Proposal No. 2 7 - 1 1 6

Proposal for Task Force Consideration at the ISSC 2027 Biennial Meeting *(Tab to go to next field)*	1. a. X Growing Area b. ☐ Harvesting/Handling/Distribution c. ☐ Administrative
2. Submitter	US Food & Drug Administration (FDA)
3. Affiliation	US Food & Drug Administration (FDA)
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9. Proposal Subject	NSSP Sample Collection and Transportation
10. Specific NSSP Guide Reference	Chapter III. @.01 B. (1), Chapter IV. @.02 A., Chapter IV. @.04 A. (2), Chapter IV. @.04 B. (2)
11. Text of Proposal/ Requested Action	Chapter III. @.01 B. State Program Responsibilities. The Authority shall ~~ensure that all samples are collected, maintained, transported, and analyzed in a manner that assures the validity of the analytical results. Accordingly, the Authority shall~~: (1) Ensure all wastewater, seawater and shellfish samples are collected, maintained, transported, and analyzed in accordance with NSSP Laboratory Evaluation Checklist requirements, as applicable. (2~~1~~) Require laboratories to develop a written quality assurance plan that… Chapter IV. @.02 A. General. Either the total coliform or fecal coliform standard shall be applied to a growing area. The Authority may utilize MSC data in conjunction with bacteriological data to evaluate WWSD impacts on shellfish growing areas. The Authority shall ensure requirements of Chapter III @.01. B. (1) are met. Chapter IV. @.04 A. *Contingency Plan*…. (1)… (2) The plan shall…accomplish the following: (a) Ensure the requirements of Chapter III @.01. B. (1) are met; (b~~a~~) Initiate an emergency shellfish sampling program… Chapter IV. @.04 B. *Management Plan* (1)… (2) The plan shall define the administrative procedures and resources necessary to accomplish the following: (a) Ensure the requirements of Chapter III @.01. B. (1) are met;

	(b~~a~~) Maintain….
12. Public Health Significance	The responsibility for ensuring sample integrity and data defensibility is shared among NSSP laboratories and program staff. NSSP Laboratory Evaluation Checklists contain Sample Collection and Transportation requirements that are evaluated by Laboratory Evaluation Officers. The program staff members responsible for sample collection and transportation are sometimes not aware of the requirements. Adding clarifying language to the MO for the Authority the requirements being in the NSSP Guide and not only having them in the NSSP Laboratory Evaluation Checklists will minimize sample rejection at the laboratory, which will maximize collector and laboratory efficiency.
13. Cost Information	None
14. Changes Needed to Guidance (if proposed change is adopted)	N/A