

# GOAL 4: Heathy Communities and Ecosystems

*Protect, sustain or restore the health of people, communities, and ecosystems using integrated and comprehensive approaches and partnerships.*

**Objective 4.1: Chemical, Organism and Pesticide Risks.** Prevent and reduce pesticide, chemical, and genetically engineered biological organism risks to humans, communities and ecosystems.

**Sub-objective 4.1.1: Reduce Exposure to Toxic Pesticides.** Through 2008, protect human health, communities and ecosystems from pesticide use by reducing exposure to the pesticides posing the greatest risk.

**Current State/Major Problems to be Addressed:** Pesticide use and application on agricultural land in Indian Country is a high priority in Region 10. This priority results in complex federal, state and Tribal government relationships. It also means oversight of Tribal programs for some Reservations and direct implementation on others. At the same time, Region 10 will continue to support state programs.

Region 10 would like to highlight some potential barriers to success for Region 10 in the Pesticides Program:

- (1) no clear performance measures and goals for the Certification and Training (C&T) and the Worker Protection Standard (WPS) programs
- (2) need national measures for environmental benefits and lack of mechanism to measure environmental benefits for the Agricultural Initiative
- (3) lack of final pesticides/ground water rule
- (4) lack of national pesticides/surface water strategy
- (5) continued reliance on state funds to evaluate the impact of EPA’s registration decisions for the groundwater program
- (6) lack of mechanism to require pesticide registrants to pay for local water monitoring and response to local contamination

**Strategy Highlights:** Region 10 will generally follow the national program strategy, with special emphasis on tribes, worker protection and agriculture. The State Lead Agencies in Region 10 have the primary responsibility to enforce pesticide use regulations and to implement the pesticide programs. Region 10 has cooperative agreements with the Yakama Indian Nation and the Circuit Rider/Coeur d’Alene Tribe to implement the pesticide regulatory programs. States and Tribes will track and report implementation progress.

Strategies	Tools & Programs	Measures & Targets
Implement agricultural partnership projects that provide growers with a “reasonable transition” away from the highest risk pesticides.	Work with our agricultural partners to implement projects to prevent/reduce pesticide pollution or adopt alternatives to highest risk pesticides.	# of agricultural partnership projects implemented.  # of liaison activities conducted related to: (1) pesticide use restrictions resulting from the Food Quality Protection Act; and (2) ecologically sound pest management practices.

Strategies	Tools & Programs	Measures & Targets
Ensure states implement the Worker Protection Standard programs.	Support States' programs for worker safety-worker protection and applicator certification and training  Participate in the Certification, Training, and Assessment Group (CTAG)  Update State Plans	# of state programs # of State Plans updated
Support state efforts to protect groundwater.	Support States' and Tribes' groundwater plans to address water quality issues.	# of final Pesticide Management Plans
Implement pesticide programs in Indian country Build Tribal capacity to implement environmental management programs.	Support the Circuit Rider program  Enforce when necessary and provide technical assistance to Tribes to address pesticide concerns.	# of visits to Reservations.  # of Enforcement actions.  # of tribal projects involved  # of tribes participating or implementing programs
Reduce human health and ecosystem risk from pesticides.	Promote pest management techniques that reduce adverse effects to human health and the environment: continue to support activities related to Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Schools, Children's Initiative, Urban Initiative, and IPM outreach, and partner with universities, commodity groups and others to implement the Region 10 Agriculture Initiative to promote ecologically sensible pest management.  Ensure EPA HQ's registration decisions are implemented at the marketplace and user level through implementation of compliance strategies by States.  Coordinate with States on cooperative agreements: continue to support States' certification and training programs and work with States to ensure that registration actions related to endangered species are carried out.	# of grants issued, total funding awarded, and number of activities performed.  # of liaison activities conducted  # of inspections conducted  # of enforcement actions taken by EPA and States  # of training program cooperative agreements and grants issued.  # of activities performed in Washington for protection of salmon # of cooperative agreements issued supporting States' endangered species programs.

**Sub-objective 4.1.2 License Pesticides Meeting Safety Standards.** Through 2008, protect human health, communities and ecosystems from pests and disease by ensuring the availability of pesticides, including public health pesticides and antimicrobial products, that meet the latest safety standards.

**Current State/Major Problems to Be Addressed:** Most of the strategic targets for these two sub-objectives deal with the registration of pesticides. Region 10 has very little direct participation in

meeting these targets. The Region does contribute to protecting endangered and threatened species (second target, sub-objective 4.1.1); reducing the mortality of non-targeted wildlife (third target, sub-objective 4.1.1); and increasing acre treatments using reduced risk pesticides (first target, sub-objective 4.1.2). The Region also contributes to the implementation of a National Pesticide Program through its Pesticide Enforcement Program and by working with the States and Tribes to implement programs for Certification and Training, Worker Protection, Water Quality, Endangered Species and the Strategic Agriculture Initiative.

**Strategy Highlights:** Region 10 will support these two sub-objectives by enforcing FIFRA requirements and employing non-regulatory measures such as promoting the use of reduced risk pesticides and IPM in agricultural and urban settings, conducting outreach and technical assistance and establishing partnerships. Region 10 will continue to support the national program by working with the states and Tribes to implement strong programs in enforcement, Certification and Training, Worker Protection, Water Quality, Endangered Species and the Strategic Agriculture Initiative.

Region 10 has place based staff working and living in targeted communities to work cooperatively with local partners to implement less risky environmental protection approaches.

Region 10 implements its Pesticide Program through Cooperative Agreements with the states and Tribes and through the strategies listed below. Our measures of progress our the reports submitted by the States and Tribes for their Cooperative Agreements and the measures listed below.

Strategies	Tools & Programs	Measures & Targets
Implement agricultural partnership projects that demonstrate “reasonable transition” away from the highest risk pesticides.	Strategic Agricultural Initiative;  Outreach/liaison activities	4 to 6 agricultural partnership projects;  Number of activities supporting pesticide use restrictions resulting from the Food Quality Protection Act; and ecologically sound pest management practices.
Promote pest management techniques that reduce adverse effects to human health and the environment and promote ecologically sensible pest management.	IPM in Schools, Children’s Initiative, Urban Initiative, and IPM outreach	Number of grants issued, and number of activities performed related to IPM and environmentally sensible pest management.
Protect water quality from pesticides.	Provide support to States and Tribes to develop ground water plans.	Final generic Pesticide Management Plans.
Work to ensure that registration decisions are implemented at the marketplace and user level	EPA Compliance/Enforcement Program,  State and Tribal Cooperative Agreements	Number of inspections conducted; Number of enforcement actions taken; Issuance of State/Tribal Agreements

Strategies	Tools & Programs	Measures & Targets
Work to ensure that pesticide applicators are properly trained to apply restricted use pesticides.	Provide support to States and Tribes to implement Certification and Training Programs.	Number of cooperative agreements and grants issued to support training programs; number of activities performed related to Certification and Training.
Work to ensure that agricultural workers are protected from adverse impacts of pesticide use.	Provide support to States and Tribes to implement Worker Protection Programs.	Number of cooperative agreements issued to support Worker Protection; number of activities performed related to Worker Protection.
Work to ensure that endangered species are protected from adverse impacts of pesticide use.	Provide support to States and Tribes to implement Endangered Species Protection Programs.	Number of cooperative agreements issued to support endangered species; number of activities performed related to endangered species.

*Note: Number of activities refers to speeches, workshops, tours, news letters, etc used to promote environmentally sound pest management.*

**Sub-objective 4.1.3: Reduce Chemical and Biological Risks.** Through 2008, prevent and reduce chemical and biological organism risks to humans, communities and ecosystems.

**Current State / Major Problems to be Addressed:** EPA Region 10 has one delegated state Lead Based Paint Training and Certification Program. Region 10 will work with WA & ID to accept delegation of Lead Based Paint Training and Certification Program. Our goal is to increase the number of states with full delegation of Lead Program. Region 10 will be enforcing the real estate disclosure rule, pre-renovation rule and certification rule.

The PCB program continues progress in reducing the risk of PCBs and addressing the highest risk areas. One of Region 10's focus areas continues to be inspecting PCB disposal and commercial storage facilities, federal facilities, mines, wood products mills; facilities known to have PCB transformers and/or PCB large capacitors remaining in service; facilities regulated under high efficiency boilers and scrap metal recovery ovens and smelters; e-commerce and auction houses for improper sale/storage of regulated equipment; school districts; and hospitals. We will continue to follow up on tips and complaints. An important inspection component is to identify environmental justice issues. The EJ component includes PCB inspections and integration of the national and regional PBT strategy. The inspection level continues at 30-40 inspections for FY 2004 and FY 2005. We will provide outreach and compliance assistance to the regulated community in priority target areas, priority groups of difficult-to-reach users, and potential users of PCB equipment. We will also develop educational materials as needed for the public and regulated community that address changes in the regulations.

**Strategy Highlights:** The Region 10 PCB Program will utilize compliance assistance and enforcement to the regulated community, private, public and rural electrical utilities. The Region 10 PCB Program will integrate both the OPPT National Program Chemicals as well as the OECA Enforcement & Compliance Assurance Priorities. The PCB Program will continue to inspect facilities that store, use, and dispose of PCBs, encourage facilities to pursue innovative approaches for voluntary decommissioning/accelerated reduction of PCB electrical equipment. The Region 10 Program will continue to utilize Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) in TSCA PCB case settlements. The Region 10 PCB program will pursue risk reduction through both PCB Remediation plan

review/implementation oversight as well as continued integration of PCB risk-based storage and disposal approvals.

**Relation to Regional Priorities:** Region 10's dedication to the Six Priorities is interwoven with our work to support the national goals and commitments. For example, during risk assessments of subsistence consumption by Tribes in Columbia River Basin, higher than normal levels of PCBs were found in fish and shellfish. In response, the Office of Waste and Chemicals Management (OWCM) focused 45 inspections on dams and utilities in the Columbia River Basin. OWCM also sought to work with public utilities in the Basin to voluntary decommission PCB transformers. This issue unites the goals of protecting ecosystems, environmental justice issues for tribes, and toxics reduction, and is just one example of how Region 10 seeks to promote both our regional Six Priorities and the national goals.

This strategy works in conjunction with the Regional Coeur d'Alene Plan to reduce childhood lead poisoning in that region, which has historically had some of the highest recorded lead levels in children.

Strategies	Tools & Programs	Measures & Targets
Reduce incidence of childhood lead poisoning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect children against lead hazards in homes and child-occupied facilities through Real Estate Disclosure Rule (1018); Lead-Based Paint Pre-Renovation Education Rule; Training and Certification Program for Lead Based Paint Activities.</li> <li>• Build state capacity to reduce risk from exposure to lead Work with WA, ID, &amp; AK to accept delegation of Lead Based Paint Training and Certification Program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspections and enforcement in high risk areas</li> <li>• Increase # of states with full delegation of Lead Program</li> </ul>
Address the highest PCB risk areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilize compliance assistance to the regulated community, private, public and rural electrical utilities.</li> <li>• Continue to inspect facilities that store, use, and dispose of PCBs.</li> <li>• Encourage facilities to pursue voluntary decommissioning/accelerated reduction of PCB electrical equipment and will utilize Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) in TSCA PCB Case settlement.</li> <li>• PCB sources into Puget Sound – evaluate and enforce proper handling and disposal</li> </ul>	<p>Region 10 targets will remain at 353 PCB transformers and 4,726,468 kgs of PCBs disposed of in FY 2004 and FY2005.</p> <p>The Region 10 PCB Program will conduct 30-40 PCB inspections in both FY 2004-2005.</p>

**Sub-objective 4.1.4: Reduce Risks at Facilities.** Through 2008, protect human health, communities, and ecosystems from chemical risks and releases through facility risk reduction efforts and building community infrastructure.

**Current State / Major Problems to be Addressed:** The major problems that need to be addressed to meet the strategic goals are resources and training. The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) program needs more resources to adequately implement and enforce the AHERA and MAP regulations. The Asbestos staff need training on the Worker Protection Rule to be able to give adequate technical and compliance assistance to the regulated community.

Strategies	Tools & Programs	Measures & Targets
Risk Management Plans		
Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC)		
AHERA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase outreach to schools</li> <li>• Increase outreach to training providers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distribute Asbestos Newsletter semiannually; provide technical and compliance assistance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # Region 10 school districts</li> <li>• # Region 10 training providers</li> </ul>

**Objective 4.2: Communities.** Sustain, clean up, and restore communities and the ecological systems that support them.

**Sub-objective 4.2.1: Sustain Community Health.** By 2008, 220 U.S. communities, working with EPA, will adopt and begin to implement environmental planning and management processes for sustaining local ecosystems and pursuing ecologically compatible development. (2002 baseline of 0 communities)

**Current State / Major Problems to be Addressed:** Environmental assessments typically are conducted by multiple federal, state, and local planning entities, working at different scales, with varying mandates and levels of expertise. Because local watershed councils are often the ones to develop watershed assessments, they, in particular, benefit from a single, holistic watershed assessment approach to set priorities and develop appropriate, integrated action plans.

Endangered Species Act issues, primarily focusing on salmon recovery, have affected many communities. Local planning agencies have been charged with ensuring that their plans comply with the overall strategy for salmon recovery. Opportunities exist for EPA to participate through direct technical assistance, funding, and coordination with Clean Water Act programs.

Smart Growth, Alternative Futures, and other forms of pro-active planning are particularly critical for sustaining community health in areas of the region where rapid growth is occurring/

**Strategy Highlights:** In order to provide expertise at the local level, R10 has “place based staff” located in strategically targeted communities throughout the region. Their specific mission is to foster effective community involvement in order to comprehensively address environmental problems at the local level. They also act as the agency’s eyes and ears in the field, and ensure that the regional office is connected to the needs of communities throughout the region. They frequently help develop local, geographically centered watershed/airshed level goals, and provide guidance for implementing recovery and preservation measures.

Region 10 tribes are dependent on salmon and other native species to maintain cultural integrity. Region 10 has developed government to government relationships with the tribes, and includes Tribal concerns in regional decision-making. In addition, Region 10 is intent on meeting its trust responsibility to tribes, and aids tribes by providing technical assistance and funding.

Regional Geographic Initiative (RGI) funding is being used to foster community based environmental protection. We measure progress by the ability of RGI to foster creative, replicable solutions to environmental problems. We strive to align RGI proposal evaluation criteria to focus on regionally targeted environmental problem areas.

**Relation to Regional Priorities:**

**Regional Priority: Columbia Basin** - The goal of the priority plan is to protect public health and aid in the recovery of Pacific salmon by reducing sources of contamination and improving water and habitat quality in or near waters of the Columbia River Basin. Potentially this could be designated as another national geographic priority like the Great Lakes or Chesapeake Bay.

**Regional Priority: Coeur d'Alene** - The goal in the Coeur d'Alene watershed is to prevent current and future exposures to toxic metals that have been released from the mining industry.

**Region 10s Sector Approach** brings broad holistic approaches to specific community problems. **Salmon Protection and Recovery:** Region 10 is coordinating its programmatic tools that focus on water quality and watershed health, and is bringing these tools to the table at other Federal, state and local communities that are responsible for salmon recovery. **Forestry:** Forest resource management in R10 has a direct effect on watershed health and water quality. R10 is invested in three major projects to improve water quality: the Northwest Forest Plan, the Interior Columbia Basin Strategy for revising Forest Service and BLM resource management plans, and the Oregon Forest Plan revisions. **Agriculture:** R10 has developed a strategic plan that identifies specific environmental concerns related to agriculture which will be addressed by EPA Region 10 over the next three to five years. **Mining:** R10's mining strategy covers both existing and abandoned mines. Close cross-program coordination is critical between the Office of Water, which regulates new and existing mines, and the Environmental Cleanup Office, which oversees abandoned mine cleanup. Rising metals prices, new discoveries of major ore bodies in Alaska and Idaho, and a recognition of the extremely high costs of cleaning up mine sites, reinforces the need to assure new mines are properly designed, permitted and bonded. **Oil and Gas:** R 10 has embarked on a major Oil and Gas Initiative aimed at expediting the permitting process, involving communities (particularly North Slope Native Alaskans) in permit review, ensuring the preservation of native cultures, and ensuring strong environmental protection.

Strategies	Tools & Programs	Measures & Targets
Promote Smart Growth Tools through outreach, workshops, etc	National Estuary Program, Geographic Initiative Funding, Watershed Initiative Funding, Place Based Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of cooperative agreements and grants issued to support smart growth;</li> <li>• Number of activities performed related to Smart Growth.</li> </ul>
Fund communities to perform Alternative Futures analyses	National Estuary Program, Geographic Initiative Funding, Watershed Initiative Funding.	Number of communities conducting Alternative Futures Analyses
Work with Federal Agencies to promote Smart Growth	National Environmental Policy Act,	Number of EIS reviews that address smart growth
Implement Regional Mining Strategy regarding new mine projects	EIS preparation for new sources: lead agency or cooperating agency; EIS reviews; 402 permit issuance; 404 reviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of EIS as lead agency</li> <li>• # of EIS as cooperating agency</li> <li>• # EIS reviews</li> <li>• # new source NPDES permits</li> <li>• new mine 404 reviews</li> <li>• adequate bonding</li> </ul>
Consolidate regional EPA funding mechanisms to ensure funding of high priority and scientifically based projects.	CWSRF, 319, RGI, Farm Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of non-point source projects funded through CWSRF</li> <li>• # of funding workshops delivered</li> </ul>
Develop practical generic financial templates for watershed groups to use	Contract with Environmental Finance Center in Boise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of sector templates developed</li> <li>• # of funding workshops delivered</li> </ul>
Develop practical science based tools for watershed groups to use	Technical assistance; Place Based Staff	a basic, web based how-to guide or template that brings together scientific information to establish the bar for best available watershed science and describes how to utilize BAS in watershed planning while connecting to TMDL and ESA requirements.
Implement Regional Mining Strategy regarding abandoned mine clean-up	preliminary assessments and site investigations; removal actions; RI/FS; complete data base of abandoned mines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # abandoned mines assessed</li> <li>• # removal actions</li> <li>• # states completing priority lists</li> </ul>

Strategies	Tools & Programs	Measures & Targets
Implement Forestry Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure adequate riparian, fishery, and watershed protection on R10 forest and range land.</li> <li>-Participate on interagency executive groups to ensure that policies, direction, and natural resource management budgets are focused on watershed protection, restoration, and monitoring;</li> <li>- provide leadership to provincial and watershed based groups to ensure high priority watershed protection and restoration efforts are undertaken;</li> <li>- utilize NEPA/309 reviews to ensure that land management plans and that timber and rangeland projects adequately protect water quality and fish and wildlife resources;</li> <li>- develop partnerships with the Forest Service and BLM to assist in the development and implementation of TMDLs;</li> <li>- support interagency monitoring efforts;</li> <li>- review and comment on state rule makings and plans that apply to private forest lands to ensure consistency with the CWA and CZARA.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- consistent aquatic conservation strategies protective of water quality and species adopted and maintained for federal lands</li> <li>- # high quality land or water acquisitions</li> <li>-# high priority restoration projects in basins with 303(d) listed waters are undertaken with OWEB grants in OR;</li> <li>- review and provide input on Forest Service/BLM land management plan and project EISs to ensure adequate WQ/species protection;</li> </ul>
Conduct on-the-ground assessments while building local capacity	Technical assistance and funding; Place Based Staff	# of web-based analyses from stream reach data at the watershed level.
TRI: Compliance assistance outreach	Conduct classroom or web-based training to increase the understanding of TRI reporting requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- more reliable TRI data</li> <li>- promote electronic reporting</li> </ul>
TRI: Promote TRI data use and facilitate communication	Act as regional consultant regarding uses and limitations of data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-better understanding and awareness of TRI data.</li> <li>- help Region 10 state environmental programs develop context documents</li> </ul>

**Sub-objective 4.2.2: Restore Community Health.** Through 2008, facilitate the restoration of communities impacted by environmental problems. By 2008, increase by 50 percent the number of communities, working with EPA, that have addressed disproportionate environmental impacts and risks through comprehensive, integrated planning and environmental management, compared to the 2002 baseline of 30 communities.

**Current State / Major Problems to be Addressed:** Most of the strategic targets for these two sub-objectives deal with the registration of pesticides. Region 10 has very little direct participation in meeting these targets. The Region does contribute to protecting endangered and threatened species (second target, sub-objective 4.1.1); reducing the mortality of non-targeted wildlife (third target, sub-objective 4.1.1); and increasing acre treatments using reduced risk pesticides (first target, sub-objective 4.1.2). The Region also contributes to the implementation of a National Pesticide Program through its Pesticide Enforcement Program and by working with the States and Tribes to implement programs for Certification and Training, Worker Protection, Water Quality, Endangered Species and the Strategic Agriculture Initiative.

**Strategy Highlights:** Region 10 will support these two sub-objectives by enforcing FIFRA requirements and employing non-regulatory measures such as promoting the use of reduced risk pesticides and IPM in agricultural and urban settings, conducting outreach and technical assistance and establishing partnerships. Region 10 will continue to support the national program by working with the states and Tribes to implement strong programs in enforcement, Certification and Training, Worker Protection, Water Quality, Endangered Species and the Strategic Agriculture Initiative.

Region 10 has place based staff working and living in targeted communities to work cooperatively with local partners to implement less risky environmental protection approaches.

**Relation to Regional Priorities:** This sub-objective relates to each of Region 10's Six Priorities. Region 10 has focused on an ecosystem approach to encourage better resource protection and better planning.

In particular, the goal in the Coeur d'Alene Basin Regional priority is to prevent current and future exposures to toxic metals that have been released historically from the mining industry. R10's approach has been to directly use multi-program authorities (e.g., TMDLs, Superfund removal and remedial authorities) and partner with state and tribal authorities to plan and implement cleanup (see Goal 3).

Strategies	Tools & Programs	Measures & Targets
Ensure comprehensive outreach to communities exposed to disproportionate risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outreach Unit Staff</li> <li>• Superfund TAG Grants</li> <li>• Spanish language translator for fact sheets.</li> <li>• Translators for other languages.</li> <li>• Alaska/Arctic Strategy Team</li> <li>• Tribal Office</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of TAG grants</li> <li>• # of foreign language fact sheets.</li> <li>• # of communities targeted for high priority or uniquely targeted outreach</li> </ul>
Determine the feasibility of using economic incentives to promote better land and water use practices	Technical staff	Workgroup to convene external partners to develop feasible options and provide forum for dissemination of incentive information
Ensure that money continues to flow to watershed groups by increasing political support for watershed work	Regional Geographic Initiative, Technical staff, Outreach staff	# of meetings with congressional staff to describe role of grants in watershed improvement

Strategies	Tools & Programs	Measures & Targets
<b>Environmental Justice:</b> Build the capacity of Region 10 staff and community organizations to identify environmental justice issues and concerns, and to do EJ analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental Justice Small Grants, Environmental Justice Workshops, Environmental Justice job-specific training</li> <li>Listening Sessions (at least one per State per year)</li> </ul>	Train community/grassroots organizations, local governmental agencies and all Region 10 staff on Environmental Justice issues and analysis
<b>Environmental Justice:</b> Develop tools to assist users in EJ analysis	web tools, lending library, outreach, internal and external EJ training	Develop easy-to-use, comprehensive web presence that assists users in determining EJ issues
<b>Environmental Justice:</b> Review of all EPA activities for EJ issues; review of other federal agencies EJ analyses; review of issues impacting EJ communities to ensure NEPA and other requirements are met.	Review of NEPA EISs, Environmental Assessments, Records of Decision, scopes of work, contracts and other instruments where EJ impacts are possible.	Region 10 Staff is fully trained in EJ analysis and reviews all Region 10 activities with EJ concerns in mind. States have EJ language in PPAs, MOAs, MOUs, etc. as appropriate to advance EJ analysis of all environmental activities.

Unique Regional Issues / Problems	Tools & Programs	Measures & Targets
Greatest number of federally-recognized Native American Tribes of all Regions	Increased coordination between the Tribal Office and EJ Program enables EPA to work collaboratively with all tribes	EJ and EJ tribal issues are fully integrated into all activities by Region 10 and the four States
Size of Alaska and distance between villages	focused travel funding for EPA to work directly with Tribes and villages	Region 10 establishes stronger relationships with Alaska Native Tribes, Tribal Nations, Native Corporations and tribal villages
States without EJ Programs or with weak EJ programs	All Region 10 Programs working with the EJ Coordinator to help States develop their EJ programs	EJ programs exist or are stronger than prior to Region 10 focus in 2003-2008

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**Sub-objective 4.2.3 Assess and Clean Up Brownfields:** By 2008, provide funding to eligible grant recipients, and, working with our state and tribal partners, assess and promote the cleanup and reuse of 9,200 brownfields properties, leveraging 33,700 jobs and \$10.2 billion in cleanup/redevelopment funding.

**Current State / Major Problems to be Addressed:** Region 10's Brownfields (BF) universe and issues are somewhat different from other regions. Region 10 is less urbanized and has a shorter history of the type of land use and industrial activity typically associated with BF in the East and Midwest. Compared to the national average and most other regions, Region 10 has fewer abandoned or underutilized urban/industrial contaminated properties and a higher percentage of small rural communities with BF, many of which are related to logging, timber and mining operations. Region 10 also has a high percentage of Tribal communities, including many in Alaska which face particularly challenging conditions.

As a result, our brownfields work will focus on a range of sites and beneficial reuse options. Much of the emphasis of Federal, State, Tribal and local Brownfields efforts is and will be on commercial/industrial/economic reuse, but we find and expect less large-scale redevelopment and somewhat greater emphasis on open space/recreational/subsistence uses than might be the case in some of the eastern regions.

Region 10 has more areas affected by Endangered Species Act listings than other regions. Since regional development has tended to cluster along water bodies and waterways, which also tend to support the listed and threatened species, the potential impact on such species is higher than normal.

Finally, the new Brownfields law prohibits EPA from giving CERCLA 104(k) Brownfields Grants to Alaska tribes, thus denying many needy communities access to EPA's strongest tools for addressing Brownfields.

**Strategy Highlights:**

Region 10 will continue to provide grants to states and Tribes to establish BF programs. We will provide job training grants to address specific BF projects and build local capacity for restoration and development. We will provide technical support to partners as they address Brownfields.

Strategies	Tools & Programs	Measures & Targets
Provide grants and assistance to States and Tribes to establish and enhance their response programs	CERCLA Section 128 grants to States and Tribes	# of grants to states and Tribes  Amount of funds to States and Tribes
Provide BF assessment, cleanup, revolving loan fund and job training grants to address specific Brownfields and build local capacity for restoration and redevelopment of brownfields	CERCLA 104(k) brownfields Grants for BF site assessment and cleanup; BF Job training grants	# of BF assessment and cleanup grants awarded  # Job training grants awarded, # of subgrants/loans made  Acres of land returned to beneficial use
Provide technical assistance and links to partners seeking to address BFs, especially to rural and tribal communities	Targeted Brownfields Assessments for communities; Technical assistance from EPA Brownfields Program/staff	# of Brownfields TBAs completed # of rural and tribal communities assisted
Outreach a)to encourage eligible entities to apply for brownfields grants, and b) help public and private stakeholders effectively address BFs	EPA Brownfields Program/staff	# of outreach or education events

Unique Regional Issues / Problems	Tools & Programs	Measures & Targets
Higher percentage of rural and tribal brownfields	Summary information on approaches to rural and tribal Bfs [most current info focuses on urban/industrial]	Increase number of rural and tribal grant recipients each year, resulting in increased number of acres of land returned to beneficial use
Higher % of stakeholders who want to return brownfields to open space or subsistence use [which will make it harder to help reach goals related to \$s invested and jobs created]	More resources designed to help in such situations	Acres of land returned to conditions which support safe use for open space, recreation, and/or subsistence
ESA	Funding for cooperative agreements with NMFS and USF&W to get their help to us & stakeholders	Reduction in impacts to threatened or endangered species
Prohibition on Subtitle A grants to Alaska Tribes	Change in statute or additional opportunity for Alaska tribes	Grants and other assistance to Alaska tribes

**Objective 4.3: Ecosystems.** Protect, sustain, and restore the health of natural habitats and ecosystems.

**Sub-objective 4.3.1: Protect and Restore Ecosystems.** Facilitate the ecosystem-scale protection and restoration of natural areas.

**Current State / Major Problems to be Addressed:** Urbanization, habitat loss, endangered species issues, salmon recovery, and human health are all of concern for our National Estuary Program (NEP) efforts. Smart Growth, Alternative Futures and other components of Healthy Communities (Objective 4.2) are integrated into our NEP efforts. Another major emphasis is on folding CWA requirements into salmon recovery plans aimed at providing a more streamlined approach to water quality. Recognizing that salmon recovery is dependent on clean water, we are working toward assuring that clean water goals are clearly articulated and disseminated to the groups working on salmon recovery plans.

In Region 10 Ecosystem Scale Protection and Restoration goes far beyond the current national Strategic Targets that focus on NEP. NEP is one mechanism used to address the Regional concerns. The NEP provides the region with well funded, well monitored projects that can be replicated in other parts of the region.

**Strategy Highlights:**

The NEP generally follows the national program, with special emphasis on 1) partnering with other agencies to incorporate Clean Water Act requirements into ESA required salmon recovery plans, 2) working closely with NOAA to ensure that CZARA programs are rigorous enough to meet the intent of CZARA (meeting water quality standards), 3) increasing the number of TMDLs developed, approved, and implemented, 4) close coordination of dredging activities and critical Superfund cleanups (Portland Harbor, Duwamish Waterway) in affected NEP estuaries. Areas affected by ESA include, but are not limited to, the three estuaries that are part of the National Estuary Program.

Strategies	Tools & Programs	Measures & Targets
Assess environmental conditions of NEPs to support CCMP implementation	NEP, technical staff	% of watersheds in NEP areas that have complete watershed assessments
Link CZARA program measures to overall non-point source reduction goals (including NEP goals)	Use partnership with states to implement CZARA BMPs across the broader landscape of each state	Approve three state CZARA programs by 2004

**Sub-objective 4.3.2: Increase Wetlands.** By 2008, working with partners, achieve a net increase of 400,000 acres of wetlands with additional focus on biological and functional measures. (2002 Baseline: annual net loss of an estimated 58,500 acres)

**Strategic Targets:**

Annually, beginning in FY 04 and in partnership with the Corps of Engineers and States, achieve no net loss of wetlands in the Clean Water Act Section 404 regulatory program..

By 2006 and each year thereafter, in partnership with the Corps of Engineers and States, obtain a net increase no overall net loss in wetland function based on quantifying functions gained and lost through mitigation for authorized wetlands impacts.

**Current State/Major Problems to Be Addressed:** Continued loss of wetlands in and outside of the regulatory framework due to continuing (sub)urbanization with attendant infrastructure improvements.. This is in addition to the loss of 30 to 50% of historic wetlands in Idaho, Oregon and Washington. Endangered Species concerns are dominant with many species dependent on wetlands for part of their life cycle.

**Strategy Highlights:** Generally follows national program, with special emphasis on developing strategies with states for protecting isolated wetlands. In addition, Region 10 places an emphasis on enforcement, large project review and the development of mitigation banks.

Key elements include: Assisting with 404 Program Assumption in Oregon; Development of State Programmatic and Regional Permits; Investments in Mitigation Banks and Watershed Planning;

Strategies	Tools & Programs	Measures & Targets
Reduce overall rate of loss of wetlands and other aquatic resources in Region	404 Permit Review and Enforcement  NEPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of 404 Permits Issued which incorporate EPA requested changes and Acres affected</li> <li>• # of EPA Enforcement Actions resulting in restoration including Supplemental Environmental projects and Acres affected</li> <li>• Establish tracking of # of projects with no net loss of wetlands by 2005 (COE &amp; EPA)</li> </ul>

Strategies	Tools & Programs	Measures & Targets
Reduce overall rate of loss of wetlands and other aquatic resources in Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of Mitigation Banks</li>   <li>• Grants, Technical Assistance, permit requirements..</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # Mitigation banks established and in progress (States &amp; EPA)</li> <li>• Contribute to establishing 4 new mitigation banks by 2006</li> <li>• # Acres of banked aquatic resources enhanced, restored, created and preserved annually (EPA &amp; Partners)</li> <li>• Bank 500 acres Regionally by July, 2006</li> <li>• % of grants achieving documented environmental results.</li> <li>• % of grants monitoring environmental results.</li> </ul>
Reduce overall rate of loss of wetlands and other aquatic resources in Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State and Tribal grants for watershed and wetlands protection</li>   <li>• Superfund, RGI, NEP, CZARA, 319, CWSRF</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # and acreage of non-bank restoration projects established and underway</li> <li>• # of acres of aquatic resources restored through Natural Resource Damage Assessments</li> <li>• Fully integrate wetlands project reporting from Superfund, RGI, NEP, CZARA, 319, CWSRF by 2006</li> </ul>
Protect Isolated Waters (Vulnerable Wetlands)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 404 Grant Program; Working with Corps and States on MOAs to increase protection.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of projects (eventually including acreage) funded which protect isolated waters (COE)</li> <li>• Acreage of isolated waters lost due to the loss of federal protection resulting from SWANCC decision (COE)</li> <li>• Continuous reduction of annual rate of loss of isolated wetlands in Region. (COE)</li> </ul>

**Objective 4.4: Enhance Science and Research.** Through 2008, provide a sound scientific foundation for EPA's goal of protecting, sustaining and restoring the health of people, communities, and ecosystems by conducting leading-edge research and developing a better understanding and characterization of environmental outcomes under Goal 4.

**Sub-objective 4.4.1: Apply the Best Available Science.** Through 2008, identify and synthesize the best available scientific information, models, methods and analyses to support Agency guidance and policy decisions related to the health of people, communities, and ecosystems.

Strategies	Tools & Programs	Measures &Targets
<p>Determine if non-target pesticide drift from nurseries may impact the health of nearby residents in Oregon's Carpenter Lane neighborhood.</p>	<p>Observations, data collection, and evaluation will be conducted in the Carpenter Lane area of Gresham, Oregon. Baseline sampling is tentatively scheduled in February and November, 2003 (round 1) and March through October, 2003 (round 2); samples will be collected on a monthly basis. The sample media is expected to consist of soil, vegetation, surface water, ground water, indoor air, wipes, and possibly ambient air.</p>	<p>Reduce/eliminate exposure to affected population. Evaluate alternatives to use of pesticides.</p> <p>This work will be effective in achieving healthy communities where pesticides were identified as one of the major contributors to human health risks.</p>
<p>Find commercial use and added value for straw wastes from grass seed and wheat in an effort to reduce the need for agricultural burning.</p>	<p>Evaluate economically sensible alternatives to agricultural burning of straw, e.g., utilizing wheat straw in the manufacture of particle board and moldings, and straw from grass seed exported as animal feed.</p>	<p>Eliminate impacts to humans and affected media from the effects of agricultural burning. Identify and implement value-added processes that are economically beneficial alternatives to burning.</p>
<p>Implement QA guidance documents for preparing state pesticide QA program plans and quality assurance project plans. These documents will continue to aid in the development of credible pesticide QA programs and improved data quality for pesticide monitoring and measurement projects.</p>	<p>QA guidance documents were developed for preparing State Pesticide QA Program Plans and Quality Assurance Project Plans.</p>	<p>Establish detailed and uniform policy and guidance for the expeditious preparation of both state QA program and project plans. Ensure significant resource savings to HQ and the regions results from elimination of redundant plan preparation and review efforts.</p>