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Nutrient Criteria Technical Guidance Manual

Wetlands

DISCLAIMER

This manual provides technical guidance to States, Authorized Tribes, Territories and other authorized jurisdictions to establish water quality criteria and standards under the Clean Water Act (CWA), in order to protect aquatic life from acute and chronic effects of nutrient over-enrichment. Under the CWA, States and Authorized Tribes are directed to establish water quality criteria to protect designated uses. States and Authorized Tribes may use approaches for establishing water quality criteria that differ from the approaches recommended in this guidance. This manual constitutes EPA's scientific recommendations regarding the development of numeric criteria reflecting ambient concentrations of nutrients that protect aquatic life. However, it does not substitute for the CWA or EPA's regulations; nor is it a regulation itself. Thus, it cannot impose legally binding requirements on EPA, States, Authorized Tribes, or the regulated community, and might not apply to a particular situation or circumstance. Further, States and Authorized Tribes may choose to develop different types of criteria for wetlands protection, including narrative criteria. EPA may change this guidance in the future.

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CONTRIBUTORS

Nancy Andrews (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)
Mark Clark (University of Florida)
Christopher Craft (University of Indiana)
William Crumpton (Iowa State University)
Ifeyinwa Davis (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)
Naomi Detenbeck (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)
Paul McCormick (U.S. Geological Survey)
Amanda Parker (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)*
Kristine Pintado (Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality)
Steve Potts (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)
Todd Rasmussen (University of Georgia)
Ramesh Reddy (University of Florida)
R. Jan Stevenson (Michigan State University)
Arnold van der Valk (Iowa State University)

*Principal Author

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LIST OF INTERNET LINKS/REFERENCES

- Chapter 1 <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/criteria/nutrient/guidance/index.html>
<http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands>
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