

Wetland Study Council Meeting
April 16, 2020
9:00 – 11:00
Held Online via Skype

<u>Agenda Topic</u>	<u>Notes/Follow-up</u>
Call to Order	WSC Attendees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tim Andryk - Tracy Hames - Seth Hudson - Stacy Jepson - Paul Kent - Thomas Larson - Robert Rosenberger - Matt Howard Other participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Beth Bier - Amanda Minks - Tom Pearce - James Brodzeller - Ryan Pappas - Mike Thompson - Macaulay Haller
Public Comment	No public comments received
Comments from Chair and Co-Chair relative to our roles and the Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair and Co-Chair will ensure meetings move forward and are structured to be successful with appropriate agendas etc. • Please send draft products or agenda materials to Chair, Co-Chair and DNR (Tom Pearce) to organize content for the next meeting by the Friday before the scheduled Council meeting. • Chair and Co-Chair will not serve as a designated WSC spokesperson. If a spokesperson is needed on a specific topic, the WSC will discuss.
Review and approval of Agenda	Decision: Agenda approved
Approval of Board Minutes	Minutes were approved with the following modifications/additions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should reflect that Paul Kent will develop and draft JD approach like the assured delineator model and send to Stacy for review and comment before sending it to the Chair, Co-chair and DNR Staff. • It was requested that all future meeting notes should include attendee list. Decision: Approved with modifications above
Council member check-in regarding changes due to pandemic response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR would like to thank the WSC to find new opportunities to continue to keep the council moving forward in a new format in response to COVID-19.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DNR wetland program is continuing to meet core work tasks including permitting decisions, wetland identification and wetland confirmation tasks using off-site methods. • DNR will work with applicants to allow projects to continue to move forward as appropriate. • Council members are encouraged to share examples or concerns with DNR as DNR staff continue to gain experience and confidence with these new business practices. • DNR has distributed a growing season announcement using govdelivery • Wetland projects are continuing to be submitted but there has been a reduction in the number of wetland individual permits be submitted, particularly in the north. This could be contributed to a delayed spring in the north, among other factors. <p>Action Item: Amanda will send off-site wetland delineation review methods that DNR is using for wetland identification and confirmations</p>
<p>Review of Council members terms, end dates and ability to serve</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom Pearce will compile appointment dates and distribute to the WSC. • Mike Thompson will work to determine process for renewing or appointing new members once the formal term is expired. • First term expirations will occur in 2020. <p>Action item: Please send appointment letters to Tom Pearce to compile</p> <p>Decision: Will revisit this topic at the next WSC meeting</p>
<p>404 Assumption statement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSC incorporated recommended language from Council members and voted on a final statement. <p>Decision: 404 assumption recommendation was approved by WSC (first by Tim Andryk second by Stacy Jepson)</p> <p>Action item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR will ensure that the approved recommendation is displayed on WSC webpage • WSC should brainstorm messaging for this decision and future decisions in a future agenda
<p>Jurisdictional Determinations Opportunities:</p> <p>a. DNR-funded Corps position (Mike Thompson)</p>	<p>A) DNR-funded Corps position:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mechanism for a DNR-funded Corps position would be for DNR to hire the position and enter into an interagency work agreement for that staff member to work within the Corps. • Although the Waterway Program has vacant positions that may be available for this use, the positions are on hold given funding restrictions

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<p>b. Professional JD confirmation training (Paul Kent)</p> <p>c. Lobby federal delegation for JD process changes (Tom Larson)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for this type of position has not been included in DNR’s budget request process. • Available funding options include program revenue, segregated funding, and general funding. <p>B) Professional JD program/training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of a draft JD approach similar to the assured delineator model <p>C) Lobby federal delegation for JD process changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given other priorities, this item will not be pursued at this time but will be revisited as appropriate. • A meeting with EPA, Corp and Wisconsin leaders may be appropriate at a later date. <p>Action item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR will develop and present a one-page proposal to include avg number of permits and permit costs, budget needs, current staffing levels and potential services this Corp position could provide to Wisconsin at the next WSC meeting. • Paul Kent and Stacy Jepson to develop draft outline for JD approach/Training.
<p>Review Wetland GP summary</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most general permits have a five-year timeline. • GP-1 for commercial, residential, and industrial is the most frequently used wetland general permit. • Three general permits (GP-10, dam maintenance; GP-11, municipal development; NR 353 wetland restoration GP) are going through the reissuance process. • DNR is considering developing one additional GP for minor discharges. <p>Action item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR will correct the link for GP-1 in the wetland GP summary document. • DNR will present and share a draft of the municipal development general permit. • DNR will present and share a draft of the NR 353 wetland restoration general permit. • DNR will present and share a draft of the minor discharges general permit.
<p>Review and discuss future WSC agenda topics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft NR 350 rule language will be shared, and a short process agenda will be made available at the next WSC • General permit reissuances and presentations • JD options: one-page budget summary, assured delineation-like approach for JDs

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council member renewals• Process for sharing 404 assumption recommendation• WOTUS implications for wetland permitting• Future meeting planning
New Business and Future meeting planning <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. WOTUS implications for wetland permitting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This moved to a TBD future WSC agenda