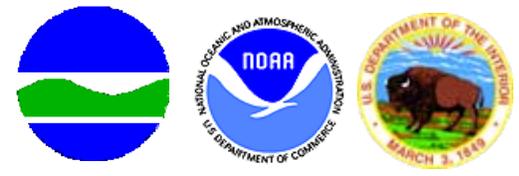


Hudson River NRDA

Peer Review & Information Quality



The Hudson River Natural Resource Trustees

Information Quality Act:

- Congress directed the Office of Management & Budget (OMB) to issue guidelines to “provide policy and procedural guidance to Federal agencies for ensuring and maximizing the quality, objectivity, utility and integrity of information” disseminated to the public by Federal agencies.
- OMB Bulletin M-05-03: “Final Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review” (12/16/04).
- Information Quality Act Guidelines issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) (updated 12/06).
 - Applies to all FWS offices that disseminate information to the public.
 - Purpose is to ensure the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information disseminated by FWS to the public.
 - FWS adheres to the OMB Bulletin – the peer review process employed must by FWS meet the general criteria for peer review in the OMB Bulletin.

More information at:

FWS Office of External Affairs – Information Quality:
<http://www.fws.gov/informationquality/>



Kathryn Jahn
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
New York Field Office
Cortland NY

May 2008

Assessment Plan for the Hudson River (2002):

For pathway determination and injury determination and quantification studies, the Trustees will:

- Develop a study plan that will be peer reviewed and released to the public for review and comment.
- The results of any study conducted pursuant to such a study plan will be peer reviewed upon completion of the study, and the results then released to the public.

Responsiveness Summary for the Hudson River Assessment Plan (2003):

- The Trustees expect to select peer reviewers and to allow those reviewers to conduct the reviews without direct public participation, in part because the costs of carrying out a fully expansive public participation process would be prohibitive.
- Peer reviews will generally be conducted similarly to those done at scientific journals.
- Reviewers will be independent external experts, qualified in the particular field and not involved in the study or the case.
- In appropriate circumstances, the Trustees may forgo peer review.
- The Trustees may modify study plans or reports to reflect the recommendations by peer review panels.