



Developing a Nonpoint Source Assessment Report and Management Plan

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Clean Water Act §319: Funding Eligibility Requirements

- Be approved for Treatment in a Similar Manner as a State (TAS) in accordance with CWA section 518(e)
- Have an **approved NPS assessment report** in accordance with CWA section 319(a)
- Have an **approved NPS management plan** in accordance with CWA section 319(b)



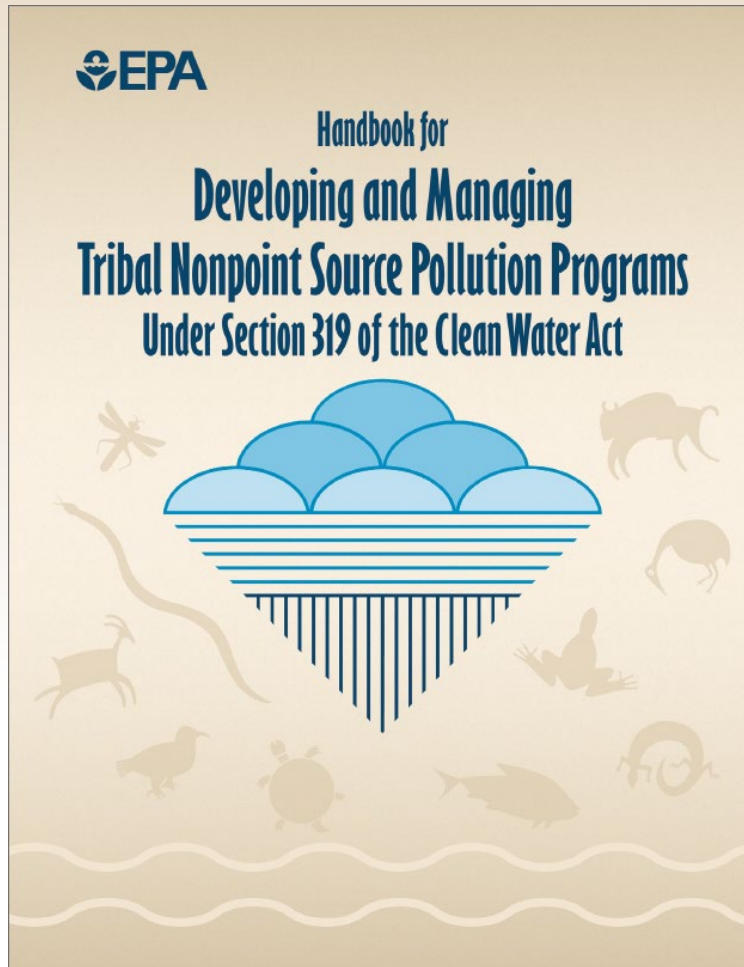
The NPS Assessment Report and Management Plan enable Tribes to...

- Gather water quality assessment information (including CWA 106 monitoring data)
- Summarize land use, socioeconomic information
- Link impairments to NPS pollution causes
- Rank NPS priority waterbodies
- Propose and prioritize management actions
 - Best Management Practices (BMPs)
 - Partnerships with other programs

“Big Picture” Considerations as you develop/update your documents

- The **Assessment Report** and **Management Plan** set the foundation for your NPS program
- Will someone else be able to pick up these documents and understand your program?
- Updates: what’s changed since you developed the plans?
- Trouble targeting pollution due to limited resources? Program plan should help prioritize

NPS Planning Handbook



- Use the [NPS Planning Handbook](#) as your guide to develop your NPS program
- Refer to your EPA-Approved NPS Assessment Report & Management Plan for activities to fund
- Work with your Project Officer for more assistance

Resources available at:

<https://www.epa.gov/nps/tribal>

What is a NPS Assessment Report

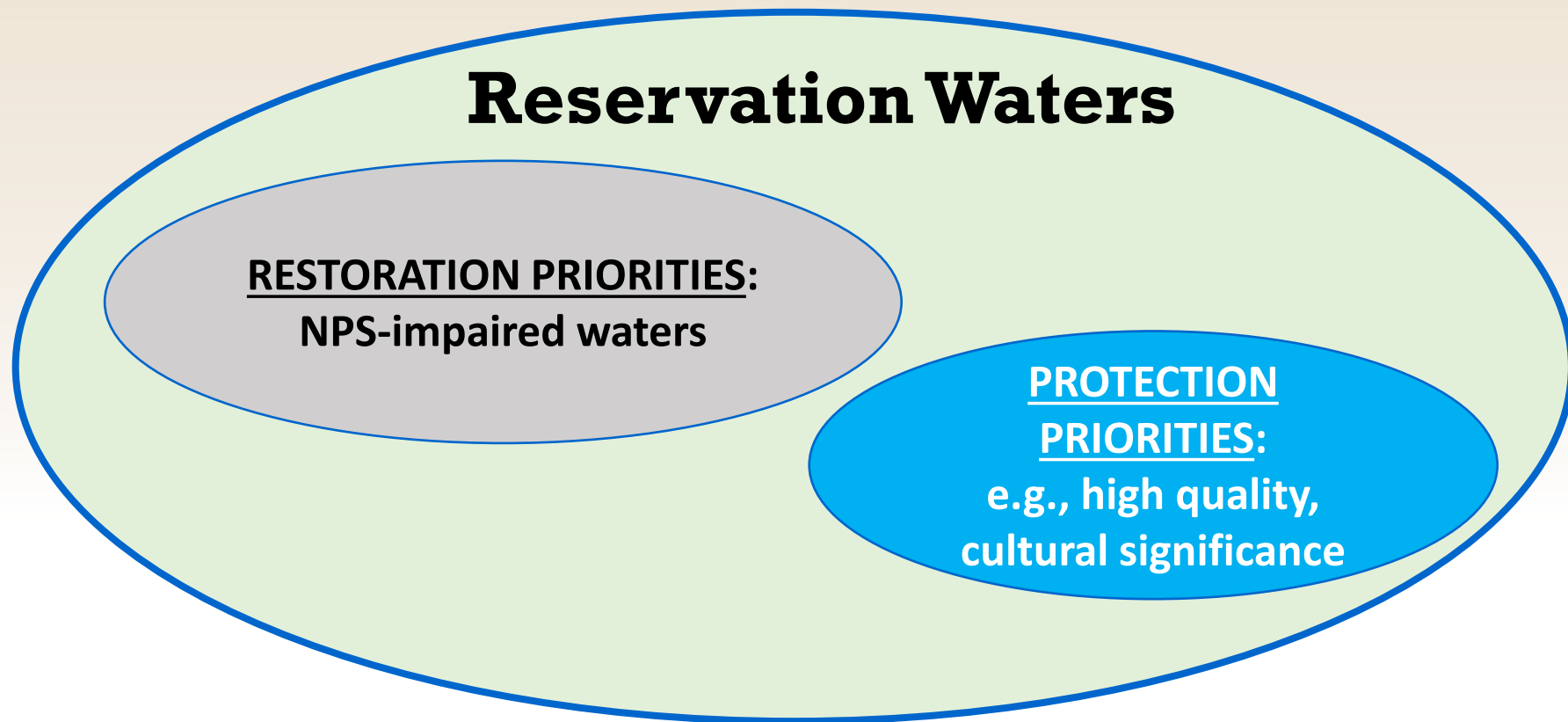
A comprehensive technical summary of the condition of tribal water resources.

A tool to help identify:

- Water quality problems
- Sources of NPS pollution
- Existing Best Management Practices (BMPs)
- Programs and methods to control NPS pollution



The Assessment Report helps you identify NPS program priorities



Tribal NPS Assessment Report and Management Plan

How do you make these documents work for you?

- Plan holistically
 - What do you want to do beyond what Section 319 grants can pay for?
 - What other funding sources are available? Federal? State? Private?
 - What waters are most important to you?
 - How else should you consider the whole watershed?
- How can you reduce/minimize duplication of effort?
 - Integrated Resource Management Plans, NRCS Conservation Management Plans, other?
- Focus on parts of the report that help you

Tribal NPS Assessment Report

1. Identify waters that cannot be expected to attain or maintain Tribal water quality standards/goals without the control of NPS pollution.
2. Identify NPS pollution categories and subcategories contributing to water quality problems for waters.
3. Describe how Tribe will ID the BMPs needed to control each identified NPS pollution source and how Tribe will use the BMPs.
4. Describe existing Tribal, state, federal, and other programs that could provide funding or technical assistance for NPS work on Tribal lands.

Tribal NPS Assessment Report

Statute Connections:

1. ID Waters with NPS Problems

2. NPS Categories/Subcategories

3. Which BMPs & How

4. Funding & Technical Assistance

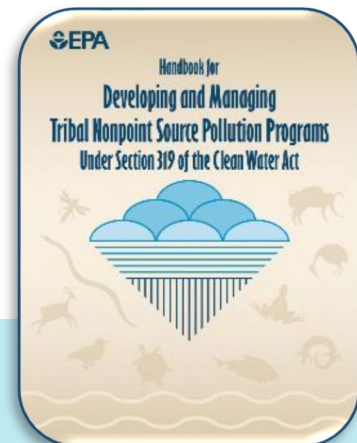
Suggested Contents:

- Cover Page
- Table of Contents
- Text (Body of the Report)
 - Overview
 - Introduction
 - Methodology
 - Land Use Summary
 - Surface and Ground Water Quality
 - Results
 - Discussion
- Selection of BMPs
- NPS Control Programs
- References
- Appendices
- Acronyms of Abbreviations

Programmatic Connections:

QAPP and WQ
Assessment Reports

Wetland
Program Plan



Introduction to the NPS Management Plan

- A multiyear strategy document designed to bring NPS pollution under control
- Describes how the Tribe intends to correct or prevent existing or potential NPS problems identified in the Assessment Report
- Identifies reservation-wide and watershed-level projects to implement management practices for pollution prevention

Tribal NPS Management Plan

Statute Connections:

1. BMPs and NPS Categories

2. Available Programs for Support

3. Milestone Schedule

4. Certification of Authority

5. Potential Funding Sources

6. Review Other Federal Projects

7. Subject Matter Expert List

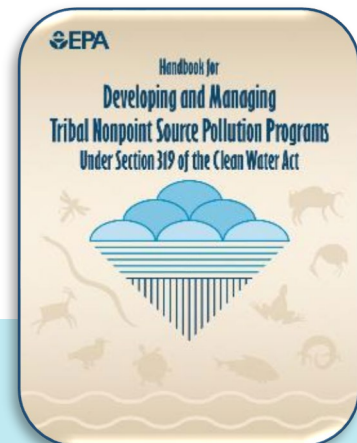
Suggested Contents:

- Cover Page
- Table of Contents
- Text (Body of the Report)
 - Overview
 - Introduction
 - Summary of Tribal Management Program
 - Management Program Plan:
 - Possible BMPs and NPS categories
 - Available Programs for support
 - Available Funding for support
 - List of Local and private experts
 - Milestone Schedule for BMP Implementation
 - Certification of Authority
- References
- Appendices
- Acronyms of Abbreviations

Programmatic Connections:

Environmental
Program
Description

NPS Assessment
Report



Common Tribal Nonpoint Source Eligible Activities



Landslide Restoration, Dry Creek Rancheria



Erosion Control Methods,
Dry Creek Rancheria



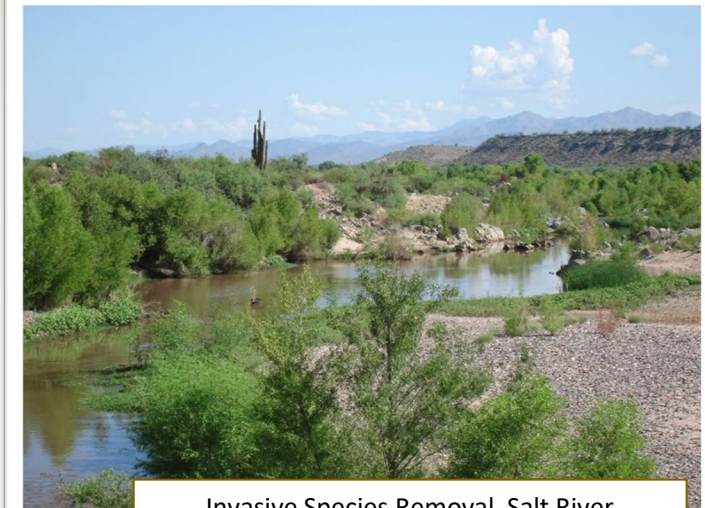
Rain Garden, Pechanga



Post-Wildfire Restoration, Washoe Tribe



Off-site Livestock Watering Systems, Walker River



Invasive Species Removal, Salt River

Tribal NPS Management Plan

The contents of your Management Plan dictate how you spend Section 319 funds:

- What **NPS categories** have you included in the plan?
- What **potential BMPs** have you included for implementation and how are they connected to the listed NPS Categories?
- What is in your 5-year **milestone schedule**?
 - What do you want to achieve over 5 years?
 - Have you built in flexibility in case of emergency or surprise opportunity?
 - Remember to reflect your milestone schedule in your annual workplans

Keeping your milestone schedule, NPS categories, and potential BMPs up to date is essential for making Section 319 funding work for your program

Example NPS Program Milestone Schedule

Table 2. Actions, Outcomes and Timelines for Forestry Projects

Non-Point Source Pollution Category						
Forestry						
Action	5-Year Measurable Outcomes	Timing				
		2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
Forest Roads						
Add forest road condition data to attribute tables in our shared road geodatabases	Continuously updated and shared forest road condition data	•	•	•	•	•
Prioritize forest road work by level of damage	Prioritized list of forest road issues that affect water quality		•		•	
Consult with Forestry and Land Departments on their plans to repair forest roads as needed, including during and after logging activities	Number and length of forest roads repaired during and after tribal logging activities	•	•	•	•	•
Consult with Carlton and St. Louis counties and the MN DNR on their plans to repair forest roads during and after logging activities	Number and length of forest roads repaired during and after county or state logging activities	•	•	•	•	•
Apply for additional funding if needed	Number of funding sources and amount of financial support			•	•	•

Public Notice and Comment

- Work with CWA Project Officer to decide what is appropriate public notice and opportunity for comment
 - Generally, at least 30 days
 - Show that the affected people, groups, govts had an opportunity for input
- Include in both AR and MP a statement that they have provided notice and an opportunity for public comment
 - Include a brief description of the process

Nonpoint Source Assessment Report and Management Plan: FINAL STEPS

- Submit completed NPS Assessment Report and Management Plan to your EPA CWA Project Officer for review and approval
 - Some revisions may be required before approval of document
- Recommend revising and updating your NPS Assessment Report and Management Plan every 5 years (or sooner if major development or new environmental issues has occurred)
 - Use either CWA 106 funds or CWA 319 base funds

Group Exercise

Break into small discussion groups of 8-10 people

Take about 15 minutes to discuss the questions on the
handout as a group



Group Exercise

1. What existing documents in your program can help you determine which waters are most impaired by Nonpoint Source (NPS) Pollution?
2. How can you prioritize which NPS Pollution issues to address first with the resources in your program? Which factors are most important to consider in planning and prioritizing projects?
3. How would you identify who to engage for public notice and comment on your NPS Assessment Report and Management Plan? List some examples of individuals, governments, or organizations you may consider.
4. What would you do if your NPS Management Plan implementation does not go as initially planned due to lack of available funding or other resources?



Questions?

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