

PEER REVIEW PLAN

Title: CORAL REEF BIOLOGICAL CRITERIA: USING THE CLEAN WATER ACT TO PROTECT A NATIONAL TREASURE

Purpose/Objective: This document will provide a framework for coral reef managers to develop biocriteria as water quality standards under the Clean Water Act.

Product Completion Date (Projected): 08/01/2010

OMB Category: Influential

Peer Review Leader: Virginia Houk
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External Peer Review Mechanism: Independent Experts

Peer Review Expected to Begin: 3rd Quarter, Fiscal Year 2010

EPA's Fiscal Years run from October to September.
Quarters for Fiscal Year 2010:
1st: October - December, 2009
2nd: January - March, 2010
3rd: April - June, 2010
4th: July - September, 2010

Was a deferral to peer review invoked? No

Will an alternative peer review process be employed? No

Number of Peer Reviewers 4 to 10

Primary Disciplines needed in the review: Biology-Aquatic

Who will select the reviewers? EPA

Will the public, including scientific or professional societies be asked to nominate peer reviewers? No

Will public nominations be allowed through the Peer Review Agenda? No

Will there be opportunity for public comment on the product? Yes

Describe How and When

When states and territories develop biocriteria based on this framework, there is a public comment period and review process, which provides an opportunity for the public to weigh in.

Will the Agency provide significant and relevant public comments to the peer reviewers before they conduct their review?

No

Will the review be a panel, conducted in public?

No

Will public comments be allowed at the panel review?

No