

Chronology of EPA actions on Nutrients

GENERAL

June 1998 – EPA published national nutrient criteria strategy
<http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/criteria/nutrient/strategy/nutstra3.pdf>

May 25, 2007 – Ben Grumbles issues memorandum: *Nutrient Pollution and Numeric Water Quality Standards* <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/criteria/nutrient/files/policy20070525.pdf>

December 2008 – EPA issued a report entitled: *Current Status: State Adoption of Numeric Nutrient Standards*. This report highlighted the lack of progress made by States to adopt numeric criteria between 1998 and 2008. <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/criteria/nutrient/files/report1998-2008.pdf>

August 25, 2009 – EPA's Office of the Inspector General issues an evaluation report entitled: *EPA Needs to Accelerate Adoption of Numeric Nutrient Water Quality Standards*
<http://www.epa.gov/oig/reports/2009/20090826-09-P-0223.pdf>

CRITERIA

January 9, 2001- EPA published a series of criteria documents for nutrients in lakes and ponds, and rivers and streams based on ecoregion. The reference condition approach was used to derive the recommended criteria. Effort was not made to relate the recommended criteria to a response.
<http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/criteria/nutrient/ecoregions/index.html>

August 17, 2009 – EPA Office of Water/Office of Science and Technology issue updated guidance for the derivation of numeric nutrient criteria and provided the document to EPA's Science Advisory Board. The updated guidance, public comment and the SAB's evaluation are available at:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/sab/sabproduct.nsf/02ad90b136fc21ef85256eba00436459/5972e2a88464d45e85257591006649d0!OpenDocument>

FLORIDA

January 14, 2009 -EPA formally determined that numeric nutrient criteria should be established on an expedited schedule. EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson signed a Consent Decree signed on August 18, 2009 indicating that EPA would initiate rulemaking to establish numeric nutrient criteria for the State of Florida on January 14, 2011 if numeric criteria for nutrients in lakes and flowing waters were not approved by EPA. <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/standards/rules/florida>

January 15, 2010 – EPA proposes numeric nutrient criteria for Florida's rivers and lakes. The federal document contains 269 documents related to the development of EPA's proposal to establish numeric criteria for nitrogen and phosphorus in rivers and streams and lakes and pond for the State of Florida. Comments will be posted as received.
<http://www.regulations.gov/search/Regs/home.html#docketDetail?R=EPA-HQ-OW-2009-0596>

OTHER NUTRIENT RELATED TOPICS:

September 24, 2009 – EPA issues a report entitled: State-EPA Nutrients Innovation Task Force Report. This report represents a collaborative effort among key state and federal drinking water and water quality senior program managers to evaluate the scope of nutrient impacts and major sources of nutrients. The report also recommends innovative ways to address the growing and significant challenge of nutrient pollution. <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/criteria/nutrient/nitgreport.pdf>

CHESAPEAKE BAY

May 12, 2009- President Obama issued Executive Order 13508 to protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed. <http://executiveorder.chesapeakebay.net/page/About-the-Executive-Order.aspx>

September 10, 2009 – Federal agencies released seven draft reports on protecting and restoring the Chesapeake Bay as required by May 12, 2009 Executive Order. <http://executiveorder.chesapeakebay.net/default.aspx>

September 17, 2009 – EPA published a notice in the Federal Register indicating intent to develop 92 TMDLs for impaired waters in Virginia, Maryland and D.C. <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-22410.pdf>