

Draft Prospectus Submittal Guidance for Wetland Mitigation Banks or Wetland In-Lieu Fee Projects

Mark G. McIntosh

Regulatory Specialist, Technical Services Branch

Regulatory Division

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

June 1, 2016



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- Guidance Documents
 - ▶ Increase efficiency of review
 - ▶ Increase transparency
 - ▶ To support decision making rooted in sound science in accordance all applicable laws



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- Basic Information required for submittal
 - ▶ Owner – project sponsor, landowner(s), etc.
 - ▶ Agent – consultants qualifications and experience
 - ▶ Project location – coordinates, town, HUCs, ecoregions, etc.
 - ▶ Written permission to access the property



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- Project goals
 - ▶ Why are you proposing the project
 - ▶ Address specific physical, chemical, and/or biological functions that will be improved
 - Example: Increase water retention time and restore native plant community to forested flat wetland



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■ Project Objectives

- ▶ How will the goals be achieved?
- ▶ Objectives will be specific and quantitative
 - Example: Restore 30 acres of forested flat wetland by plugging drainage ditches and planting native woody vegetation to increase water retention, biogeochemical transformation, maintain characteristic plant community, and improve wildlife habitat



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- Site Constraints
 - ▶ Describe constraints that would limit restoration potential
 - Adjacent Landuse, Roadways, Utility Lines, Stormwater outfalls



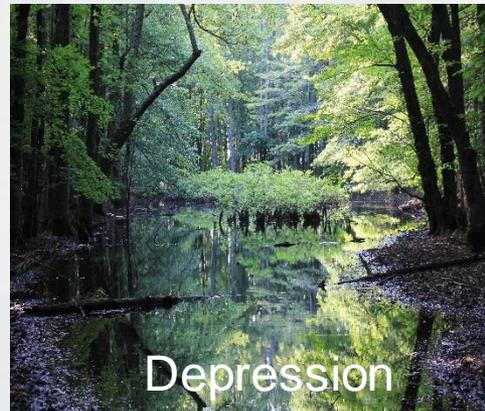
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- Wetland Assessment
 - ▶ Accurately document the baseline conditions and/or functions of any existing wetlands
 - Tennessee Rapid Assessment Method (TRAM)
 - Non-Hydrogeomorphic Methodology (HGM) TRAM
 - USACE Regional Guidebook for Applying the HGM Approach to Assessing the Functions of Flat and Seasonally Inundated Depression Wetlands on the Highland Rim.
 - Tennessee Valley Authority Rapid Assessment Methodology (TVA-RAM)
 - Floristic Quality Index, or other IRT approved assessment



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- Assessment needs to be completed for each wetland type and/or distinct plant community type.



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- Baseline Conditions
 - ▶ Describe existing conditions within the watershed and the proposed site
 - ▶ List and Describe all site selection criteria used to identify the site
 - ▶ Estimation of acreage of project site and wetland acreage within project site
 - ▶ Current On-site Land Use
 - ▶ Current Adjacent Land Use and Reasonable Expected Development



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- Baseline Conditions Continued
 - ▶ HGM Classification of each wetland type
 - ▶ Source of Hydrology that exist at the project site
 - ▶ Description of any existing hydrologic impairments contributing to baseline conditions
 - ▶ Hydrologic Monitoring should be conducted prior to baseline data collection and throughout monitoring period



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- Baseline Condition Continued
 - ▶ Current wetland habitat Cowardin classification types (acres for each type)
 - ▶ Dominant Plant Species (by stratum) identified throughout the site for each wetland type
 - ▶ Proposed Service Area (Banks) Advanced credit service are for (ILF Sites)



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- Maps
 - ▶ Parcel Maps
 - ▶ Map estimation of each on-site aquatic resource boundary
 - ▶ NRCS Hydric Rating Map
 - ▶ National Wetland Inventory Map
 - ▶ Topographic Map
 - ▶ Aerial Maps (current and historical)
 - ▶ Service Area (If applicable)
- Site Photographs



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- Proposed Mitigation Approach
 - ▶ Describe the mitigation approach for each area within the project site (establishment, re-establishment, rehabilitation, enhancement, and preservation)

Table 1. Summary of Mitigation Approach

Current Condition		Desired Condition			
<i>Classification</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Treatment Type</i>	<i>Classification</i>	<i>Credit Ratio</i>	<i>Credits</i>
Existing Wetland	5.72	Enhancement	PF01	4:1	1.43
Floodplain	1.70	Creation	PF01	1:1	1.70
Ag. Upland	4.24	Buffer Restoration	PF01	8:1	0.53
	11.66				3.66



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- ▶ Function Lift –Use the baseline data to describe how the proposed project will improve wetlands functions within each area.
 - Describe the target wetland Cowardin Classification, HGM Type, and ecological classification
 - Describe slope, size, and structure of the upland buffer
- ▶ Identify the reference site of the same HGM class and provide a description of the site.



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- Site Protection
 - ▶ Describe the long-term site protection
 - Conservation easement
 - Restrictive covenant
- Long-Term Management
 - ▶ Proposed ownership arrangements
 - ▶ Potential easement holder



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- Historic Properties
 - ▶ Provide a statement regarding the presence of cultural, archaeological, and/or historic resources
 - ▶ Information regarding cultural resources and the National Historic Preservation Act can be reviewed at the National Park Service's website: <http://www.nps.gov/nr/>
 - ▶ It is not necessary to conduct a Phase I historic resources survey at this time



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- Threatened and Endangered Species
 - ▶ Provide a discussion of any existing (state or federal) threatened or endangered species and/or their critical habitat known to exist on or near the site and cite the source of this information as well as the last year the population was documented
 - ▶ Listed species survey not required at this time



White fringeless orchid. Credit - USFWS



Tennessee yellow eyed grass



Questions

