

National Wetlands Condition Assessment



Pre-Sampling Preparation



National Aquatic Resources Surveys (NARS)



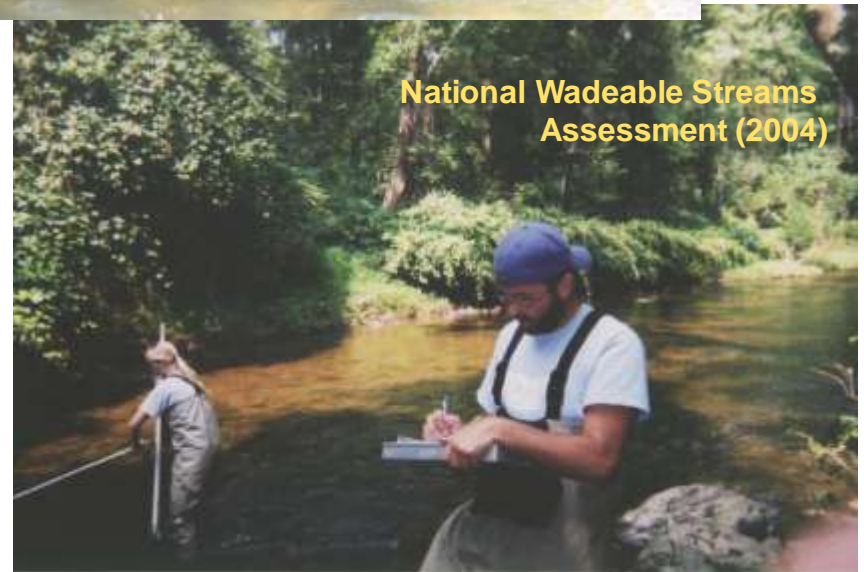
National Coastal Condition Assessment (2010)



National Rivers and Streams Assessment (2008 and 2009)



National Lakes Assessment (2007)



National Wadeable Streams Assessment (2004)



Great Lakes Environmental Center

- ✓ Assistance with Field Operations Manual, Laboratory Operations Manual and Quality Assurance Project Plan
- ✓ Assistance with field training with EPA, States and Tribes
- ✓ Logistical support that provides state, tribal and contractor crews with the needed supplies to complete the field work





Provided by EPA

- ✓ **Site Dossier** of maps for POINTs
- ✓ **Base Kit** of field equipment
- ✓ **Site Kits** of supplies







Site Dossier

- ✓ EPA will generate maps for each POINT as part of a “**site dossier**”
- ✓ The maps show general conditions at each POINT at two scales:
 - “*Image*” map shows an aerial image at a scale appropriate to view wetland and land features present in the assessment and buffer area
 - “*Topographic*” map shows a map at a scale appropriate to view road and topographic features to refine site access



Base Kit

- ✓ EPA will provide a “**base kit**” of specific equipment to each field team (*max. of 2 base kits per state*)
- ✓ The base kit will include:
 - **Sampling equipment:** plant presses, Pulaski, trowel, stadia rod, compass, shovels, core sampler, plastic dipper, etc.
 - **Reusable supplies:** tent stakes, measuring stick, clippers, funnels, squirt bottles, metal spatula, flags, hand pump, etc.
 - **Stock supplies:** flagging tape, syringes, aluminum foil,, Lugol’s solution, membrane filters, filter funnel, etc.



Site Kits

- ✓ EPA will provide “**site kits**” for each site
- ✓ The site kits will include:
 - Field forms & labels
 - Sample jars, vials, and bags
 - Filtering supplies (filtering unit and forceps)
 - FedEx airbills
- ✓ Site kits will be delivered based on the schedule the crew provides before the sampling season begins
- ✓ If you need additional kits, allow one week for the kits to arrive, plus additional time to inventory the kits



Pre-sampling Activities

Pre-sampling activities for field crews include those conducted at the base site (e.g., office, lab, motel, campsite):

- 1) Develop daily itineraries
- 2) Calibrate instruments
- 3) Prepare equipment and supplies

And those conducted at the site prior to sampling:

- 4) Site verification



1) Develop Daily Itineraries

- ✓ In addition to the site dossier, compile additional maps (i.e., topographic, road atlas), sampling permits (when necessary), & contact information
- ✓ Obtain permission to access site; include any documentation & instructions in the site dossier
- ✓ Locate FedEx and confirm hours
- ✓ Confirm lodging plans
- ✓ Coordinate rendezvous locations
- ✓ Locate nearest hospital



2) Calibrate Instruments

- ✓ Multiprobe unit (if using, optional) and Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver.
- ✓ Keep spare batteries for all equipment.
- ✓ If possible, have access to backup instruments if any instruments fail the manufacturer performance tests or calibrations.



3) Prepare Equipment and Supplies

- ✓ Assemble the appropriate field equipment
- ✓ Pack sampling gear securely to minimize physical shock and vibration during transport.
- ✓ Inspect equipment every morning to ensure that everything is working properly.
- ✓ Refuel vehicles and conduct maintenance activities the night before a sampling trip.



Prepare Equipment and Supplies

- ✓ Check the inventory of supplies and equipment prior to departure using the checklists provided in the Field Operations Manual.
- ✓ Store an extra, complete site kit in the vehicle.
- ✓ Make sure to bring an extra site kit if the site requires duplicate samples.



Prepare Equipment and Supplies

- ✓ Make sure there is an adequate number of sample containers
- ✓ Make sure sample containers are intact, with lids
- ✓ Label the sample containers prior to departure.
- ✓ Do not cover container labels with clear tape until all information is completed during sampling.