September 2008, vessel owners or operators will be subject to the CWA prohibition against discharging without an NPDES permit. EPA has filed a notice of appeal in Ninth Circuit, but continues to develop a framework for NPDES permits under the CWA for the discharge of pollutants incidental to the normal operation of vessels.
- This is the first time the number of entities covered under the stormwater program has been reported to EPA HQ by Regions and States. Although more than 260,000 facilities have been identified, the midyear data is incomplete. Two Regions did not report midyear numbers, due to a lack of available information, and it appears other Regions' data may not reflect all States in the Region; therefore, the midyear numbers do not reflect the entire universe. HQ will work with Regions and States to improve data quality and availability.



5) SUBOBJECTIVE: PROTECT COASTAL WATERS

**Subobjective 2.2.2 and Strategic Targets P, Q and IV-D are exempt from reporting due to lack of mid-year data.*

Performance Highlights

Progress in 2007 includes:

- The National Coastal Condition Report (NCCR) III is scheduled for release in early FY2008.
- In FY 2006, the OSV *Bold* provided support to Regions I, II, III, IV, and VI, as well as the Gulf of Mexico Program Office and ORD (260 sea days). The ship was used to monitor six ocean sites in FY2007 (in support of C/O-8) to ensure that they continue to operate in an environmentally safe manner, while meeting the need for navigation channel maintenance for major ports. In addition, the OSV *Bold* spent 19 days during FY07 in support of Gulf of Mexico hypoxia surveys.
- Work on the Alaska cruise ship wastewater standards is proceeding on schedule. If we determine that new standards are required, we will propose them in December 2007. We have made significant progress on our data collection (sampling and survey questionnaire) and environmental and economic analyses.
- As provided in the U.S. Ocean Action Plan, NOAA and EPA are co-chairs of the Interagency Marine Debris Coordinating Committee (IMDCC), which reports to the Subcommittee on Integrated Management of Ocean Resources (SIMOR). During the first half of FY2007, the IMDCC obtained SIMOR approval of the Committee's draft charter.

Next Steps

Key next steps and needed adjustments identified by the Subobjective Team are:

- OCPD recently learned that we will be unable to have the Regions report on C/O-2 (coastal waterbody impairments restored) and C/O-4 (coastal waterbody impairments in NEP study areas restored) during FY2007. The portion of the TMDL database system that would have provided the data is not yet operational. Since it is anticipated that the system will come "on line" in FY2008, OCPD should be able to report on our FY2008 PAM tracking coastal watershed impairments restored.

- This is the first year that OCPD has a “no discharge zone” measure. We are tracking the “number of coastline miles protected from vessel sewage by no discharge zone(s).” We will consider changing the wording of this measure in the future, possibly starting in FY2009, to track “area of waters covered” instead of “coastline miles.” However, at this time, the Regions overall do not have the ability to track NDZ coverage other than by coastline miles protected.

- OCPD is continuing to implement several management adjustments addressing the NEP program:
 1. A Headquarters-Regional workgroup was established in late 2006 to study ways to expedite Section 320 funds utilization. The workgroup has now drafted a guidance document that promotes expedited funds obligation and NEP spending. The work is being coordinated with the larger effort within OW to review spending rates for four of its major grant programs.

 2. Working with several regional NEP coordinators and NEP directors, a Headquarters Implementation Review (IR) Team has developed a new set of metrics for evaluating the progress of the NEPs in implementing Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plans and demonstrating environmental results. The metrics will be described in new IR Guidance that will be issued in the summer of 2007. The next review cycle will begin again in 2008.



6) SUBOBJECTIVE: PROTECT WETLANDS

**Subobjective 4.3.2 and Strategic Target IV-E are exempt from reporting due to lack of mid-year data.*

Performance Highlights

Progress in 2007 includes:

- “Working with partners, achieve net increase of wetlands with additional focus on biological and functional measures” does not have mid-year reporting. The End-of-Year Report will simply extrapolate wetland gain rate (32,000 acres per year) from the most recent FWS Status and Trends Report (2006.) It is hopeful that the next States and Trends Report (2011) will show a continuation of upward trends and prove that we actually met or exceeded our targets in 2007 and beyond.
- Data is unavailable for the “no net loss” of wetlands measure. Data will be available in January 2008 after the upgrade of the Corps ORM database is complete and one year worth of data from 38 Corps Districts is collected.
- EPA continues to exceed expected contribution to the President’s Initiative (12,000 acres by Earth Day 2009). The FY 2008 National Program Guidance target for this measure has been upwardly revised to account for accomplishments from 2005-2007.
- “Number of watershed-based wetlands and stream corridor projects in States and on Indian Reservations for which EPA has provided/contributed significant financial and/or technical assistance” will be replaced by a new measure intended to assess the performance of the CWA 404 regulatory program. It is very important to evaluate performance of the 404 regulatory program since significant financial resources and the majority of FTE at HQ and in the Regions support this program.
- There are 15 states where the trend in wetland condition has been measured as defined through biological metrics and assessments.

Next Steps

Key next steps and needed adjustments identified by the Subobjective Team include:

- The mid-year reporting cycle continues to show clear state and tribal investment in building wetland program capacity, especially in the area of wetlands monitoring and assessment. The newly-rejuvenated National Wetlands Monitoring and Assessment Work Group has played an important role in facilitating information exchange and tech transfer between states and

tribes. The 2006 FWS Status and Trends report showed encouraging national trends in terms of gains in overall wetland acreage. This rate will continue to be reported until the next Status and Trends report is released in 2010. Wetlands Division also continues to be responsive to state and tribal feedback, as highlighted by new efforts to uncover sustainable financing options, improve outreach and communications, and implement a stakeholder-driven program planning effort.

- EPA is dependent on outside agencies for data to assess performance
 - U.S. FWS Status and Trends Report: EPA manages this data lag by applying the most recent annual rate of wetland gains to the current reporting year. EPA is also working closely with U.S. FWS to develop new open water pond categories that better distinguish between productive open water habitat and man-made water retention structures with questionable functional value (e.g. farm ponds).
 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: In partnership with the Corps, EPA has made a significant investment to acquire new, more reliable data to measure performance of the Wetlands Regulatory Program at EPA.

- Wetlands Division is accelerating planning efforts for the 2011 National Wetland Condition Assessment. In collaboration with FWS, the NWCA will complement FWS Status and Trends report. EPA will likely utilize the Status and Trends plots as the sampling frame for the NWCA. The sampling frame is needed to define which wetlands have a probability of being selected in the statistical survey.

- The Wetlands Program must continue investigate ways to enhance our available data while, at the same time, researching new sources of data that can help assess performance; identify new sources of funding and develop sustainable financing strategies for state and tribal wetlands programs; and continue to work with our State, Regional and Federal partners to improve wetlands monitoring and assessment in advance of the National Condition Assessment in 2011.



7) SUBOBJECTIVE: MEXICO BORDER WATERS

**Strategic Target IV-A is exempt from reporting due to lack of mid-year data.*

Performance Highlights

Progress in 2007 includes:

- For achieving water quality standards currently being exceeded in shared and transboundary waters, EPA used the 2002 CWA Section 305(b) report to identify 10 significant US waters. EPA then evaluated those significant waters, and identified 17 instances in which water quality standards were being exceeded. While border wastewater infrastructure projects have resulted in improved water quality, the 2006 305(b) reports submitted by the Border States to EPA indicate that the number of exceeded water quality standards in transboundary waters remains the same.
- For providing safe drinking water to homes in the Mexico Border area that lacked access to safe drinking water in 2003, a baseline for year 2003 was established of 98,515 homes (US and Mexico) without access to potable water supply in 2006. Through 2006, we have provided potable water supply to 22,458 homes. A 2007 target of 1,200 additional homes served, over what we achieved in FY 2006, was established through the Eco-Region initiative. The Program is on target to provide service to 1,200 additional homes by the end of the year.
- In 2006, a baseline for year 2003 was established of 690,723 homes (US and Mexico) without access to wastewater sanitation. Through 2006, we have provided access to wastewater sanitation to 30,195 homes. A 2007 target of 70,750 additional homes served, over what we achieved in FY2006, was established through the Eco-Region initiative. The Program is on target to provide service to 70,750 additional homes by the end of FY07.

Next Steps

A key next step and needed adjustment identified by the Subobjective Team includes:

- In October 2006, OCFO proposed a fiscal management policy for EPA's US-Mexico Border Infrastructure Program. OW, OWM, OIA, Regions 6 and 9, and OCFO have met a number of times over the last six months to discuss the policy. Most or all of the issues have been resolved. A Principals meeting with Marcus Peacock was held May 2, 2007 to finalize a US-Mexico Border fiscal policy. We expect that management adjustments will be forthcoming.



8) SUBOBJECTIVE: GREAT LAKES

Subobjective 4.3.3: Prevent water pollution and improve the overall aquatic ecosystem health of the Great Lakes using the Great Lakes 40-point scale:

	2005	2006	2007	Mid-Year Status
Baseline	20 points (2002)	20 points (2002)	20 points (2002)	
Commitment	21 points	21 points	21 points	
Mid-Year	21.9 points	21.9 points	N/A	
End-of-Year	21.9 points	21.1 points		

Data was not provided at mid-year.

Strategic Target IV-H: Reduce the average concentrations of toxic chemicals (PCBs) in the air in the Great Lakes Basin from 2000 levels.

	2005	2006	2007	Mid-Year Status
Baseline				
Commitment	7% decline	7% decline	7% decline	
Mid-Year	8.72% decline	8% decline	N/A	
End-of-Year	7% decline	8% decline		

Data was not provided at mid-year.

Strategic Target IV-I: Restore and de-list Areas of Concern (AOCs) within the Great Lakes Basin.

	2005	2006	2007	Mid-Year Status
Baseline	0 (2002)	0 (2002)	0 (2002)	▲
Commitment	3	2	1	
Mid-Year	3	0	1	
End-of-Year	0	1		

Strategic Target IV-J: Remediate cubic yards (in millions) of contaminated sediment remediated in the Great Lakes (cumulative from 1997).

	2005	2006	2007	Mid-Year Status
Baseline	2.1 M (2002)	2.1 M (2002)	2.1 M (2002)	▲
Commitment	2.9 M	0.3 M	4.5 M	
Mid-Year	2.9 M	246,600	4.2 M	
End-of-Year	3.7 M	4.1 M		

**Strategic Target IV-G is exempt from reporting due to lack of mid-year data.*

Performance Highlights

Progress in 2007 includes:

- Under the Great Lakes Legacy Act, GLNPO has 2 remedial projects that are underway and an additional one starting later this summer. The projects underway include those in the Ashtabula River and the St. Marys River. To date, the Ashtabula project has removed approximately 140,000 cubic yards (out of 570,000 cubic yards) of PCB contaminated sediment from the River. This project is scheduled to be completed in October 2007. The St. Marys project has removed about 9,000 cubic yards of chromium and mercury contaminated sediment. After shutting down last fall it is anticipated that the St. Marys project will recommence in June 2007.
- A Project Agreement was recently signed with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources to conduct a final engineering design for a project in the West Branch of the Grand Calumet River. This work is expected to lead to remediation of 120,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment beginning in Spring 2008.
- Over the past 10 years, the governments of Canada and the U.S., along with stakeholders from industry, academia, state/provincial and local governments, Tribes, First Nations, and environmental and community groups have worked together to reduce the use and release of targeted substances. Significant progress has been made toward achieving the Strategy's challenge goals. To date, 12 of the 17 goals have been met, including a 50% decline in mercury releases and use and a reduction of more than 75% in releases of dioxins and furans.
- GLNPO will report this year on "on track" progress toward a calendar year 2006 sediment remediation target of 458,000 cubic yards. GLNPO is currently aware of remediation of a total of 418,500 cubic yards of contaminated sediments through 3 Legacy Act projects (129,500 cubic yards via projects in Ruddiman Creek, Ashtabula River and Tannery Bay) and 4 non-Legacy Act projects (estimated to be 289,000 cubic yards via projects in Fox River, Pine River, Sheboygan River and Stryker Bay). GLNPO will be working through June to collect additional reports of Great Lakes non-Legacy remediation. See Legacy Act above for additional information.
- Regions report that they are on track for NPDES permits, CSO permits, and Tier 1 beaches measures; and GLNPO and its partners are on track for completing sediment remedial actions. [GL-1: 2 out of 3 regions met or exceeded their commitment at mid-year; GL-2: 2 out of 3 regions met or exceeded their commitment at mid-year; GL-4: both regions met or exceeded their commitment at mid-year.]

Next Steps

A key next step and needed adjustment identified by the Subobjective Team is:

- The Area of Concern target for FY07 (cumulative delisting of 1 Area of Concern) was achieved through last year's delisting of the Oswego Area of Concern. GLNPO is working with partners to continue progress in de-listings through a focus on removing the individual beneficial use impairments at the Areas of Concern.
- In the past month, GLNPO has identified a potential issue which makes its GPRA commitment for 2 additional de-listings by the end of 2008 more challenging. Presque Isle Bay was originally listed as an Area of Concern because of high levels of skin tumors in fish (greater than 80% in 1991). Actions have since been taken which have brought liver tumors in fish down to the same level as reference sites. Consequently, Presque Isle Bay was high on the list of candidates for de-listing. However, although skin tumors levels were trending downward, they seem to have plateaued at just under 30% for the last five years, which is higher than other areas on L. Erie. GLNPO and Pennsylvania DEP are exploring potential causes for the high level of skin tumors. At present, there is not evidence to support sediment contamination as the culprit. Other causes could be viral or parasitic but this is unclear.
- GLNPO continues to work with its State partners to surmount other obstacles to de-listing of the other most likely candidates for de-listing, such as Torch Lake, MI, where monitoring to verify the area's candidacy for de-listing may instead have identified additional contamination.



9) SUBOBJECTIVE: CHESAPEAKE BAY

Subobjective: Prevent water pollution and protect aquatic systems so that overall aquatic system health of the Chesapeake Bay is improved and acres of submerged aquatic vegetation increase.

	2005	2006	2007	Mid-Year Status
Baseline	85,252 acres (2002)	85,252 acres (2002)	85,252 acres (2002)	
Commitment	90,000 acres	90,000 acres	75,850 acres	
Mid-Year	89,659 acres	72,935 acres	59,090 acres	
End-of-Year	72,935 acres	78,260 acres		

**Strategic Targets IV-K, IV-L and IV-M are exempt from reporting due to lack of mid-year data.*

Performance Highlights

Progress in 2007 includes:

- Long-term success is demonstrated for:
 - 59,090 acres or 32% achievement of the long-term submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) restoration goal of 185,000 acres, as compared to 21% in FY 1986.
 - 33.7 million pounds/yr reduction or 72% achievement of the long-term goal of 47.1 million lbs/yr reduction in point source nitrogen from 1985 levels as compared to 0% in 1985.
 - 5.18 million pounds/yr or 87% achievement of the long-term goal of 5.93 million lbs/yr reduction in point source phosphorus from 1985 levels as compared to 0% in 1985.
 - 5,337 miles or 53% achievement of the long-term forest buffer planting goal of 10,000 miles, as compared to 0.1% in FY 1998.
- We are on target to meet our FY07 commitments for nutrient reductions from point sources and forest buffer planting.
- We will not achieve our FY 07 commitment of 41% goal achievement (75,850 acres) for the SAV measure. Bay-wide acreage of underwater bay grasses decreased by 25% in 2006 to the lowest total acreage figure since 1989. This decline was largely due to higher than normal water temperatures in the mid and lower Bay and poor water clarity throughout the Bay. The short-term trend (10 years) shows a decline of 15%.

Next Steps

Key next steps and needed adjustments identified by the Subobjective Teams include:

- In order to accelerate the pace of water quality and aquatic habitat restoration, EPA and Bay area States are taking a number of steps to make the most cost-effective use of available regulatory, incentive and partnership tools, including the following key actions:
 - fully implement base clean water programs in the Bay;
 - support implementation of watershed permitting and nutrient trading programs;
 - accelerate Bay cleanup by focusing on the most cost-effective nutrient-sediment control and key habitat restoration strategies;
 - enhance use of monitoring, modeling and demonstration projects to target and assess the effectiveness of restoration actions;
 - strengthen accountability for implementation of restoration measures; and
 - use the CBP federal partnership for cooperative conservation to improve access to available financial and technical assistance programs, and link federal programs to CBP's strategic priorities.

10) SUBOBJECTIVE: GULF OF MEXICO



**Strategic Targets IV-N and IV-O are exempt from reporting due to lack of mid-year data.*

Performance Highlights

Progress in 2007 includes:

- At mid-year, 24 impaired segments have been delisted from the baseline 303(d) listings in the Gulf of Mexico priority areas and 4 TMDLs completed. The cumulative total of delisted impaired segments is 95, which exceeds the 16% commitment of 56 for FY 07. Additionally, the Gulf Program developed and initiated a “Surf Your Gulf Watershed” web page at <http://www.epa.gov/gmpo/surfgulf/>.
- GMPO initiated projects to restore, protect, enhance 2,542 acres of coastal and marine habitat in FY 07. The total number of acres is 18,999 achieved toward the 2008 goal of 20,000 well ahead of the FY07 goal of 15,800.
- GMPO supported Gulf States efforts to identify and prepare for the implementation of required post-harvest treatment capacity of 50% of all oysters intended for raw, half-shell market during May to September. Reduction in illness rate reported this past year represents a 71% reduction from the baseline for the core reporting states.
- In support of Gulf Hypoxia efforts, GMPO has been involved with identifying top 100 nutrient-contributing watersheds in the MS River Basin. EPA is funding USGS through the process of reworking the SPARROW Model. The revised model should allow for better differentiation and will be used to indicate where in the top 100 Watersheds the major sources of nitrogen and phosphorous are located and where to target reduction efforts.
- GMPO coordinated a successful decentralized wastewater conference in Biloxi, sponsored by GMPO, Region 4 and Headquarters along with numerous State, regional and local entities. The conference focused on state of the art technology, successful management and governance models, obstacles to implementation as well as needed next steps. Next steps include a similar conference focused on developers and a technical tour of several Louisiana projects using wastewater discharges as an enhancement tool for natural wetland systems.

Next Steps

Key next steps and needed adjustments identified by the Subobjective Team include:

- To support the Gulf of Mexico Alliance, the Gulf of Mexico Program redirected \$1M of FY06 funding through a competitive process toward the 11 actions with supporting activities as addressed by the Gulf States in the Governors' Action Plan for Healthy and Resilient Coasts as a stimulus for accelerating the implementation of the Governors' Alliance Action Plan. Because of continuing resolutions, funding was delayed. To avoid sweep of the FY 06 funding, support is requested from Region 4 Grants Management Office to expedite the funding awards for 13 grants.

- In support of Gulf Hypoxia, identifying the top 100 nutrient -contributing watersheds in the MS River Basin, EPA is funding the USGS through the process of reworking its 1992 SPARROW Model. This effort supports a robust calibration and validation of the model and will be used to estimate loads to the Mississippi River basin and sub-basins to the approximate HUC 11 scale. The earlier model indicated that the major source of phosphorus to the system was from animal wastes, and not point sources, erosion or fertilizers. It also showed that the major sources of nitrogen was from agriculture, but was not able to separate whether it was from row-crop agriculture or animal waste. The revised model should allow for better differentiation and will be used to indicate where on the landscape ("Top 100 Watersheds) the major sources of nitrogen and phosphorus are located and thus where to target reduction efforts.

- EPA Region 5 is leading the EPA effort to work with the USGS project leads to adjust the workplan to meet the Leapfrog Initiative schedules. Based on recent discussions, draft first-cut estimates of phosphorus and nitrogen loads for the water years 1992 and 2002 are still scheduled for mid-April, 2007. These will allow a comparison of the two time periods taking into account changes in land use patterns but will be based on less than 500 sites. Future efforts will incorporate approximately 2,500 sites.

- The final expanded 2002 SPARROW model for the Upper MS/Great Lakes Basins, Missouri River Basin, Lower MS River Basin and the entire MS/Achafalaya Basin is scheduled for December 2008. This effort will allow for reassessment of the loadings based on changes in the percentage of the major agricultural crops, i.e., corn, soybeans, cotton, etc. This is important considering the dramatic increase in corn for ethanol production and the potential for increasing nitrogen loadings.