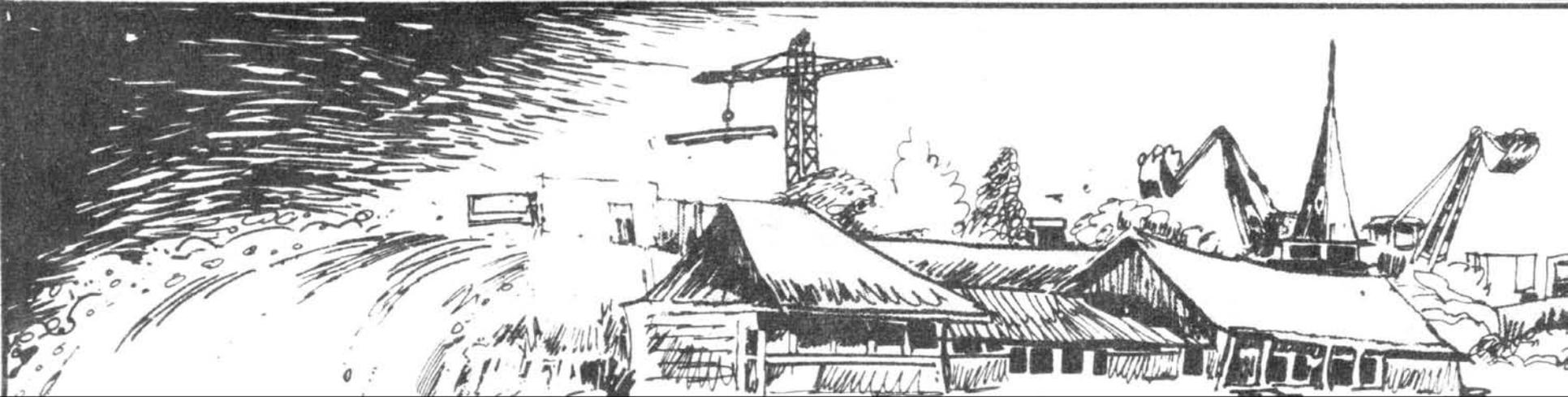


A photograph of a stream bank showing a culvert pipe (black corrugated metal) installed in a trench. The bank is eroded, with exposed tree roots and some vegetation. The water in the stream is muddy. The background shows a dirt road and some structures.

Overview of the DNR's Stepped Enforcement Process

Jim D'Antuono
WDNR



DNR Mission Statement

Our Mission:

To protect and enhance our natural resources

our air, land and water;

our wildlife, fish and forests

and the ecosystems that sustain all life.

To provide a healthy, sustainable environment

and a full range of outdoor opportunities.

To provide recreational opportunities for all people

to use and enjoy these resources

in their work and leisure.

To work with people

to understand each other's views

and to carry out the public will.

And in this partnership

consider the future

and generations to follow.

Environmental Enforcement is a tool ...

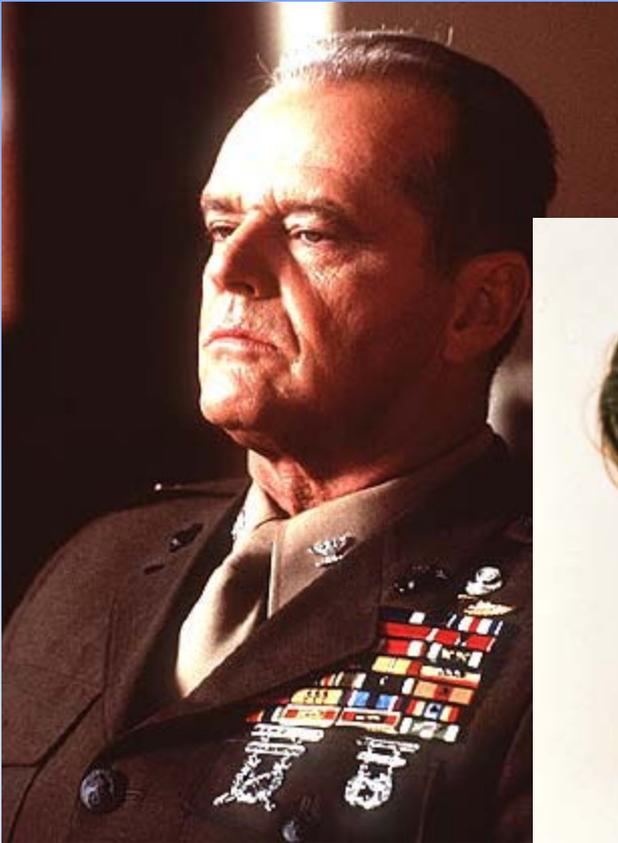
- to achieve compliance at the lowest appropriate level,**
- to educate, and**
- to protect public health and our environment.**

Enforcement Strategy

Effective

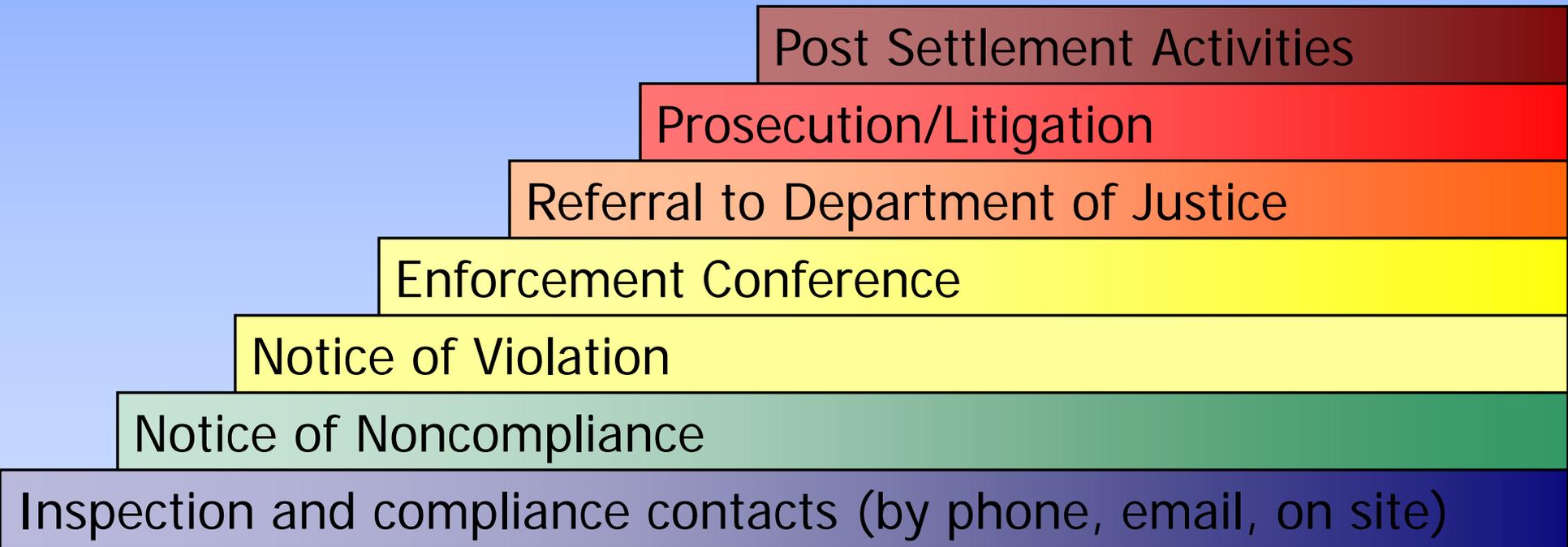
Firm

Fair



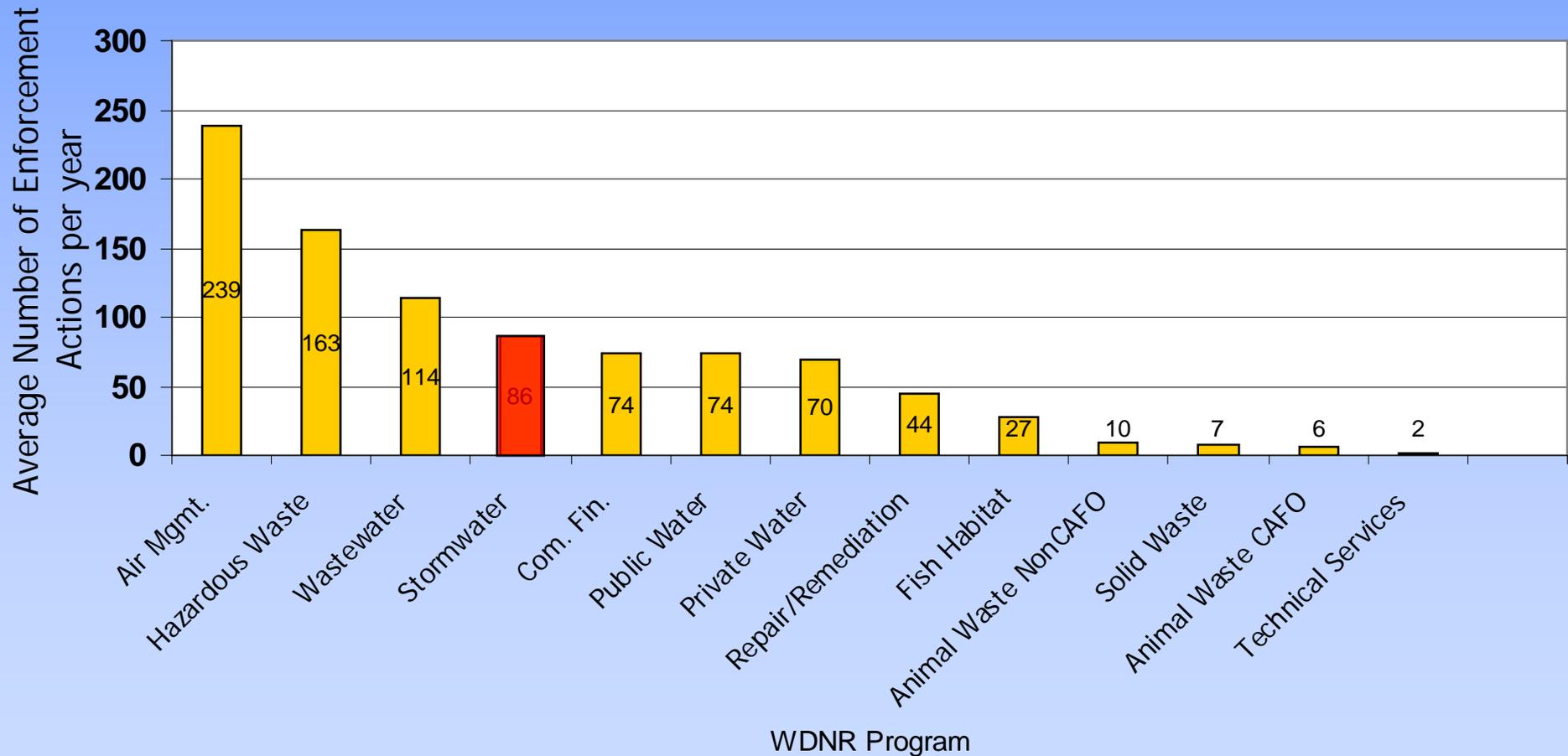
What is Stepped Enforcement?

- Stepped enforcement is a series of incremental actions to resolve violations at the lowest level possible.

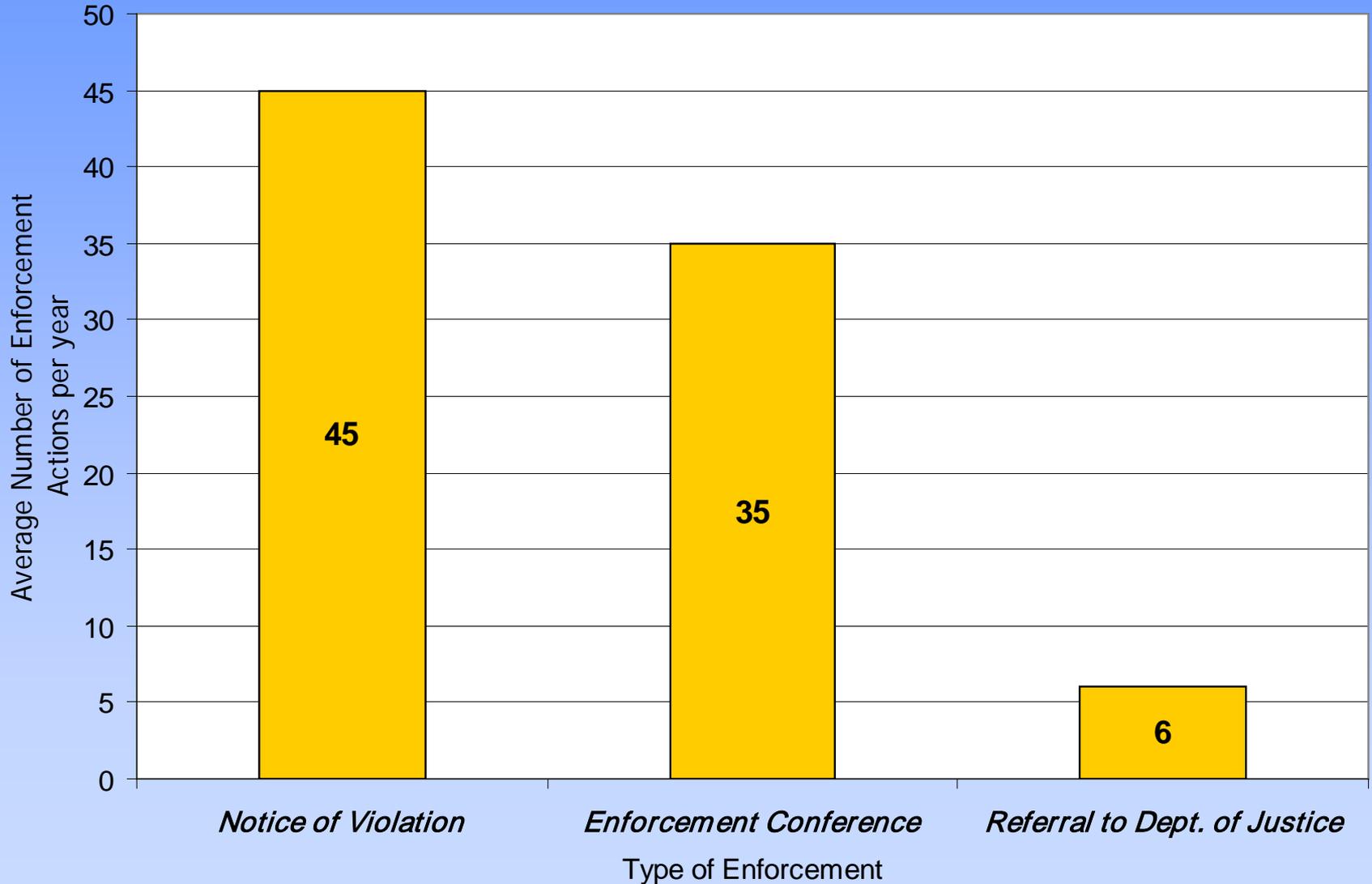


Citations may be issued at any step depending on the severity of the violation

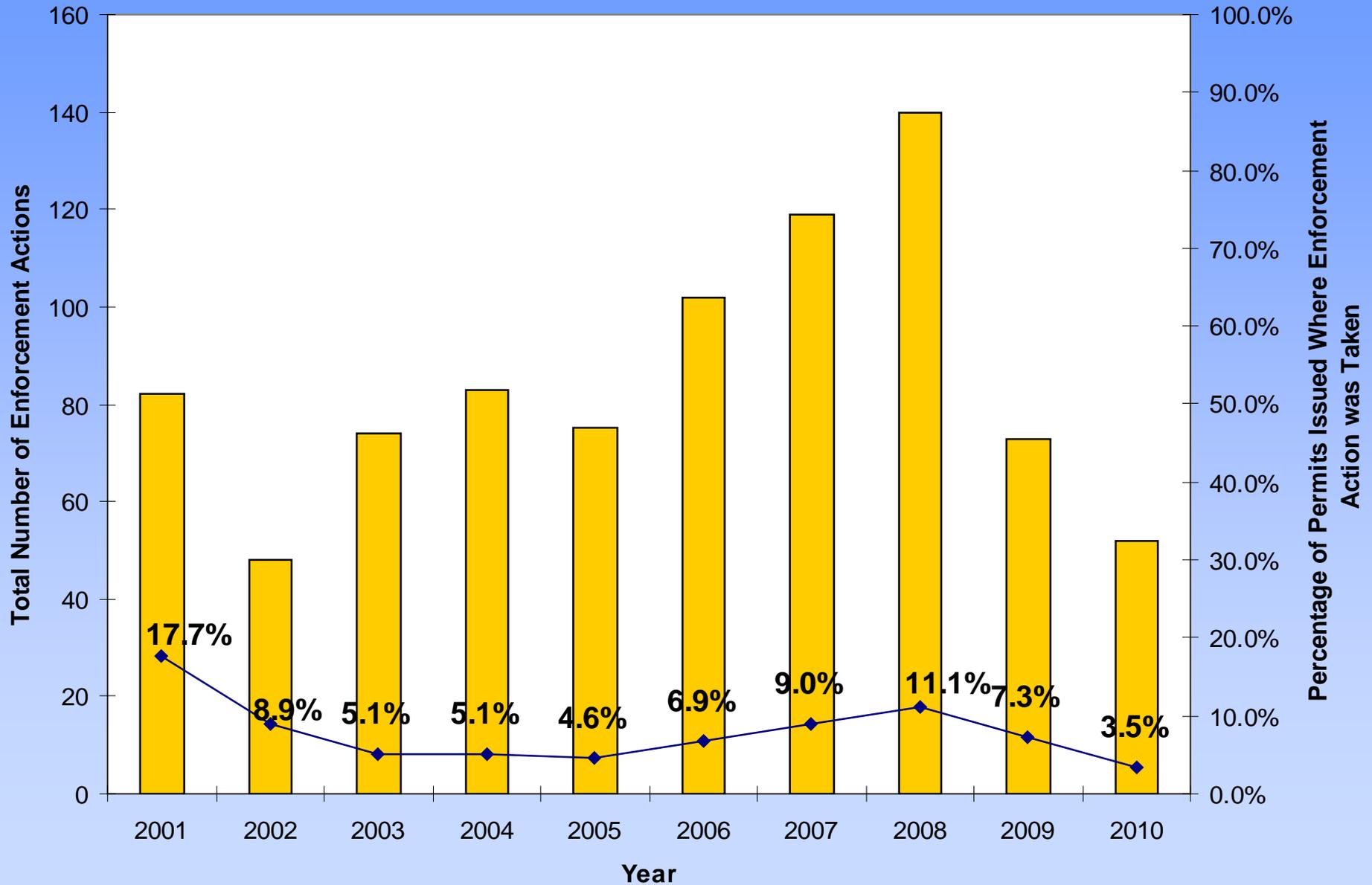
Statewide Enforcement Actions (10 yr average)



Statewide Enforcement Actions in Stormwater Program (10 yr average)

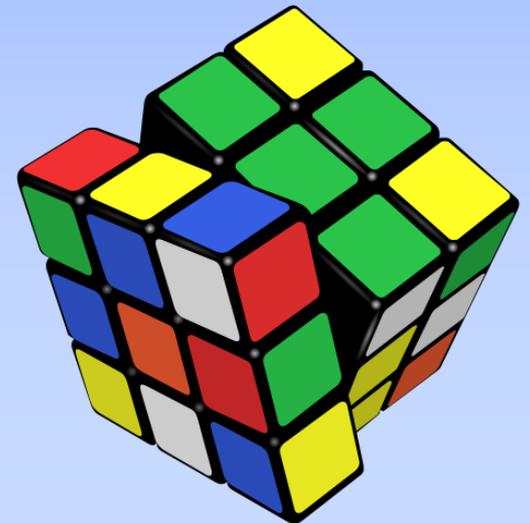


Comparison of Annual Enforcement Activity to Number of Permits Issued (Storm Water Program - Statewide)



Why use stepped enforcement?

- Efficient problem solving,
- Solves the majority of violations at the lowest level of enforcement, and
- Helps build a strong foundation for the case.



Stepped enforcement is not used:

- In emergencies or serious cases where health risks or the possibility of serious environmental damage exists, and
- In unproductive cases, such as an uncooperative individual or facility.



Enforcement Team Roles

- Respond fairly
- Ensure consistency within region/state-wide
- Establish a reasonable timeframe for corrective actions
- Coordinate with other DNR programs and units of government











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2004 8 26



Enforcement decisions must be based on the merits of the case and not the attitude of the individual being investigated.



Questions?

