

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Does My State Need TALU? Ask the Right Questions!

- **Are our highest quality resources adequately protected?**
- **Can we respond to small, but detectable declines in biological condition?**
- **Do declines in biota trigger sufficient regulatory or non-regulatory responses?**
- **Are incremental improvements retained?**
- **Is attainment of CWA goals pre-empted by legacy impacts in certain waters or regions?**
- **Are we vulnerable to policy problems due to existing WQS and M&A programs and rigor?**

Better Monitoring & Assessment Supports All Water Quality Management Programs

Watersheds/
TMDLs

NPDES Permits
(WQBEL Support,
Permits to Install)

Hazardous Waste
Sites (NPDRA/CERCLA)

The goal of a TALU based M&A program is to provide support to all WQ management and resource management programs at multiple scales.

Comparative
Risk

Discharges (CSOs,
Stormwater

Source water
Protection

Enforcement/Litigation
Support

TALU and Biocriteria Options

**Easier to implement;
weakest foundation
for decisions**



Apply in methods/guidance

Apply in policy

Non-regulatory basis



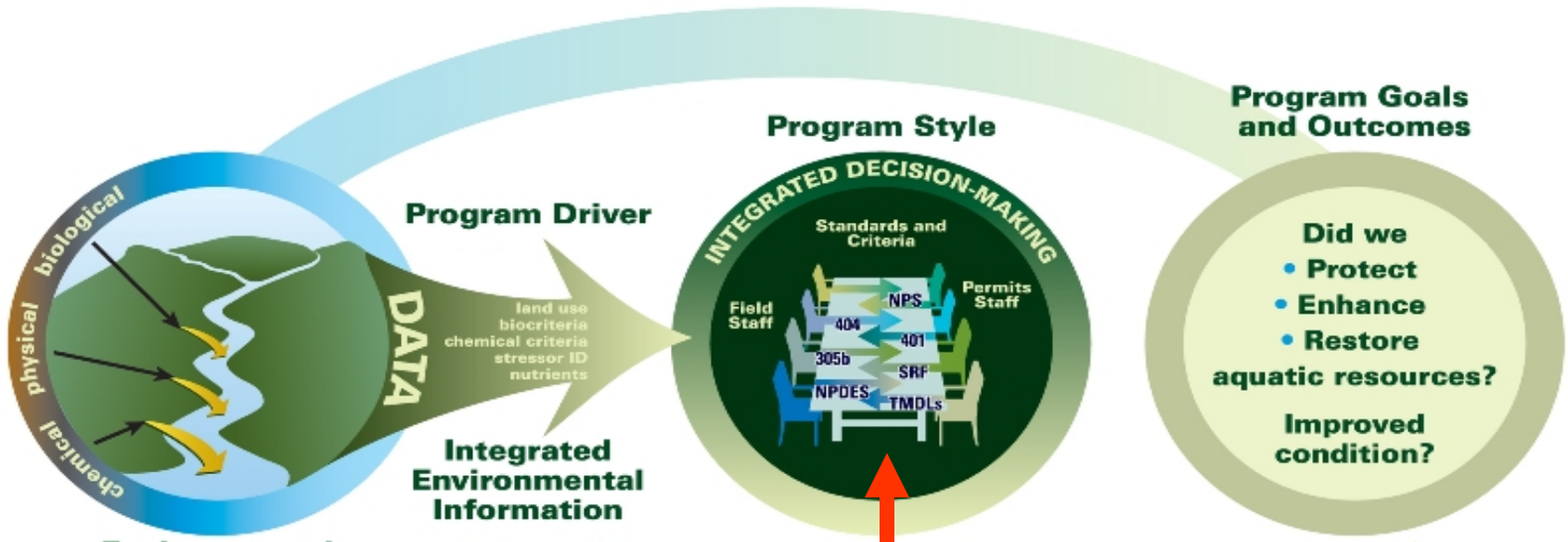
**Harder to implement;
strong legal foundation
for decisions**

Apply via narrative WQS

Apply via numeric WQS

Regulatory basis

Desired Approach: Manage for Environmental Results



How WQ Management Programs are Organized and Operated is Equally Important - We Must Better Merge M&A and WQS