Wetland Identification Program
2014 Recap and 2015 Preview
Purpose and Goals of Program

1. Help Public Meet Due Diligence Requirements
   - Should lead to improved permit applications

2. Lessen Workload for WMS Staff
   - Help staff achieve deadline goals
   - Technical Resource

3. Consistent Delineation Review Process
   - Consistent protocols followed by consultants
   - Consistent protocols for permitting programs
Wetland Identification Program
Implemented through Chapter 23.321, Wisconsin State Statutes - 2012

Requires the state to offer two services

1. Wetland Identification
2. Wetland Confirmation
Wetland Identification Program

Wetland Identification Staff Responsibilities

- Wetland Identification Service
- Wetland Confirmation Service
- Assured Delineator Program
- Technical Resource
- Artificial/Exempt Wetland Determinations (New for 2015)
Wetland Identification Service

- A written evaluation, based upon an on-site inspection of the land by the department, of whether a parcel of land contains a wetland.
- Only for a parcel of land, or a part of a parcel of land, that does not exceed 5 acres.
- A review fee of $300/acre of land reviewed.
- A turn-around time of 60 days or less.
- Not an official wetland delineation.
Wetland Identification Program

Wetland Identification Service

- Ideal for projects that need presence absence determinations
  - Existing building expansion (house, garage, etc.)
  - Small building sites (house, garage, pond, etc.)
  - Real estate transfers

- Not meant for projects that need exact wetland boundaries identified
  - New large-scale developments
  - Wetland enforcement cases
  - Most wetland permit projects
Wetland Identification Program

Wetland Identification Service

• Deliverables include:
  – Report
  – Field Sketch
  – Field Data

December 11, 2014

Wouts's Sports Bar & Grill
6664 CTY S
Sobieszki, WI 54171

RE: Wetland Determination Results for Mike Wouters property located in the SE1/4 of Section 15, Township 26 North, Range 20 East, Town of Little Suamico, Oconto County

Dear Mr. Wouters:

On November 4, 2014, Tom Nedland conducted a wetland determination at the above mentioned property. The reason for your request was to determine if wetlands are located in an area at which you are planning to construct some storage sheds.

Approximate wetland boundaries were identified following 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual and applicable regional supplement guidelines. Wetlands are defined by the 1957 Wetland Delineation Manual as areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.

Methods used to detect the presence of wetlands within the project area involved on-site and off-site techniques, including a field visit as well as a review of antecedent hydrologic conditions, recent aerial photography, Wisconsin Wetland Inventory (WWI) mapping, and pertinent County Soil Survey mapping. If any wetland areas were detected, their approximate boundaries were sketched onto an aerial photograph (see attached map).

The following is a summary of the off-site review:
  • Results of the antecedent hydrologic condition review indicate the site was experiencing normal conditions at the time of the field investigation.
  • The WWI maps a forested wetland within the review area. The mapping indicates the wetland encompasses a large portion of review area.
  • Soils mapped in the review area include excessively drained Shawano fine sand and somewhat poorly drained Wainola loamy fine sand. Wainola soils are classified as having hydric inclinations (occasionally contains wetland soils). The Shawano soil units are mapped in the northwest portion of this review area, while the Wainola soils are shown over the remainder of the site.
The wetland boundaries depicted on the associated field sketch are approximate only and cannot be used for design purposes, such as set-back or permit requirements. If wetlands are located on your property, we recommend that a wetland delineation be conducted …
### Identified on the following resources?
- USGS Topographic Map
- WWI
- Aerial Photographs
- FSA Slide Review

**NONE**

### Dominant Wetland Vegetation
**Community Type(s) and Dominant Species:**
- Seasonal Wet Basin
  - Sparsely/None Vegetated due to ponding
  - Viburnum trilobum
  - Populus tremuloides

### Dominant Upland Vegetation
**Community Type(s) and Dominant Species:**
- Upland Forest
  - Pinus strobus
  - Fila americana
  - Lonicera x bella
  - Solidago gigantea
  - Smilacina stellata

### Wetland Soils
**Mapped Soil Unit(s):** WmA

**Hydric Soil Indicator(s) Observed:** (Check here if none)

(List all observed)
- Al8, Al10 (Both problematic)

- 0-2 10YR 3/4, muck
- 2-9 10YR 4/3, 3R 10YR 4/3, C M, S
- 17-24 10YR 4/3, S

### Adjacent Upland Soils
**Mapped Soil Unit(s):** WmA

**Hydric Soil Indicator(s) Observed:** (Check here if none)

(List all observed)
- 0-3 10YR 2/1, SL
- 3-8 10YR 3/2, S (E Horizon)
- 8-19 10YR 3/4, S
Wetland Identification Program

Wetland Confirmation Service

- A written statement, based upon an on-site inspection of the land by the department, of whether the department concurs with the boundaries of a wetland as delineated by a third person.
- A review fee of $300/20 acres of land reviewed
- A turn-around time of 60 days or less.
Wetland Confirmation Service

- Review to ensure that all essential information is included in the report
  - Improves our efficiency
  - Ensures all consultants are putting in same effort
  - Familiarize ourselves with the site
- Review wetland boundaries in the field
  - Agree and issue confirmation letter
  **OR...**
  - Disagree and notify delineator in writing
Wetland Identification Program

- **Goal:** Have landowners/developers do their due diligence and have correct wetland boundaries identified as part of application packets.
  - Prevent unexpected time delays associated with wetland boundary concerns
- One option for this is use of Wetland Confirmation Service
  - Other options include use of Assured Delineators or USACE Concurrence Letter
Wetland Identification Program

Assured Delineator Program

• Goal: Protecting wetlands and increasing government efficiency

• Assured Delineations = Assumed Accurate
  • Field reviews - Automatically granted concurrence for state purposes
  • Permit reviews – Limited to FVA and alternative analysis

• Nine assured delineators in WI at this time
Wetland Identification Program

Technical Resource

- General wetland delineation questions
- General wetland ecology questions
- Specific plant/soil/hydrology questions
2014 Recap

• 185 Total Requests

• 2 Staff

• Majority of work in Fox Valley/Milwaukee Collar Counties
2015 Service Area

• ID and Confirmation Services will be expanding statewide
• Demand outside of core counties unclear
New for 2015

• Artificial/Exempt wetland determinations will be handled mostly by Wetland ID staff
  – Consistency
  – Request form will need to be submitted; coming soon

• Stormwater NOI/CAFO projects will need to be evaluated for wetland impacts, and concurred with if necessary – Stay tuned
Wetland Identification Program

Tom Nedland
920-303-5439
Thomas.Nedland@Wisconsin.gov

Neil Molstad
262-574-2115
Neil.Molstad@Wisconsin.gov