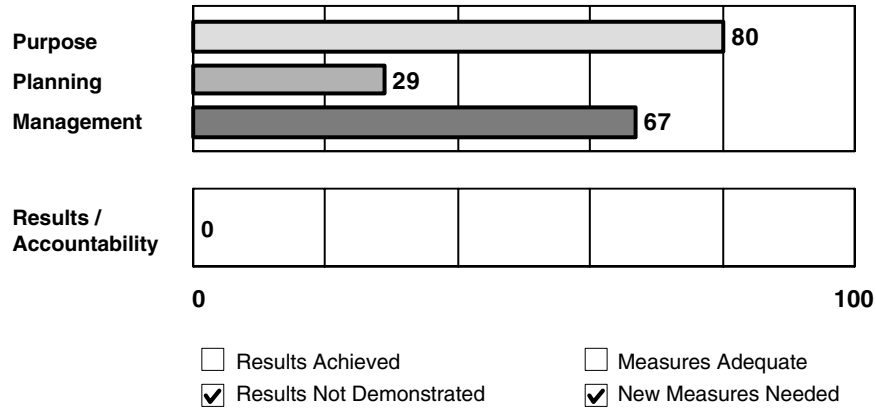


Program: *Nonpoint Source Grants*

Agency: *Environmental Protection Agency*

Bureau: *Environmental Protection Agency*



Key Performance Measures

Year Target Actual

| | Year | Target | Actual |
|--|------|--------|--------|
| Long-term Measure: Current measure achieved New measures under development | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Annual Measure: Measures under development | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Efficiency Measure: Measures under development | | | |
| | | | |
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| | | | |

Rating: *Results Not Demonstrated*

Program Type: *Block / Formula Grants*

Program Summary:

EPA's nonpoint source grants program, authorized by Section 319 of the Clean Water Act, gives money to States to reduce water pollution caused by nonpoint source runoff.

The analysis found that:

1. The program purpose is clear and agreed upon by interested parties.
2. The program has not collected sufficient performance information to determine whether it has had a significant effect on pollution.
3. The program's greatest weaknesses are strategic planning and a lack of measurable program results. Consequently, the program lacks adequate long-term, annual, and efficiency measures. Existing annual measures, such as "Number of states reporting on progress in implementing nonpoint source programs" do not provide useful, results-based performance information. The program's previous long-term goal has been met, and the agency has not yet developed a new one.
4. The program is in the process of developing new performance measures that focus on outcomes and efficiency.
5. EPA has made significant improvements to program management over the past several years, which will assist in their efforts to develop new performance measures. For example, in 2002 EPA implemented a new grants tracking system with additional reporting requirements. Through this new system, EPA will be able to see the estimated reductions in sediment and nutrient loads associated with each project implementation, as well as project geolocation.
6. The program overlaps with others in rural areas, such as the Department of Agriculture's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and Conservation Reserve Program.

In response to these findings, and to reduce overlap with similar Department of Agriculture programs that received significant funding increases in the Farm Bill (EQIP goes from \$200 million in 2002 to \$800 million in 2004), the Budget proposes to:

1. Shift the program's focus in agricultural watersheds from implementation of pollution reduction projects to planning, monitoring and assisting in the coordination and implementation of watershed-based plans in impaired and threatened waters.
2. Establish more outcome-focused measures and at least one efficiency measure.

Program Funding Level (in millions of dollars)

| <u>2002 Actual</u> | <u>2003 Estimate</u> | <u>2004 Estimate</u> |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 237 | 238 | 238 |