



June 28, 2007

Office of Water Quality Water-Quality Information Note 2007.11

Subject: Field Methods— National Field Manual for the Collection of Water-Quality Data revisions, updates, and additions

The purpose of this Note is to announce revisions, updates, and additions to the National Field Manual for the Collection of Water-Quality Data (NFM) [<http://water.usgs.gov/owq/FieldManual/index.html>]. The following list identifies recent major revisions that have been completed and new sections that are being added to the NFM in FY 2007 (please note that the date shown is the date of approval, not of publication):

1. REVISED and now online: **Chapter 4, *Collection of Water Samples*, version 2.0, dated 9/2006.** Comment -- Many changes have been made, including new and updated guidance on well purging and sampling from media with defined paths of flow (e.g., fractured rock).
2. UPDATED and online: Sections of Chapter 6, *Field Measurements*:
Section 6.1, *Temperature*, version 2.0, dated 3/2006. Comment -- Note revision of the calibration protocol.
Section 6.2, *Dissolved Oxygen*, version 2.1, dated 5/2006. Comment -- Provides guidance for the luminescent-sensor (optical) method.
3. UPDATED and being prepared for online publication: **Chapter 7, Section 7.1, *Fecal Indicator Bacteria*, version 2.0, dated 2/2007.** Comment -- Many changes have been made, including guidance on preparation and procurement of culture media.
4. NEW SECTION is completed, approved, and in queue for online publication: **Chapter 7, Section 7.4 *Algal Biomass Indicators*, version 1.0, dated 5/2007.**
5. NEW SECTION is completed and being prepared for approval: **Chapter 6, Section 6.8 *Multiparameter Instruments*, version 1.0.**

Please note that this list is not exhaustive, but is meant to alert you to some major items of interest.

Some of the additional work that is underway or planned for FY 2008 includes:
Revision of Chapter 6, Section 6.0 on general information and guidelines for making

field measurements; revision of Chapter 6, Section 6.4 on pH; and transformation of Chapter 1 into Quality Assurance and Quality Control guidance.

Revisions and additions to the NFM are ongoing and reflect current and emerging needs for accomplishing water-quality data collection. This is a reminder that water-quality personnel should check the **Comments and Errata** page [<http://water.usgs.gov/owq/FieldManual/mastererrata.html>] at least quarterly in order to be informed about all proposed and completed changes to respective NFM chapters.

Your comments, corrections, and constructive suggestions to improve the NFM are always welcome and should be directed to Franceska Wilde, fwilde@usgs.gov, 703-648-6866.

If this Note was forwarded to you and you'd like to have your name placed on the WaQI Notes distribution, please send email to nlsnow@usgs.gov.

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