

Regulatory Team Success Criteria Sub-group Evaluation

Instructions: Enter the answers to the questions listed below in summary form on the following table. Use the "enter" key to add additional lines in each category, as needed.

1. Overall Program Description:
 - a. Program name
 - b. What problem was the program intended to solve?
 - c. Did the program establish goals? (e.g. water resource sustainability, future water supply, existing legal use protection) If so, describe the program goals.
 - d. Describe the program's approach (i.e. "tools" to be used) to fix the problem. (e.g. Water resource development projects, water supply development projects, regulatory components, operational, water shortage plan, etc.)
 - e. Describe performance measures, if any, established to gauge success in achieving the program goals?
 - f. Were there time tables, interim milestones, and deadlines established for achieving the program goals? If so, describe.

2. How does the program address existing legal user rights?
 - a. How were existing uses considered? (E.g. actual permitted, permitted, projected uses? Cutbacks proposed? Source shifts? Before or after permit renewal?)
 - b. Did the program include recovery/restoration/prevention components that affected among existing legal users? If so, how were they apportioned among the existing legal uses?
 - c. Did the program establish waivers, variances or other forms of relief for hardship cases? If so, what was the nature of the relief provided by the program?
 - d. Does the program provide funding to implement changes to existing legal uses?

3. How does the program provide for future / new uses?
 - a. Does the program provide for future / new uses? If so, how were future uses addressed (e.g. optimization, efficiency, preferred sources, alternative sources, water resource development projects)
 - b. Does the program provide funding for future / new water supply projects?

4. How does the program achieve resource sustainability?
 - a. Is sustainability achieved through regulatory components? If so, explain and include any integration with other programs.
 - b. Is sustainability achieved through water resource development / restoration projects? If so, explain.
 - c. Did the Legislature specifically address the program sustainability? (E.g.: provide for "trade-offs," program components, funding, reporting)
 - d. Did the program provide for adaptive management? If so, what adaptive management procedures were included in this program?

1. Overall program description

a. Program Name:

Tampa Bay Reasonable Assurance Plan (Nutrient Impairment) by the Tampa Bay Nitrogen Management Consortium
Adopted September 22, 2010

b. Target Problem:

Maintain or restore designated uses of waterbody segments within the Tampa Bay Basin which are designated as potentially impaired or verified impaired for nutrients pursuant to Chapter 62-303, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.).

c. Program Goals:

- Restore seagrass in Tampa Bay to 95% of the areal extent estimated to have occurred in 1950.
- Achieve chlorophyll a targets for each major bay section
- Maintain nitrogen loadings to the bay at the 1992-1994 average annual loads,

d. Program Tools:

- Stormwater facilities and upgrades
- Land acquisition and protection
- Wastewater effluent reuse
- Air emissions reduction
- Habitat restoration
- Agricultural BMPs
- Education/public involvement
- Industrial treatment upgrades

- Consortium Action Plan and Data Base containing projects, schedules, load reductions, etc.
- All major nitrogen sources, permitted and unpermitted, receive nitrogen load allocations.
- Credit trading anticipated.

e. Performance Measures:

- A “decision matrix” process was developed to help determine if seagrass goals and water quality targets are remaining “within bounds,” or if management action is required to get back on track. If the matrix process indicates deviation from targets, recommended types of management actions are also identified. This process is applied on an annual basis to determine if water clarity and chlorophyll a concentrations are remaining at or near target levels.
- Annual reporting to DEP/EPA

f. Timetables/deadlines:

2. How does the program address existing legal user rights?
<p>a. Treatment of Existing & Proposed Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Consortium participants developed a set of nitrogen wasteload allocations that attempts to equitably distribute the burden of nitrogen management across all sectors and sources of nitrogen loading within the basin, as well as the total maximum loading of nitrogen to each major bay segment. • All major nitrogen sources, permitted and unpermitted, receive nitrogen load allocations.
b. Recovery/Restoration/Prevention:
c. Relief Mechanisms:
d. Funding:
3. How does the program provide for future/new uses?
<p>a. Provision for New/Future Uses:</p> <p>Future new or expanded sources will be required to offset additional nitrogen loads through documented load reduction actions, projects, or transfers.</p>
b. Funding:
4. How does the program achieve resource sustainability?
a. Regulatory Components:
b. Water Resource Development/Restoration:
c. Legislative Intent:

Pursuant to s. 403.076(4), F.S., a Reasonable Assurance Plan may be submitted in lieu of the establishment of a TMDL if the plan is sufficient to result in attainment of applicable water quality standards.

d. Adaptive Management:

- A “decision matrix” process was developed to help determine if seagrass goals and water quality targets are remaining “within bounds,” or if management action is required to get back on track. If the matrix process indicates deviation from targets, recommended types of management actions are also identified. This process is applied on an annual basis to determine if water clarity and chlorophyll *a* concentrations are remaining at or near target levels.