



# Next Steps

## EPA Development Team

Office of Pesticide Programs

Office of Water

Office of Research and Development

Regional Stakeholder Meetings  
January 11-22, 2010

# Summary

- **Results from this effort are expected to supplement not replace existing effects assessment methods within OW and OPP.**
- **The Agency will present an overview of predictive tools that may be useful in generating data for use in effects assessment and derivation of aquatic community-level benchmarks.**
- **The Agency is exploring a variety of methods for making better (and more consistent) use of toxicity data from smaller data sets in the context of effects assessment with aquatic animals. It appears that no one method will be best suited to address all situations, and that an integrated framework of methods may be needed.**
- **The Agency is exploring a variety of methods for characterizing plant aquatic effects and will present an integrated framework of methods for incorporating plant effects into aquatic community-level benchmarks.**

# Goals

- Build on the substantial high quality science developed and used by both programs and make ecological effects assessment methodologies **consistent**.
- Enable OW, OPP, and stakeholders to make consistent and best use of **available data**, with focus on chemicals **with smaller data sets than those currently used to derive AWQC**.
- Improve communications on consistency of EPA effects assessments.

# Scope

- Focus on ecological effects assessment methodologies.
- Focus on studies using well-established population relevant endpoints (survival, growth and reproductive endpoints)
- Based on available effects data.
- Potential for later application in NPDES permits for interpreting narrative toxics criteria.
- Approaches will **augment and enhance** existing OW *Guidelines* and the current taxa-specific OPP assessment methodologies **rather than replace them.**

# Commitments

- **Regional stakeholder meetings to solicit public comment on the approaches (January 2010)**
  - EPA Region 1, 2, 3 (Edison, NJ)
  - EPA Region 4 (Atlanta, GA)
  - EPA Region 5 (Chicago, IL)
  - EPA Region 7 , 6 (Kansas City, KS)
  - EPA Region 10 (Seattle, WA)
  - EPA Region 9 (San Francisco, CA)
- **A national multi-stakeholder meeting in DC to solicit further public comment on the approaches (Spring/Summer 2010-TBD)**
- **An SAB-SAP on the proposed approaches (Fall/Winter 2010 - TBD)**

# What we hope to achieve

- Provide a common basis for the characterization of aquatic effects of pesticides under the CWA and FIFRA.
- The community benchmarks may be adopted:
  - by states for standards, permitting, 303(d)
  - for assessment of monitoring data
  - by OPP in addition to other benchmarks in risk assessment.
- The tools developed for generating toxicity values will be used
  - to develop species sensitivity distributions for characterizing interspecies variability
  - for bridging data
  - to characterize uncertainty
- Methodologies are identified for using aquatic plant data in deriving community-level benchmarks.

# Comments and updates

- Website:  
[http://www.epa.gov/oppefed1/cwa\\_fifra\\_effects\\_methodology/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/oppefed1/cwa_fifra_effects_methodology/index.html)
- Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OPP-2009-0773
- How to locate key references: on the web site
- How to provide comments on this project?
  - At this meeting
  - Submit written comments to the docket:
    - through regulations.gov (Docket ID)
    - Through the website
- Additional questions? contact the steering committee

# Project Participants

## ■ Steering Committee

- Joe Beaman (Beaman.Joe@epa.gov)
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## ■ Representing

- Office of Water
- Office of Pesticide Programs
- Office of Research and Development



**Thanks for your interest and  
attention**