

FY 2008 Draft NPM Guidance Review: OW Highlights of Key Changes from FY 2007

Priorities and Strategies

Final FY 2007 Priorities	Draft FY 2008 Priorities
Support Sustainable Water Infrastructure	Support Sustainable Water Infrastructure
Contribute to the President's Wetland Goals	Contribute to the President's Wetland Goals
Improve Monitoring	Improve Monitoring
Restore and Improve Water Quality on a Watershed Basis	Restore and Improve Water Quality on a Watershed Basis
Improve Compliance with Drinking Water Standards	Improve Compliance with Drinking Water Standards
	Water Security and Emergency Response

New strategies, including goals and supporting measures, are established for improving five large aquatic ecosystems that were not addressed in the FY 2007 Guidance. They reflect cooperative intergovernmental initiatives encapsulated in *EPA's 2006-2011 Strategic Plan* and include:

- Protect Pacific Islands Waters (pp 37-39)
- Protect Long Island Sound (pp 49-52)
- Protect South Florida Waters (pp 53 - 55)
- Protect Puget Sound (pp 56-58)
- Protect the Columbia River (pp 58-60)

Integration of Regional Priorities and Regional Priority Measures

National Program Managers (NPMs) were asked to review and evaluate regional priorities and measures as they developed their draft FY 2008 guidance, with the intent to align these to the greatest degree possible. Overall most NPMs found that the regional priorities and priority measures were closely related to national program priorities and measures. Specifically in the water program:

- Relevant regional priorities align with those identified in OW's draft FY 2008 Guidance for such areas as beaches, drinking water, wastewater management, water quality, and specific watersheds (e.g., Long Island Sound, Chesapeake Bay, and the Mississippi River).
- Relevant regional priorities and regional priority measures not in OW's draft FY 2008 Guidance include those tied to specific geographic locations (Onondaga Lake and Schuylkill River watershed) and mining.
- There were varied degrees of alignment between the regional priority measures and those in the draft FY 2008 OW Guidance. For example, the regional propriety measure "pounds of phosphorous reduced (NorthEast)" is strongly

related to the measure “Estimated annual reduction in million pounds of phosphorus from nonpoint sources to waterbodies” (SP-9b.).

Through the implementation of the FY 2008 NPM guidance and planning for the FY 2009 guidance, OCFO will continue to work with the NPMs and regions to evaluate and strengthen these linkages.

Proposed FY 2008 Measures

- The total number of OW measures proposed for FY 2008 (134) is a reduction from the final FY 2007 list (153). This is the result of OW’s efforts to better align measures and reduce the total number of ACS measures.
- As a result of OW’s efforts to engage states with the Measures Streamlining Initiative, OW deleted 20 measures related to states from the FY 2007 to the FY 2008 Guidance.
- 20 of the 31 new measures added in FY 2008 from FY 2007 are geographically-based and therefore only apply to a small subset of regions/states
- State Grant Template Measures decreased from 31 in FY 2007 to 28 in FY 2008.