

USEPA Region VIII Western Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Workgroup Meeting

**April 29, 30 & May 1, 2008
Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn
Rapid City, South Dakota**

Purpose

The goal of this workshop is to assist states and tribes in developing new programs or enhancing existing programs for monitoring and assessing wetlands in the Northern Great Plains and Rocky Mountain regions. Together, we can help build the technical and decision-making capacity of state and tribal programs by sharing information about wetland monitoring and assessment methods, study designs, and implementation approaches currently in use in the region and in other parts of the United States. This year's workshop will also highlight wetland delineation, protection, and restoration.

Program Schedule

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

1:30 pm Welcome and Review of Agenda

Mike Ell, North Dakota Department of Health, Division of Water Quality, Bismarck, ND
Jill Minter, US EPA Region 8, Wetlands Program, Denver, CO
Brian Caruso, US EPA Region 8, Wetlands and Watersheds Unit Chief, Denver, CO

1:45 pm State and Tribal Reports

State and Tribal Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Program summaries will be shared and each State and Tribe will highlight current projects and plans

- Colorado – Joanna Lemly (To be confirmed)
- Montana – Linda Vance
- North Dakota – Mike Ell
- South Dakota – Paul Lorenzen
- Utah – Theron Miller
- Wyoming – Chad Rieger
- Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Flathead Reservation – Sue Ball
- Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Reservation – Sandra White Eagle
- Other Participating Tribes (TBD)

3:15 pm Break

3:30 pm EPA National and Regional Perspectives and Updates

Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Strategies and Programs

Jill Minter, US EPA Region 8, Wetlands Program, Denver, CO

Overview and Highlight of Regional Workgroups and Projects

Richard Sumner, US EPA Headquarters, Wetlands Division Regional Liaison, Corvallis, OR

The 2011 National Survey of Wetland Condition

Richard Sumner, US EPA Headquarters, Wetlands Division Regional Liaison, Corvallis, OR

4:30 pm Setting and Prioritizing Goals and Objectives for Wetland Programs

Jill Minter, EPA Region 8, Wetlands Program, Denver, CO
Linda Vance, Montana Natural Heritage Program, Helena, MT

5:00 pm Adjourn

6:00 pm Poster Session and Social Hour

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

8:00 am THEME 1: WETLAND ASSESSMENTS

Developing Tools for a Comprehensive Assessment of Wetlands and Riparian Areas in California

Josh Collins, San Francisco Estuary Institute, San Francisco, CA

Wetland Monitoring and Assessment at the South End of the Prairie Pothole Region – Techniques, Design, and Things Learned

Vince Evlaiser, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Iowa City, IA

Great Salt Lake Wetlands Nutrient Criteria Development: Approach and Progress to Date

Theron Miller, Utah DEQ, Division of Water, Salt Lake City, UT

10:00 am Break

10:30 am THEME 1: WETLAND ASSESSMENTS

Level 1 Wetland Assessment in North Dakota's Prairie Pothole Region

Rebecca L. Phillips, USDA Agricultural Research Service, Mandan, ND,
Ofer Beerli, University of North Dakota, School of Aerospace Sciences, Grand Forks, ND

Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Techniques

Mike Davis, Dan Ackerman, Nicole Kunkel, Sheri Lares, North Dakota Department of Transportation,
Bismarck, ND

Functional Assessment of Colorado's Wetlands: The Benefits and Application of Stressor-based Techniques in Wetland Evaluation

Brad Johnson, Colorado State University, Department of Biology, Fort Collins, CO

Three Tiered Wetland Assessment using a Probabilistic Design

Edward Shawn DeKeyser, Christina Hargiss, Donald R. Kirby, North Dakota State University, Dept. of
Animal and Range Sciences, Fargo, ND, Michael J. Ell, North Dakota Department of Health, Bismarck, ND

Assessment of Wetland Condition in the Missouri Coteau of North Dakota

Christina Hargiss, Edward Shawn DeKeyser, Donald R. Kirby, North Dakota State University, Dept. of
Animal and Range Sciences, Fargo, ND, Michael J. Ell, North Dakota Department of Health Bismarck, ND

12:30 pm Lunch (on your own)

2:00 pm SPECIAL SESSION: INTERMITTENT STREAMS

Selection and Validation of Intermittent Stream Reference Sites for Eastern South Dakota:

Evaluation of GIS-Generated Watershed Condition Scores against Field Validation Data

Nels H. Troelstrup, Jr., Eric Rasmussen, Ross Vander Vorste, Sol Brich, South Dakota State University,
Department of Biology & Microbiology, Brookings, SD

3:00 pm Break

3:30 pm THEME 2: WETLAND PROTECTION AND DELINEATION

Are Field-Implementation Processes Pursuant to the Corps of Engineers' Wetlands Delineation Manual Meeting the Manual's Intent?

Michael McKernan, David Huebert, TetrES Consultants Inc., Winnipeg, CAN

Identification and Analysis of Geographically Isolated Wetlands in Montana

Linda Vance, Montana Natural Heritage Program, Helena, MT

Clean Water Act Section 404 Jurisdictional Determinations

Chris Hunter, US EPA Headquarters, Wetlands Division, Washington, DC and Toney Ott, US EPA Region
8, Wetlands Program, Denver, CO

Developing a State Wetland Conservation Strategy

Lynda Saul, Montana Department of Environmental Quality, Helena, MT

Formation of the Flathead Reservation Aquatic Weed Working Group - a Cooperative Approach to Addressing Aquatic Invasive Species Issues.

Sue Ball, Wetland Conservation Program, Pablo, MT

5:30 pm Adjourn

Thursday, May 1, 2008

8:30 am THEME 3: WETLAND FUNCTIONS AND RESTORATION

A Quantitative System for Linking Wetland Functions to New National Wetlands Inventory Mapping with Hydrogeomorphic Attributes in Montana

Greg Kudray, Linda Vance, Montana Natural Heritage Program, Helena, MT

Evaluation of the Ability of a Linear Fen/Bog Wetland Complex at Colomac Mine, Northwest Territories, Canada to Accommodate Treated Mine Effluent

Dave B. Huebert, Michael McKernan, TetrES Consultants Inc., Winnipeg, CAN

Manning Lake Wetlands Tribal Wildlife Refuge Project

Jeanne Spaur, Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes, Fish and Game Department, Poplar, MT Plant

9:30 am Break

10:00 am Community Composition of Restored Prairie and Wetlands in the Prairie Pothole Region

Breanna Paradeis, Edward Shawn DeKeyser, Don Kirby, North Dakota State University, Department of Animal and Range Sciences, Fargo, ND

Natural Wetland Restoration by Beaver (*Castor canadensis*)

Carol A. Johnston, South Dakota State University, Department of Biology & Microbiology, Brookings, SD, Marla Striped Face-Collins, Sitting Bull College, Ft. Yates, ND and United Tribes Technical College, Bismarck, ND

10:45 am Wrap-up, scheduling of workgroup next steps, grant writing tips

Jill Minter, US EPA Region 8, Wetlands Program, Denver, CO

12:00 noon Adjourn

Social Hour is sponsored by RESPEC, Energy Laboratories Inc., and Rhithron Associates Inc.



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Wetlands

A wetland may prevent our water pollution,
Proven scientifically, this is a true solution!
Adding plants will reduce the soil erosion,
Plant roots hold the soil to stop corrosion!
The birds seem to prefer the wetland tree,
'Cause plenty of food and life hassle free!
If your yard stays wet in the Spring,
Do not hesitate to give EPA a ring!
You will get good idea how to make wetland trees grow,
And once they are grown, you'll have less lawn to mow!
So, for excellent guidance, please call EPA Wetlands Section,
Because they are the experts to give you the good direction!!!

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US EPA, Drinking Water Supply Enforcement Program, Dallas, TX