

**Wetland Study Council Meeting
December 3, 2020
9:00 – 11:00 am
Held Online via Zoom**

| <u>Agenda Topic</u> | <u>Notes/Follow-up</u> |
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| Call to Order | <p>WSC Attendees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tim Andryk - Tracy Hames - Mandy Minks - Carol McCoy - Tom Larson - Matt Howard - Paul Kent - Stacy Jepson <p>Other participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tom Pearce - Mike Thompson - James Brodzeller - Macauley Haller - Dan Helsel |
| Public Comment | No public comments received |
| Review and approval of Agenda | Decision: Agenda approved |
| Approval of Board Minutes | Decision: Minutes approved with one name change |
| Meeting Frequency Discussion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council intends to meet every other month in 2021 • Meeting dates will be 1/21, 3/18, 5/20, 7/15, 9/16, 11/18 at 9:00-11:00 am. • Tom Pearce will send out new calendar invites – DNR will cancel old ones |
| Wetlands Program data dashboard | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dashboard developed to be useful to stakeholders, concise, and efficient use of time for DNR. • Dashboard subcommittee identified 17 metrics that DNR can easily report on, that are useful, and that are high integrity data. • Add metric on permits that are submitted but then are rescinded by the permittee that are not truly captured in the approved/denied metrics - “Clarity for permit eligibility” metric. • DNR working with new wetland database to capture pre-consultation meetings with permittees to design a project that meets permit requirements. • Artificial exemption impact acreage may be higher than what is actually being filled (this metric did not meet first cut for data integrity). |

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| | <p>Action Item</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and follow up on dashboard metrics at January meeting • Subcommittee will investigate IT feasibility for a dashboard interface |
| 404 Assumption Study update | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR has a draft report, planning to complete in early 2021. • Report written to specify pros, cons, and legal uncertainties involved in 404 assumption, and to serve as a reference for the next 5-10 years • 2018-19 USACE and DNR permit data analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DNR reviews significantly more GPs and IPs, while the USACE uses NWP self-certifications more frequently. ○ Comparison of 337 permits reviewed by DNR and USACE show that in some cases, DNR review is faster, in others USACE review is faster. Federal consults for NHPA and ESA are one important factor for USACE review times. ○ DNR is working with permit staff to identify factors for why DNR review is in some cases slower than USACE review. • DNR wetlands program has submitted legislative proposals for self-certification permitting authority |
| Integrated Watershed Management (wetlands and stormwater) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tracy’s wetlands, watersheds, and runoff management presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Importance of upper watershed wetlands in capturing runoff ○ Floodplain reconnections are needed to manage runoff ○ 85% of restorable wetlands are on private land • This group intends to look at wetland restoration and regulations as a solution for larger watershed issues <p>Action Item</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further subcommittee meeting for agenda planning |
| Future Business | <p>Next meeting 1/21/21, 9:00 – 11:00 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetlands dashboard update • Subcommittee formed for mitigation – Tim, Tom L., Tom P., Carol M., James B., Tracy • Subcommittee formed for wetland identification and delineation program – Mandy, Stacy, Tracy • Further discussion on Integrated Watershed Management |