

Wetland Study Council Meeting

February 27, 2020

Participants: Tracy Hames, Robert Rosenberger, Karen Gefvert, Stacy Jepson, Matt Howard, Tom Larson, Paul Kent

Agenda Topic	Notes/Follow-up
Federal WOTUS jurisdiction rule implications for WDNR wetlands program	• New rule to take effect 60 days from 1/23/2020 • Federally regulated wetlands to be reduced • Could lead to increased demand for JDs and nonfederal wetland exemptions • WDNR to provide talking points and WOTUS factsheet to Council (action item)
Review discussion with USACE from 1/23/2020	• Range of options for process improvement: ○ Develop a JD process similar to the wetland delineation process ○ Train professionals (such as assured delineators) to make JDs that WDNR will accept for nonfederal exemptions (action item) ○ Fund a Corps position for reviewing JDs and flood mitigation and resiliency work (action item) ○ Make an ask to WI federal delegation to allow Corps to delegate JD responsibility (action item)
404 assumption and alternatives	• Council to revisit draft statement on 404 assumption from 2019 • Option to pursue assumption to remain open should other alternatives be deemed infeasible
Council officers	• Motion to appoint Seth Hudson as Council Chair and Tracy Hames as Council Vice Chair passed unanimously.
ILF Program Factsheet	• Changes suggested including adding first point on general mitigation, when ILF can be used for mitigation, and simplifying language for project timelines (action item)
Future meeting planning	• Future meetings planned for: ○ Thu 3/19, 9:00-11:00am ○ Thu 4/16, 9:00-11:00am, move to 10:00-12:00pm? ○ Thu 5/21, 9:00-11:00am ○ Thu 6/18, 9:00-11:00am