

**Wetland Study Council Meeting**  
**June 18, 2020**  
**2:00 – 4:00**  
**Held Online via Skype**

<u>Agenda Topic</u>	<u>Notes/Follow-up</u>
Call to Order	<p>WSC Attendees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tim Andryk</li> <li>- Tracy Hames</li> <li>- Seth Hudson</li> <li>- Stacy Jepson</li> <li>- Paul Kent</li> <li>- Thomas Larson</li> <li>- Robert Rosenberger</li> <li>- Karen Gefvert</li> <li>- Matt Howard</li> </ul> <p>Other participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tom Pearce</li> <li>- Mike Thompson</li> <li>- Tom Nedland</li> <li>- Josh Brown</li> <li>- Sara Fox</li> <li>- Macaulay Haller</li> <li>- Alex Schmidt</li> <li>- Jennifer Western Hauser</li> </ul>
Public Comment	No public comments received
Review and approval of Agenda	<b>Decision:</b> Agenda approved
Approval of Board Minutes	<b>Decision:</b> Minutes approved
Update on Council Member reappointments (Mike Thompson)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stacy Jepson and Tim Andryk approved for reappointment to 7/2026.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action Item:</b> Need Karen Gefvert term dates. Karen to follow up. Likely 2023.</p>
Review Council annual summary draft (Tracy Hames, see attachment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tim A: Clarify WSC meets on a monthly basis.</li> <li>• Tim A: Add link to WSC website.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action item:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete review of document for July meeting. Email any suggestions to Tom P and Tracy H.</li> <li>• Send completed draft to Governor’s office and Legislatures and post on website.</li> </ul> <p><b>Decision:</b> Will be completed at July meeting.</p>

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<p>DNR presentation on NR 350 mitigation rule revision (Tom Pearce)</p>	<p>a) Overview of process (where we are at in process), why we need the revision (federal and state policy and statute changes), update terminology, update standard process language, ILF, etc.</p> <p>b) DU Proposal (Tim A) Need to work out appropriate language. Would like to build some flexibility into code that will allow deep marsh opportunities with possible water control structures, etc.</p> <p>c) Questions and discussion on rule changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tracy H: What is WSC role as TAG? Answer: Provide input on concerns or questions they see with rule as currently proposed.</li><li>• Tracy H questions and comments:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Tracy Hames: Have preservation-only projects been approved? DNR explained that small portions of some private mitigation banks had preservation acres approved, but not full projects.</li><li>○ Wetland Quantification Tool (s. 6 (1)). DNR is beginning to research a tool to better measure wetland flood storage, water quality, habitat, and other important functions. Looking at WA, LA, and WV examples for potential use in WI.</li><li>○ Compensation Site Plan (s.7 (6) g.3.). Encourage opportunities to look for/improve hydrologic connections.</li></ul></li><li>• Paul K questions and comments:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ IRT definition (s. 3, #20). Should define who is on IRT, how it functions, etc. Could be included in definitions or in section. Who are the potential members, how can they join, what are their roles?</li><li>○ Secondary impacts (s. 4 (2)). Recommends changing language to “causally linked to proposed discharge regulated by...” (will email suggestion to Tom P.)</li><li>○ Mitigation Sequence (s. 4 (2)). Provide factors for Department discretion in requiring a mitigation option to “better serve natural resource goals”</li><li>○ Enhancement crediting (s.6 (6)) enhancement of native vegetation receives credit but conversion of one wetland type to another does not? DNR to clarify that enhancement of degraded wetland vegetation may receive credit.</li><li>○ Monitoring period (s. 9 (3) g.) length of monitoring has increased over time to 5 years or longer now. This affects banker sponsors’ business plans. Clarify the standard monitoring timeframes and conditions when modifications required. Provide a reference or link to state and federal regulatory standards if needed.</li><li>○ Monitoring period (s. 9 (3) i.) DNR has very open-ended discretion on corrective action requirements based on results</li></ul></li></ul>
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	<p>of monitoring report. Clarify that performance standards are established by approved plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bank Operation (s. 10): Explain IRT concurrence process and standards. What is DNR’s discretion in IRT. Help bank sponsors better understand process and return on investment analysis.</li> <li>○ General comment: To what extent does ILF compete with private mitigation banks? Review rule to ensure that DNR ILF Program is not undercutting private mitigation bank investment or business.</li> <li>○ Permittee-responsible mitigation (s.12): How does monitoring and financial assurance compare to banking and ILF? Can text be clarified?</li> </ul> <p><b>Action item:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Study Council act as TAG before we send rule draft out to public comment – just preliminary comments</li> <li>● Tim A would like to schedule meeting with Tom P and others as appropriate to help craft appropriate language regarding item b). Comments on idea go to Tim A.</li> </ul>
<p>Jurisdictional Determinations Opportunities</p>	<p><b>Decision:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Stacy and Mike will draft a one-page interpersonal agreement for one DNR LTE assigned to USACE assigned 100% reviewing AJDs. USACE review and invited to present feedback at WSC, 7-23-20.</li> <li>● See handout. Stacy, Paul and Mandy will consider next steps to ask about USACE AJD training and USACE approval to expand assured wetland delineators’ role to cover AJD.</li> </ul>
<p>Council future meeting agenda topics (Seth Hudson)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Future meeting planning – review topics and recommendations document, consider layout for future topics to cover</li> </ul> <p><b>Decision:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discuss wetland in-lieu fee mitigation and options.</li> <li>● Wetland general permit 11 minor impacts (Paul has been discussing with Mandy)</li> <li>● Seth and Tracy will draft an agenda for next meeting. Agenda setting for six months will be first agenda item at July meeting.</li> </ul>
<p>New Business and Future meeting planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Next meeting 9am to 11am, July 23, calendar invites to follow.</li> </ul>