Wetland Delineations and Datasheets

Regulatory Project Managers

Corps Detroit District Regulatory Office

EGLE Grand Rapids District Office

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US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG®

Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy

Delineating Wetlands

- Hydrology
- Soils
- Vegetation

Wetland Hydrology

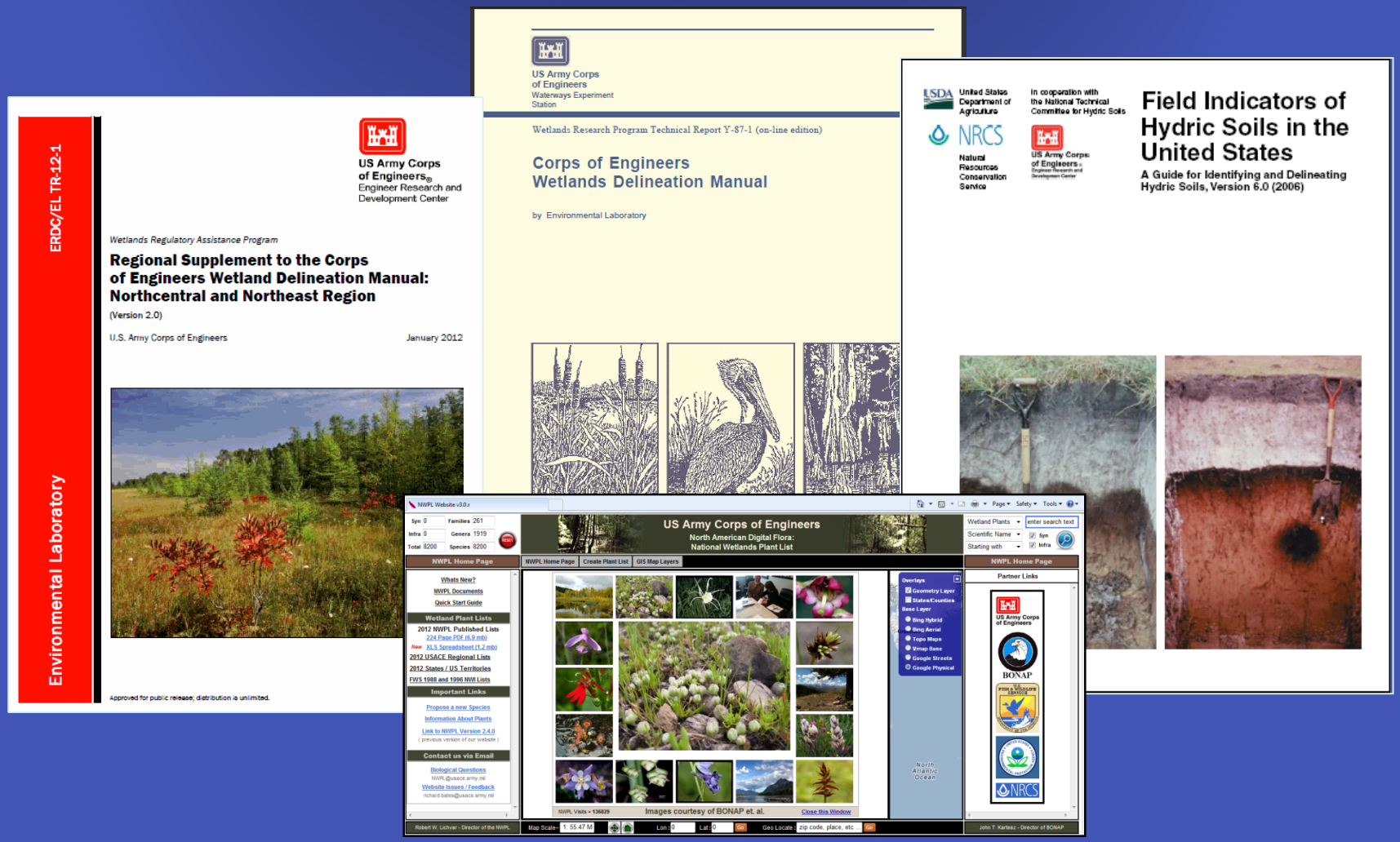
Evidence of Water

Wetland Soils

Wetland Vegetation

Technical Resources

www.lre.usace.army.mil



Wetland Delineation Resources

www.lre.usace.army.mil/Missions/RegulatoryProgramAndPermits.aspx

Detroit Regulatory Quick

- Public Notices
- Apply For A Permit
- Detroit District General Permit Types
- Detroit District Regulatory Sourcebook
- Regulatory News & Outreach
- Contact Us
- Regulatory Customer Survey Form

Other Detroit Regulatory

- Report Potential Unauthorized Activities
- Jurisdictional Determination (JD Service Request)
- Freedom of Information Act Request (FOIA)
- General Information Inquiry

Welcome!!

Welcome to the Detroit District Regulatory Home Page!

The Department of the Army Regulatory Program is one of the oldest in the federal government. Our mission is to provide strong protection of the Nations aquatic environment. This will be accomplished through: coordination with agencies and the public; fair, reasonable, and timely decisions; accurate and timely jurisdiction determinations; monitoring, compliance and enforcement of permit laws, regulations and policies.

How do I find another District Regulatory Office?

Detroit District Regulatory Actions

- Appeals
- Completed Jurisdictional Determinations

Regulatory Resources

- USACE Regulatory Headquarters
- USACE Great Lakes and Ohio River Division (LRD) - Regulatory
- Detroit District Regulatory Resources
  - Regulatory Service Requests
  - Frequently Asked Questions
  - Detroit District Navigable Waters List
  - USACE 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual
  - Automated Wetland Determination Data Form (Northcentral/Northeast Region)
  - Regional Supplements to Corps Delineation Manual
    - Mid-West Supplement
    - Northcentral & Northeast Supplement
  - Mitigation
- USACE National Wetlands Plant List
- Regulatory Video Library

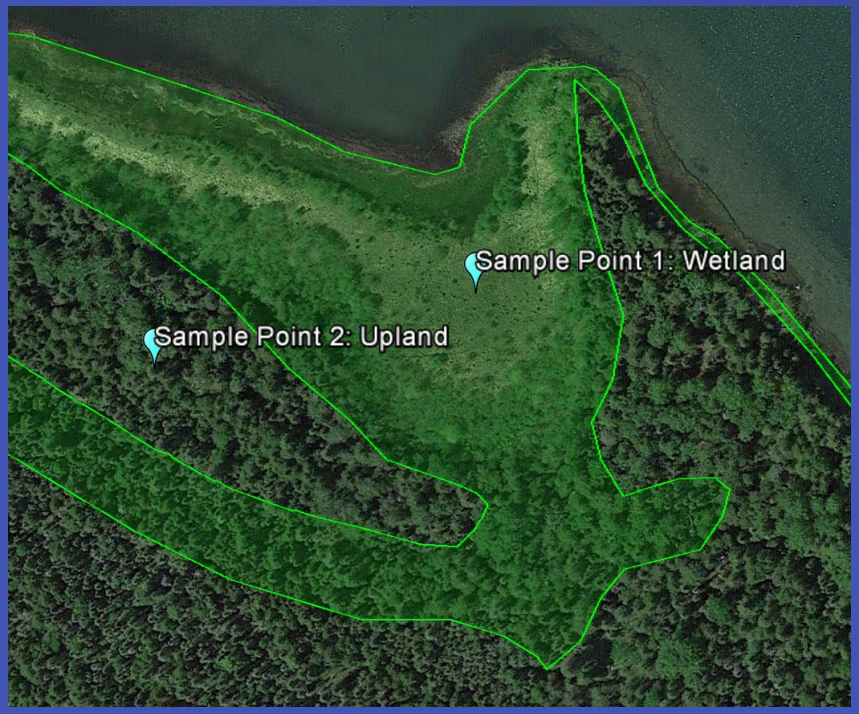
Other Agencies

Wetland Determinations & Delineations

- Wetland or upland?
- Verify wetland boundaries

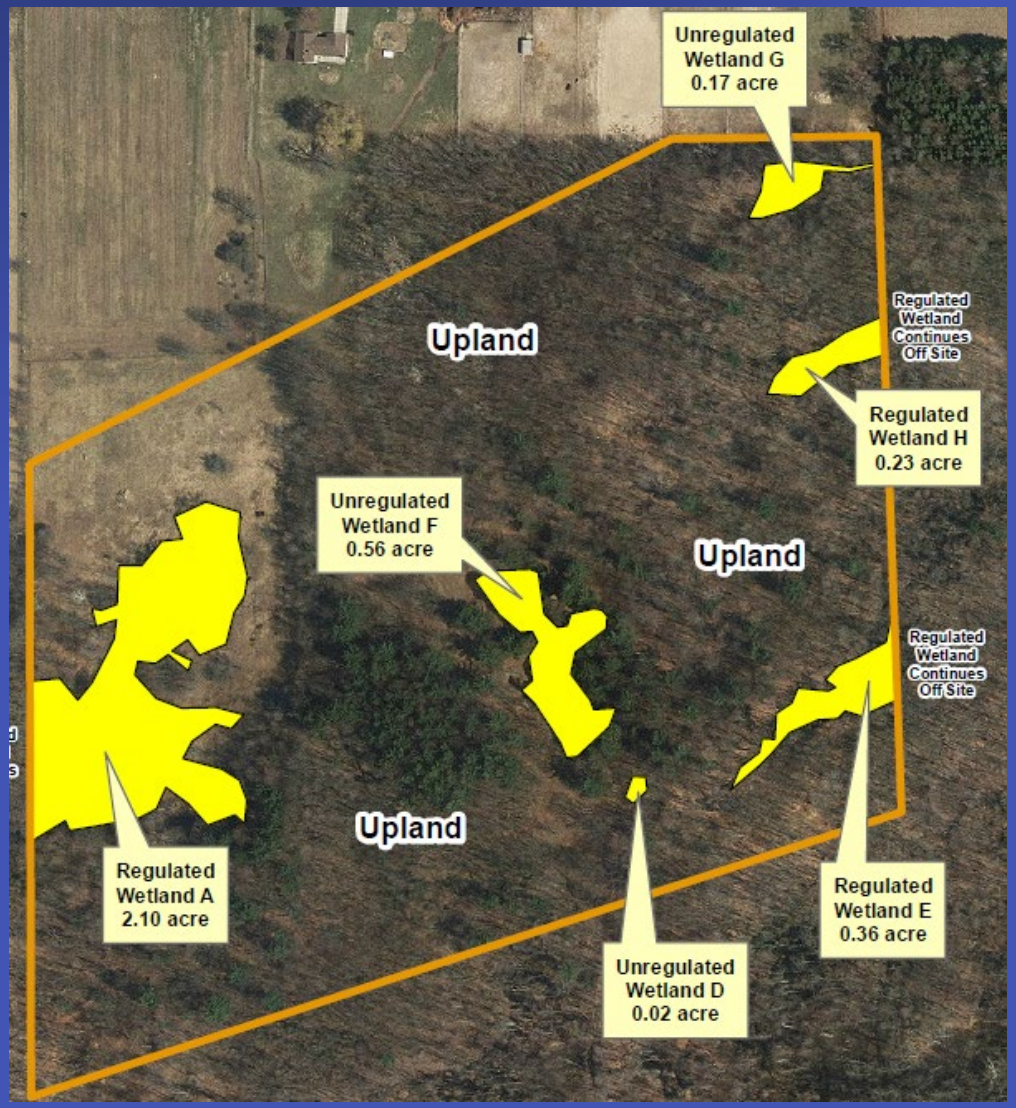
Focus on probable boundaries

- Which tells you more about the wetland boundary location?



Wetland Boundaries

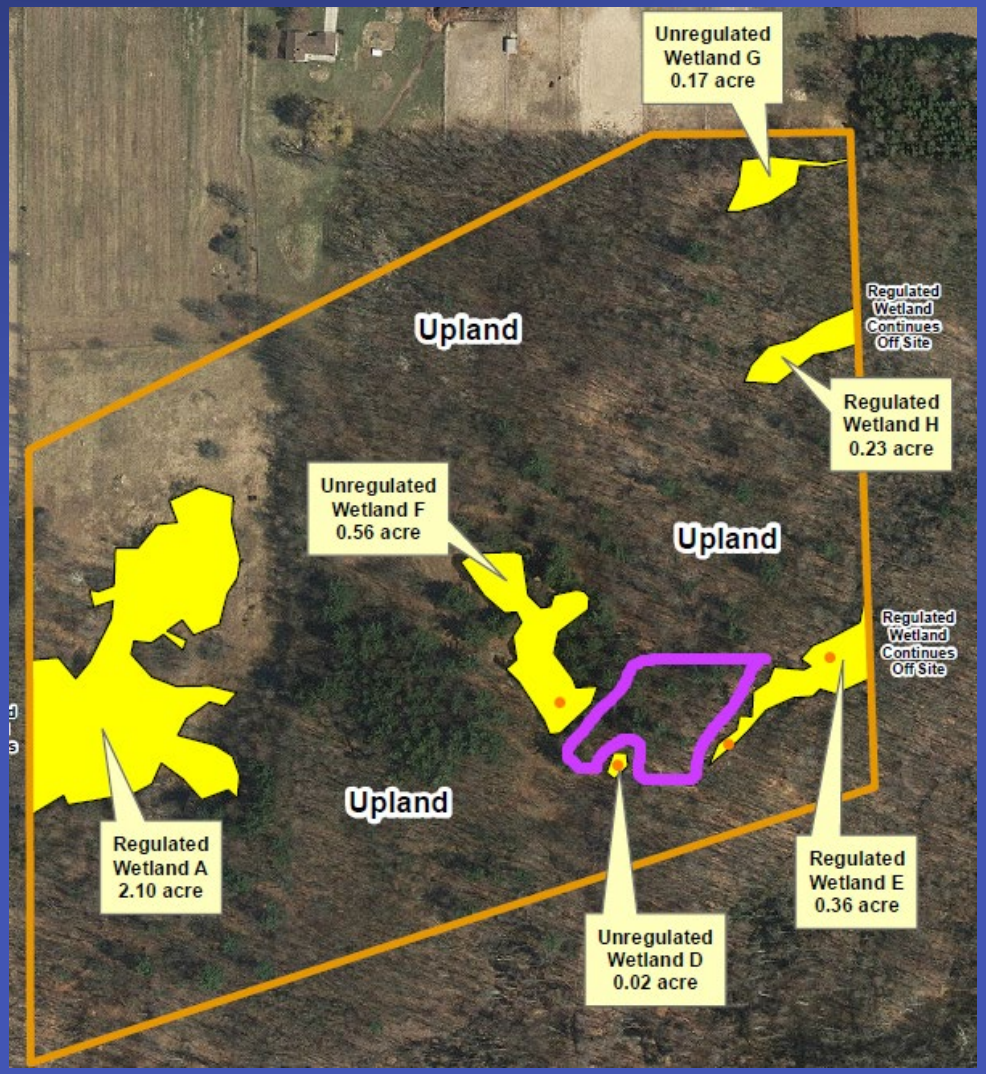
- Regulated wetlands do not stop at property lines.
- Paired sampling points are required to show that wetlands are not connected.



Wetland Boundaries

- = wetland characteristics
- = upland characteristics

Both sets of data need to be turned in with an application or delineation.



Atypical Situations: Disturbed Sites

Atypical Situations: Disturbed Areas

- Industrial past
- Covered with fill
- Excavated
- Altered by mowing, plowing, planting, drainage, flooding, etc.

Delineation of Disturbed Areas

- Delineate early in the season
- Use procedures in the manual – and seek additional resources
- Describe the problem in the “remarks” section of the data sheets
- Provide all documentation used to inform your decisions

Data Sheets: Common Issues

- Correct Data Sheets
- Missing Information – don’t leave blanks
- Data point location
  - Give accurate coordinates
  - Provide a map
- Inadequate review – if you used the fillable form double check and review
- Use the comments section – you should always share your observations

Use Correct Datasheet

- Midwest or Northcentral/Northeast
  - Datasheets that predate the regional supplements may not reflect current methodology.
  - Most recent: Version 2.0
  - Hydric soil and wetland hydrology indicators may vary
  - Plant indicator status may vary
    - Refer to USACE National Wetland Plant List for current taxonomy and indicator status

Hydrology Indicators

HYDROLOGY

Wetland Hydrology Indicators:

Primary Indicators (minimum of one is required; check all that apply)

___ Surface Water (A1)	___ Water-Stained Leaves (B9)
___ High Water Table (A2)	___ Aquatic Fauna (B13)
___ Saturation (A3)	___ Marl Deposits (B15)
___ Water Marks (B1)	___ Hydrogen Sulfide Odor (C1)
___ Sediment Deposits (B2)	___ Oxidized Rhizospheres on Liv
___ Drift Deposits (B3)	___ Presence of Reduced Iron (C
___ Algal Mat or Crust (B4)	___ Recent Iron Reduction in Tille
___ Iron Deposits (B5)	___ Thin Muck Surface (C7)
___ Inundation Visible on Aerial Imagery (B7)	___ Other (Explain in Remarks)
___ Sparsely Vegetated Concave Surface (B8)	

Field Observations:

Surface Water Present?	Yes _____	No _____	Depth (inches):
Water Table Present?	Yes _____	No _____	Depth (inches):
Saturation Present? (includes capillary fringe)	Yes _____	No _____	Depth (inches):

- Make sure these two sections are consistent.
- If a water table is present, then saturation is also present, usually a few inches above the water table.
- If surface water is present, a water table is usually present (0 inches depth).

Hydric Soil Indicators

SOIL Sampling Point: _____

Profile Description: (Describe to the depth needed to document the indicator or confirm the absence of indicators.)

Depth (inches)	Matrix Color (moist)	Matrix %	Redox Features Color (moist)	Redox Features %	Type[1]	Loc[2]	Texture	Remarks

[1]Type: C=Concentration, D=Depletion,

Hydric Soil Indicators:

- ___ Histosol (A1)
- ___ Histic Epipedon (A2)
- ___ Black Histic (A3)
- ___ Hydrogen Sulfide (A4)
- ___ Stratified Layers (A5)
- ___ Depleted Below Dark Surface (A11)
- ___ Thick Dark Surface (A12)
- ___ Sandy Mucky Mineral (S1)
- ___ Sandy Gleyed Matrix (S4)
- ___ Sandy Redox (S5)
- ___ Stripped Matrix (S6)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7) (**LRR R, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Thin Dark Surface (S9) (**LRR R, MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Loamy Mucky Mineral (F1) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Loamy Gleyed Matrix (F2)
- ___ Depleted Matrix (F3)
- ___ Redox Dark Surface (F6)
- ___ Depleted Dark Surface (F7)
- ___ Redox Depressions (F8)
- ___ 5 cm Mucky Peat or Peat (S3) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ Dark Surface (S7) (**LRR K, L, M**)
- ___ Polyvalue Below Surface (S8) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Thin Dark Surface (S9) (**LRR K, L**)
- ___ Iron-Manganese Masses (F12) (**LRR K, L, R**)
- ___ Piedmont Floodplain Soils (F19) (**MLRA 149B**)
- ___ Mesic Spodic (TA6) (**MLRA 144A, 145, 149B**)
- ___ Red Parent Material (F21)
- ___ Very Shallow Dark Surface (TF12)
- ___ Other (Explain in Remarks)

How do these sections relate?

- Refer to the regional supplement for step-by-step definitions.
- Go through each indicator that may apply for the relevant soil texture (all soils, sandy, or loamy/clayey).
- More than one indicator may apply.

Automated Data Form

- Microsoft Excel spreadsheet
- Automatically generates wetland hydrology, hydrophytic vegetation, and hydric soil indicators
- Contains the current indicator information
- Printed form looks like the form in the Regional Supplement

Automated Data Form

- Northcentral/Northeast Region and Midwest Region

http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory-Program-and-Permits/Automated-Wetland-Determination-Data-Form

Wetland Verification

- Delineation may be required for application completeness
- Considering wetlands during development of plan helps with avoidance/minimization
- You may be able to avoid wetland impacts (possibly avoiding need for permit – we can help you identify areas to avoid)
- Correctly quantify impacts – minimize delays later in evaluation

Important Distinctions

- The Corps and DEQ are separate regulatory authorities and cannot speak for each other's programs, verify wetland boundaries, or determine jurisdiction.

- ONLY the Corps can make a jurisdictional determination for the Corps of Engineers.
  - A consultant can provide a wetland delineation but cannot make a final jurisdiction determination.

Michigan's Wetland Identification Program (WIP)

- EGLE offers wetland delineations to determine the regulated wetlands on the property.

- Keto Gyekis, 517-243-5002, gyekisk@Michigan.gov

Benefits:

Jurisdictional determination

Wetlands are clearly identified for an application

Due diligence for property buy/sell agreements

Michigan's Wetland Identification Program (WIP)

- Level 1: EGLE Wetland inventory maps
- Level 2: On-site review of an identified area, up to five acres, by EGLE staff
- Level 3:

  On-site verification of a delineation done by a wetland professional and/or consultant

WIP Fee Structure

- Level 1: EGLE Wetland inventory maps
- Level 2: On-site review of an identified area, up to five acres, by DEQ staff
  - $500 for 1st acre, $250 per additional acre
- Level 3: On-site verification of a delineation done by a wetland professional and/or consultant
  - $500 for 1st acre, $50 per additional wetland acre, $20 per additional upland acre

Voluntary Wetland Restoration (VWR) Program

- Added to Section 30312f of NREPA in Fall 2018
- Purpose:
  - Facilitate a net increase in wetland functions and services
  - Enhance coordination and consistency with restoration partners

Voluntary Wetland Restoration (VWR) Program

- Created EGLE/DNR joint VWR group
  - Help simplify and streamline permitting for VWR projects
  - Develop VWR permit application and guidelines
  - Collaboratively review all permit applications for VWR projects
  - Provide pre-application meetings for VWR pre-application meetings with no fee

Voluntary Wetland Restoration (VWR) Program

- What is a VWR Project?
  - A project in altered, degraded, or previously restored wetland that contributes to a net increase in wetland functions and services
- Who can apply under VWR Program?
  - State, Federal, or Tribal Agency
  - NGO whose stated mission includes wetland conservation
  - A person in partnership with those listed above

Questions?