



2007-2011 Strategy for EPA Region 10

Serving Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington



Here is a brief summary of the strategy we have developed to focus our efforts for the coming years. This strategy was developed in consideration of the Administrator's four priorities; the EPA National Strategy; employee input received through an environmental survey; stakeholder perspectives of our state, tribal, federal and local partners; and the Region 10 mission, vision and values.

Support the Core

Work to make and implement resource and programmatic decisions that ensure the integrity of our core programs. Currently identified core program focus areas are:

- Stormwater permitting and compliance,
- Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO), Permitting, Compliance and State Oversight,
- Homeland Security,
- Mining Operations Financial Assurance,
- Wetlands Compliance (Clean Water Act 404),
- Agricultural Burning in Idaho, and
- Particulate Matter (PM 2.5) Reduction.

Clean Affordable Energy and Climate Change

- Develop and implement a regional approach to address climate change,
- Participate in the West Coast Collaborative, a public private partnership to reduce diesel emission, and
- Apply EPA authorities related to oil and gas to maximize environmentally safe exploration, development, and production in Alaska.

Enhancing Tribal Environments

Work with Tribal Governments to protect and restore the natural resources on which tribal communities rely for their physical, cultural and economic well-being. Priorities are:

- Assistance for capacity building and an improved approach to Indian General Assistance Program grants;
- Communication and consultation processes that more effectively inform Tribes of decisions and activities;
- Working with the Regional Tribal Operations Committee so that they provide tribal perspectives in the development of regional directives;
- Developing standard operating procedures for Region 10 to ensure compliance with the Historic Preservation Act, Section 106;
- Air quality implementation of the Federal Air Rules for Reservations (FARR);
- Solid waste management including cleaning, closing and upgrading nine open dumps in Indian Country and other tribal lands; and
- Water quality to protect subsistence resources.

Protecting and Restoring Watersheds

Continue to place strong emphasis on our important watershed protection and restoration work. These projects involve a wide cross-section of Region 10 offices and public and private efforts. Specific watershed projects include:

- Puget Sound - working with our state, federal and tribal partners to restore Puget Sound to a healthy state by 2020.
- Columbia River - building an integrated program, with state, nonprofits, and Tribal partners, to reduce the concentration of toxins in fish, sediment and water
- Coeur d'Alene - further reduce elevated blood lead levels in children and improve water quality
- Mercury – A Watershed Contaminant - developing a strategy by April 2008 to implement the EPA 'Mercury Roadmap' within Region 10.

Actions to address water quality problems in the Snake, Klamath, Boise, Portneuf and Willamette rivers; and other watersheds in the region are also underway.

Sustainability and Strategic Partnerships

Promote sustainable practices and foster strategic partnerships that allow us to meet our environmental, social and economic needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Highlights include:

- Government partnerships to develop a beef cattle Memorandum of Understanding, an updated Source Control Agreement for the Duwamish Waterway, and continuous improvement to the Performance Partnership Agreement (PPA) process in each state.
- Resource Conservation Challenge (RCC) to implement sustainable partnerships with the private sector and/or universities to increase the amount of materials recycled.
- Smart growth activities to identify the scope, opportunities and partners for creating a regional Smart Growth network for Puget Sound.
- Sustainability Education to inform EPA employees and our partners, focusing on efforts which give us the best return for the investment.

A Stronger EPA

Ensure a diverse, talented and highly skilled work force in Region 10. Specific areas of focus will include:

- 360° Feedback for All Managers,
- Employee Performance, Hiring and Promotion,
- Succession Planning, Targeted Recruitment,
- Employee Development Opportunities,
- Improve Internal Communication, and
- Environmental Justice.

Our Vision:

A healthy, sustainable environment for all.

Our Mission:

To protect and restore the environment of the Pacific Northwest and Alaska for present and future generations.

We will use science to make sound decisions to:

- Protect and restore ecosystems and ensure healthy airsheds and watersheds;
- Prevent pollution through source reduction;
- Reduce the generation of land, air, and water pollutants;
- Cleanup contaminated sites;
- Enforce federal environmental laws; and
- Conserve our valuable resources.

We are accountable for achieving our mission. Our success as stewards of the public trust will be measured by meaningful and lasting environmental results.

Our Values:

- **Making a Difference through People and Teamwork.** We support each other and the people who work with us by working cooperatively and collaboratively. We build bridges between organizations. Our regional team will be competent and culturally diverse.
- **Communication and Dialogue.** We talk with and listen to our customers about our values and our respective expectations for the Region's programs. We celebrate our successes and learn from our mistakes.
- **Expect Excellence.** We set and meet high standards of quality. We take pride in the fact that we are public servants and hold the public trust.
- **Professionalism and Respect.** We always treat our colleagues at EPA, representatives of other governmental entities, stakeholders, and the regulated community with professionalism and respect. We address conflict in a constructive and professional manner.
- **Honesty and Integrity.** We deal forthrightly with each other and the public. We meet our commitments.
- **Willing to Take Risks.** We are willing to take risks, while making environmentally sound decisions based on science, statutes and regulations.