

#### **MN Wetland Professional Certification Program Regional Training**

#### BOARD OF WATER



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End of the current renewal period

TER

<ul> <li>Current certification renewal period ends on December 31, 2023 for all who</li> </ul>
transferred to the MWPCP from the U of MN
<ul> <li>Wetland Delineation Certification Program.</li> <li>Credit reporting deadline for this renewal</li> </ul>
period is January 1, 2024.

 Submit the <u>Credit Hour Reporting Form</u> with proof of attendance no later than January 1, 2024.

Not required to submit a credit hour reporting form for MWPCP courses.

• COVID-related <u>temporary continuing</u> education policies will lapse at the end of 2023.

<b>MWPCP</b> Continuing	<b>Education Credit Hour Reporting Form</b>
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#### 2023 MWPCP Schedule

Certification

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- WCA Regulatory Training- St Cloud MNDOT Training Facility- April 20
- Regional Training: Rochester May 16-17
- Wetland Delineation and Regulation Basic Class: Arden Hills- June 12-16
- Floristic Quality Assessment (FQA)- MNDOT Shoreview Training Center June 20
- Basic Wetland Plant ID- Farmington (July 18) or Brainerd (July 20)
- Wetland Delineation Refresher- Prairie Woods ELC- Spicer- August 8
- Regional Training: Fergus Falls August 15-16
- Wetland Delineation and Regulation Basic Class: Brainerd September 11-15

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#### Next renewal period

AND SOLL RESOURCES

April 27, 2022

#### No. of Concession, Name · The next credit renewal period begins January 1, 2024 and ends on December 31, 2026.

- MWPCP Continuing Education policy, requires 18 credit hours of MWPCPapproved training.
- Six of those may be online training.

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- Day One:
- NRCS Wetland Determinations
- Special Considerations
- Restorations Orders
- Ag Bank Case Studies
- De minimis
- Group Delineation Review

## Day Two:

MWPCP Regional Training- Fergus Falls

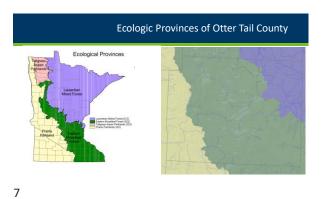
- Ecologic provinces of Otter Tail County
- Common Soil & Hydrology Indicators
- Soil Profile description exercise
- Lunch
- Chapter 5 or drainage exercises
- Antecedent Precipitation Tool
  - Field exercise- small group delineation exercise

Class Portal: https://bwsr.state.mn.us/node/4681



#### **Ecologic Provinces of Otter Tail County**

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Reading a Hydroscape: Factors & Parameters

Factors:

• Climate

• Ecology

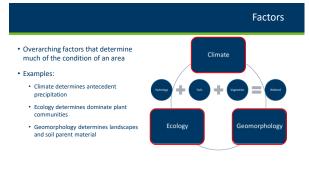
• Geomorphology

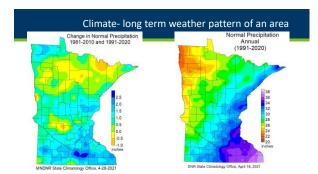
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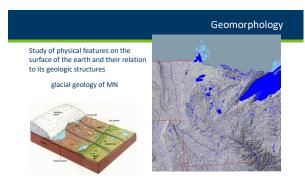
• Hydrology

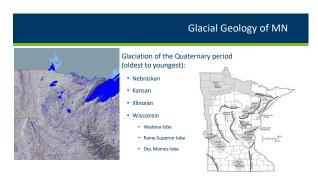
• Soil

• Plant Communities











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#### Eastern Broadleaf Forest Province

- Large province- Almost 12 million acres across MN, IA, WI, OH, NY, IL, IN, KT, MS, AR Transition between semi-arid prairie and semi-humid mixed forest of SE/NE
- Prairie species meet eastern ranges · Forest species meet western ranges
- Landforms largely glacial deposits and recent erosion
- Precipitation approximately equals evapotranspiration
- Avg Precipitation 24-35 inches
- Avg temperatures 38-46 F



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#### • In MN covers over 16 million acres Historically tallgrass prairie

- Evapotranspiration greater than precipitation
- Heavily glaciated including multiple advances during Wisconsin glaciation
- Des Moines lobe fronted by largest pro-glacial lake in North American- Glacial Lake Agassiz
- Glacial river Warren outlet south end of Agassiz and eroded much of current MN River valley





## Ecologic Sections of Otter Tail County Eastern Broadleaf Forest Province MN & NE Iowa Morainal Section Prairie Parkland Province Red River Valley Section North Central Glaciated Plains Section Laurentian Mixed Forest Province Northern MN Drift and Lake Plains Section

#### Eastern Broadleaf- MN Morainal Section

- Deciduous forests and prairie from Polk County to Iowa
- Glacial moraines deposited along eastern edge of Des Moines lobe
- Sand plains- including the Anoka- formed from sand deposited from melt water
- Historically varied plant communities based on topography, tolerance to moisture and fires
- Mesic forests found on fine textured soils on moraines
- Oak Savanna and aspen woodlands in sand plains
- Floodplain terrace forests along the Mississippi, Minnesota and St Croix rivers
- Sedge meadows found in former lake beds

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### Prairie Parkland- Red River Valley Section

- Uniform basin of Glacial Lake Agassiz
- Flattest region of MN
- Drained by Red River flowing north
- · Poorly drained silt and clay soils
- · Beach ridges indicated former shorelines Hardwood forests found in river valleys and on moraines along eastern edge

Marsh and wet meadow complexs found in river bottoms and shallow depressions

Prairie species dominate



#### Prairie Parkland- North Central Glaciated Plains Section

- · Rolling glacial till from Des Moines lobe
- · Moraines, lakes plains and outwash
- plains · Minnesota River valley bisects the
- section
- · Historically upland prairie firedependent communities
- · Prairie potholes shallow marsh and wet meadow wetlands



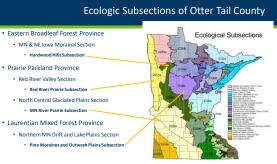
#### 21

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#### Northern MN Drift and Lake Plains Section

- Complex surficial geology formed by multiple glacial advances
- · Moraines, outwash plains, lake plains, drumlin fields
- Headwaters of the Mississippi River
- Glacial lakes Upham and Aitkin found in east
- Vegetation distribution varies with landforms: · Historically jack and red pine fire dependent forests
  - Sugar maple, basswood, aspen, red oak along moraines
  - · Peatland black spruce and black ash swamps





#### Hardwood Hills Subsection

- Eastern Broadleaf Forest Province MN & NE Iowa Morainal Section
- Alexandria moraine along the sub continental divide is headwaters to many rivers
  - Chippewa, Long Prairie, Sauk and Crow Wing Rivers



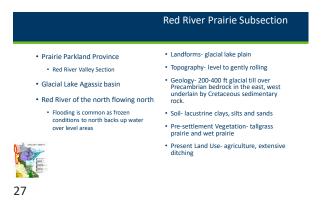


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- Landforms- Alexandria moraine west and south, end moraines, outwash plains
- Topography- steep slopes, hills and lakes along glacial terminal moraines Geology- 100-500 ft glacial till, Precambrian granite exposed along Crow River
- Soil- loamy sands/sandy loams on outwash plains, loams to clay loams on moraines
- Pre-settlement Vegetation- maple-basswood with oak savannas
- Present Land Use- agriculture, tourism

Hardwood Hills Subsection

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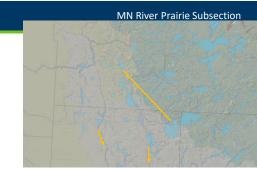


Glacial Lake Aggasiz	Red River Prairie Subsection
	Mar Ark

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Prairie Parkland Province	<ul> <li>Landforms- large till plains along the MN River, series of end moraines form east boundary, lake plains</li> </ul>
North Central Glaciated Plains Section	<ul> <li>Topography- level to gently rolling along moraines, steeper along MN River and the Big Stone moraine</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>MN River bisects the subsection in half. Valley was formed by glacial lake Warren draining Lake Agassiz</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Geology - 100-400 ft glacial till over Cretaceous sedimentary. Large area of granite near Ortonville scoured by Glacial River Warren</li> </ul>
Shallow, perched lakes common	<ul> <li>Soil – well to moderately well drained loamy soils with some clay/sand/gravel inclusions</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Many drained prairie pothole wetlands</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Pre-settlement Vegetation- tallgrass prairie and wet prairie. Silver maple, elm, cottonwood along floodplains</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Present Land Use- Agriculture, remnants of tallgrass prairie</li> </ul>

MN River Prairie Subsection



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#### Pine Moraines and Outwash Plains Subsection

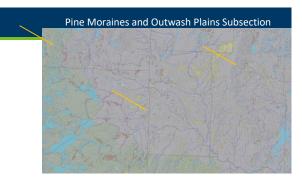
- Laurentian Mixed Forest Province
   Northern MN Drift and Lake Plains
   Section
- Headwaters of the Mississippi River
   Kettle lakes common in outwash plains
  - and stagnation moraines
  - Pine and Crow Wing Rivers





- Landforms- Itasca moraine north boundary, Alexandria moraine west, Rainy lobe ground and end moraines east
- Topography- moraines, outwash plains and drumlin fields, lakes within moraines
   Geology- thick glacial till (200-600 ft) over Precambrian bedrock
- Precambrian bedrock

  Soil- course textured sand and sandy loams
- Pre-settlement Vegetation- jack pine and northern pin oak
- Present Land Use- forest management, agriculture (west) and tourism



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1987 Corps Manual: "The sum total of wetness characteristics in areas that are inundated or have saturated soils for a sufficient duration to

Regional Supplements: "Wetland hydrology

indicators are used in combination with hydric

soil and hydrophytic vegetation to determine

whether an area is wetland under the Corps

support hydrophytic vegetation."

bwsr.state.mn.us/minnesota-wetland-professional-certification-program

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## Wetland Hydrology



#### Hydrology Technical Standard

..."inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a <u>frequency and duration</u>" Technical standard if hydrology indicators not

- observed: • 14 or more consecutive days of flooding or
- ponding;
- Water table 12 in. or less below soil surface;





manual."

#### Hydrology Indicators

Evidence that there is continuing hydrology and confirms that an episode of inundation/saturation occurred recently.

Wetland hydrology indicators are divided into two categories:

Primary - provide stand-alone evidence of a current or recent hydrologic event; and

Secondary - provide evidence of recent hydrology when supported by one or more other hydrology indicators.





water







Group C -

evidence of

saturation.

Hydrology Indicator Groups



<u>Group A</u> – direct observation of

Group B evidence of current or recent flooding/ponding

Group D – Landscape and veg. characteristics that indicate contemporary wetland conditions.















## Category: Primary

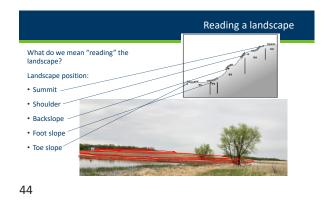
Water table 12 in. (30 cm) or less below the surface in a soil pit, auger hole, or shallow monitoring well.



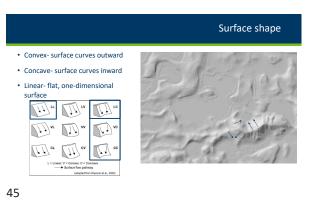
Category: Primary

soil samples.

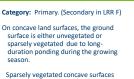
#### **D2:** Geomorphic position Category: Secondary This indicator is present if the area in question is located in a **localized depression**, linear drainageway, concave position within a floodplain, at the toe of a slope, on the low elevation fringe of a pond or other water body, or in an area where groundwater discharges. cept where a functioning age syste exists



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#### **B8: Sparsely vegetated concave surface**



should contrast with vegetated slopes and convex surfaces in the same area. Less than 5% ground cover.

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Secondary







#### **B6: Surface soil cracks**

#### Category: Secondary

Water destroys the soil structure which facilitates the cracking. Surface soil cracks consist of shallow cracks that form when fine-grained mineral or organic sediments dry and shrink

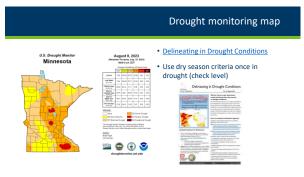


#### C2: Dry season water table

Category: Primary (GP) Secondary (NCNE/M) Visual observation of the water table between 12 and 24 in. (30 and 60 cm) below the surface during the normal dry season or during a drierthan-normal year.







#### **B7: Inundation on aerial imagery**

#### Category: Primary

One or more recent aerial photographs or satellite images that show the site to be inundated during the growing season





## C9: Saturation visible on aerial imagery

#### Category: Secondary

One or more recent aerial photographs or satellite images indicate soil saturation. Saturated soil signatures must correspond to field-verified hydric soils, depressions or drainage patterns, differential crop management, or other evidence of a seasonal high water table.



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#### D1: Stunted or stressed plants

#### Category:: Secondary

In agricultural or planted vegetation located in a depression, swale, or other topographically low area, this indicator is present if a majority of individuals of the same species growing in the potential wetland are clearly of smaller stature, less vigorous, or stressed compared with individuals growing in nearby drier landscape situations.



## **B9: Water-stained leaves**



Water-stained leaves are fallen or recumbent dead leaves that have turned grayish or blackish in color due to inundation for long periods.





## **B10: Drainage patterns**

#### **Category: Secondary**

Flow patterns visible on the soil surface or eroded into the soil, low vegetation bent over in the direction of flow, absence of leaf litter or small woody debris due to flowing water







### **B2: Sediment Deposits**

#### Category: Primary

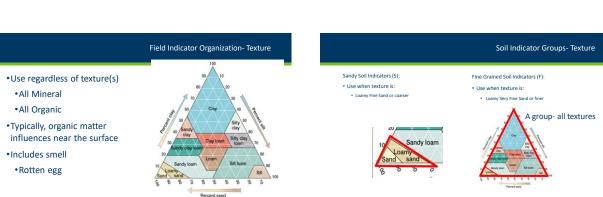
Sediment deposits are thin layers or coatings of fine-grained mineral material or organic matter remaining on tree bark, plant stems or leaves, rocks, and other objects after surface water recedes



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Indicator D7: F	rost-heave hummocks	
Category: Secondary This indicator consists of hummocky microtopography produced by <u>frost</u> <u>action</u> in saturated wetland soils.		Hy
17		BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

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#### D5: FAC – neutral test

Herb stratum

dric Soil Indicators

(Plot size:

#### Category: Secondary

The plant community passes the FAC-neutral test: Compile list of dominant plant species across all strata

2. Drop any with FAC

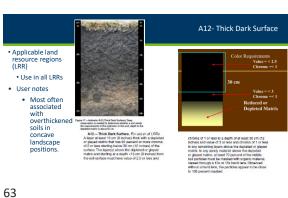
>50 % of remaining dominant species are FACW and/or OBL

If it's an equal number of each, then use non-dominant

\*This indicator uses the longer term nature of plants

	Diagnostic Zones
<ul> <li>Layers with :</li> <li>Certain Colors</li> <li>high value and low chroma</li> <li>redoximorphic features</li> </ul>	Value = < 2.5 Chroma =< 1
<ul> <li>organic matter accumulations</li> <li>Specific <b>Depths</b> from Surface</li> <li><b>Thickness</b> requirements</li> </ul>	• Value ≥4 Chronia ≤2

Diag	nostic Zones for S and F indicator groups
Sandy (S) Upper 15 cm (6")	Loamy / Clayey (F) Upper 30 cm (12")



A12- Thick Dark Surface	
Color Requirements Value = < 2.5 Chroma =< 1	• Covered in Chapter 5 of the regional supplem • Problematic hydric soils are the norm in some
Value = <3 Chroma =<3 Reduced or Depleted Matrix	<ul> <li>Red Parent Material (inhibited, or difficult t</li> <li>Active floodplains (deposition of new mate</li> <li>Drained systems (relict hydric indicators)</li> </ul>
choses of 1 or loads to a depth of al loads 30 om (12 liches) and value of 2 or loads and choses of 5 or loads in any veraming yours above the depth of depth of mithin. In any sarry material allows the depth of depth of general materials and 20 owned the three values of general materials and 20 owned and the values and general materials. The performance general materials without 1 and the three the performance general to be deter	<ul> <li>High Value (bright) / Low Chroma (grey),</li> <li>Thick prairie soils</li> <li>Sandy soils</li> </ul>

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Problematic Hydric Soils

#### nts

andscapes

- see redox features)
- al)



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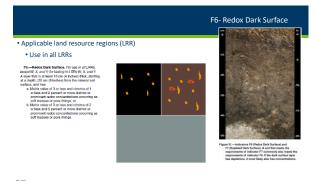
Procedure for Determining	Problematic Soil
	rioblematic soli

- 1) Determine whether hydrophytic vegetation is present (or problematic) & hydrology indicators are present
- 2) Describe the soil profile
- 3) Interpret whether landscape position has potential to concentrate water
- 4) Use one or more of the following approaches:
- apply indicators common to problem soils (thin muck, dark surface, poly value)
- Determine whether problematic soil situations are present (examples previously listed)
- Soil changes when exposed to air
- Hydrology monitoring

# A11- Depleted Below Dark Surface Applicable land resource regions (LRR)

• Use in all MN LRRs

A11.-Der



#### F7- Depleted Dark Surface

 Applicable land resource regions (LRR) Use in all LRRs

User notes

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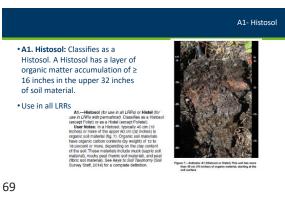
 Careful to not mistake an E horizon for depletions!

F7.—Depleted Dark Surface. For use in all LRRs, arcopt W, X, and Y. For tealing in LRRs W, X and Y. Redox depletions with value of 5 or more and chroma of 2 or ises in a layer that is at least 10 om (4 inchea) thick, starting at a deph: 320 om (5 inchea) from the mineral soil surface, and has: a. Matrix value of 3 or leas and chroma of 1 or leas and 10 percent or more redox depletions, or

Matrix value of 3 or less and chroma of 2 or less and 20 percent or more redox depletions



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Histic epipedon- saturated, organic horizons 8 inches or more thick in the upper part Applicable land resource regions (LRR)

• Use in all LRRs

A2.—Histic Epipedon. For use in all LRRs. A stic epipedon underlain by mineral soil material AL-mature-r-istic opjedou nuderlain by mineral sour russ-zhroma d' 2 or less. User Notes: Noch histic opjedons are surface horizons 20 cm (8 inches) or more thick of organic soll material (18, 8). Aquic conditions or artificial drainage is required. See Keys to Sol' Taxenory (Soll Survey Staff, 2014) for a complete definition.

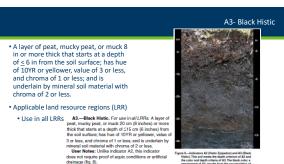
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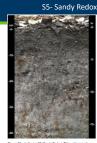
A2- Histic Epipedon

the depth criter ndica.. ): This soil me... vior and depth oriters... rement of A3, results in war when the soi Hist 3 (Black A2 and color, a



 Applicable land resource regions (LRR) • Use in all LRRs

S5.—Sandy Redox. For use in all LRRs, except for Q. V, W, X, and Y. A layer starting at a depth 515 cm (6 inches) from the soil surface that is at least 10 cm (4 inches) thick and has a matrix with 60 percent or more chroma of 2 or less and 2 percent or more distinct or prominent redox concentrations occurring as soft masses and/or pore linings.



requirements of indicator 55, new of 2 or less and at least 2 percent starting at a depth of about 10 or



BWSR Wetland Specialists

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# S1—Sampt Vacchy Wineraf, Pro use in al JPR or operating the UK VV, van Zi and protomis of LRP Datable of MERA 100, he have or insubmer oblight of the Meral in a Di Atchesi or more thank, sortice, and the Meral Insufation of the Meral Insufatio



Sandy mucky mineral & mucky peat





R Wetland Section | www.bwsr.state.mn.us/wetlar-/-

## Agenda

- Intro the basics of a drain (ditch or tile)
- Setback Guidance walk through the BWSR guidance, highlight key points
- Examples Case studies of drainage proposals
- Applications of the setback guidance drainage reviews, violations, banking

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• Questions

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#### What is Drainage?

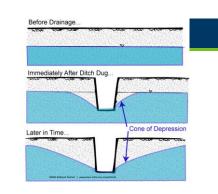
•Anything that *decreases* the input or *increases* the output of water can cause a drainage.

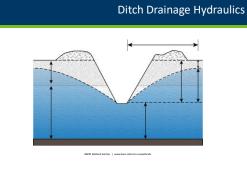
The challenge concerns determining if a decrease or increase is acceptable!!

land Section | www.bwsr.stat

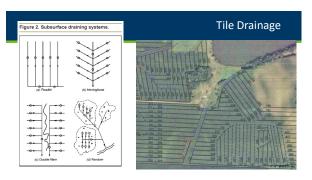


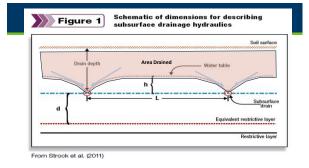














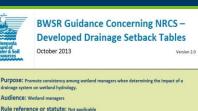
#### Setback Guidance

Why was guidance created???

 "promote consistency"

 For "wetland managers"

•Complements existing sources



Intended USE: Guidance Intended to complement USDA NRCS Drainage Setback Tables and Corps of Engineers Regional Supplements for wetland delineation.

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#### 1. Executive Summary

Guidance concerning the effect of a drain on wetland hydrology was developed. The guidance is intended as a companion to NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service)-issued drainage setback tables and to complement Regional Supplements to the Corps of Engineers Delineation Manuals in effect in Minness (a corps of Engineers) Northcentral and Northeast Regions, specifically those parts addressing altered hydrology. Elements of the guidance include purpose and applicability, background, technical discussion, drainage setback tables and instructions for their use, references and duration of the guidance. Appendices concerning barriers to permeability and organic soils are also provided.

#### ·Developed after the Supplements were published

·Links, does not replace, other sources

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#### Setback Guidance

#### 2. Purpose and Applicability

- This g dance was developed for several reasons: <u>Promote considence</u> among wetchand managers when determining the impact of a drainage system on wetchand hydrology. This was done by adopting NRCS-derived estimates of drainage setback. NRCS setback information is provided in county-specific tables generated from a generally accepted and consistent solis data base and by a generally accepted and consistent method of calculation: ance was d oped for se
- generally accepted and consistent method of calculation; <u>Provide supportent and acceptore</u> concerning the background and assumptions behind the van Schilfgaarde equation, the drainage equation used by NRSCs to develop setback tables; <u>Belleum same</u>, from the medt to research and self-general chainage estimates; and <u>Provide additional information</u> needed to assess hydrologic modification to vetlands.

#### •Supplement development = improvement in delineation methodology

•This guidance intended to direct users to one method

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#### Setback Guidance

Setback Guidance

#### 3. Background

Development of this guidance was necessitated by:

- The loss of on-line drainage equations and supporting soils data previously available through Hydrology Tools and supporting websites
- The difficulty for casual users to use ND-Drain, the replacement on-line procedure, and produce consistent results.

#### •Older guidance/sources were 'going away'

#### ·Guidance needed to preserve the 'best' methodology

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#### Setback Guidance

Drainage setback tables are approximations only and may not reflect actual field conditions. If the nature of their use requires more "precision", setback tables should be verified by comparison with other techniques for evaluating drainage. Wet conditions may persist after drainage. Consequently, in no case should drainage tables overrule onsite evidence of wetland hydrology.<sup>3</sup> The extent to which wet conditions persist after drainage depends on several factors:

•The methodology is NOT precise – assumptions abound!!!

• "Lateral effect 'precision' is akin to a meat axe as opposed to a scalpel" Greg Larson via email (2008)

#### Setback Guidance

5. Drainage setback tables, their use and limitations

Sa. Tables

wiminsona services a users are available through the Minimesica nets. I terminal resources Website. A link is provided below. The tables are county-point, have a date of issuince, and include user netsers. NRCS specifically attates on user notes that the setback distances are only for the situation where a drainage system will be installed and the and/owner wishes to avoid impacting wetdand hydrology. The tables are subject to change so users should refer to the NRCS Webbite for current information.

nesota NRCS uses "setback distance" rather than lateral effect. These terms are not interchangeable. In the gment of NRCs staff, the setback distance is the minimum distance, in feet, from the wetland boundary to the territine of the tile line or to the toe of the ditch bank for drainage ditches necessary to minimize adverse hydro area the adverse territion.

·Setback distances do not fully protect wetlands

•Distances 'minimize' hydrologic impacts if appropriately used

#### BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

## Drainage Project Fact Sheet for Wetland Conservation Act Compliance

Wetlands Section, Minnesota Board of Water & Sail Resources

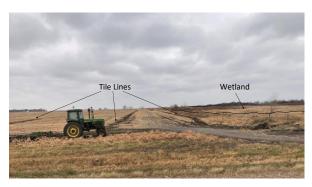
Version: 1.1 Date: 4/26/2019

#### Purpose

Projects that involve the installation, improvement, repair and/or maintenance of public or private drainage systems (calculated) referred to as "drainage projects") mut comply with the provisions of the Monoscota Wethand Conservation at (WGA). These projects bipolich involve construction-type activities in or near wethand: regulated under WGA rules and taxes the potential to impact these wethands. Wethand impacts projected by the WGA rules and taxes the potential to impact these wethands. Wethand impacts intended to identify the type of information that a often needed to evaluate drainage projects for WGA applications for WGA compliances, and local government unot (LGG) and technois availation panel (TEP) representations can use to inform their review of applications.

WCA Compliance Information

#### 91



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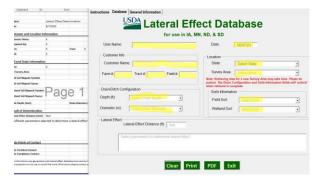


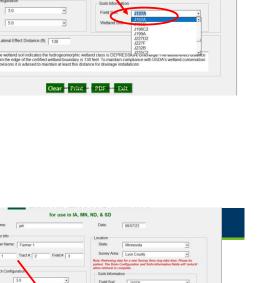
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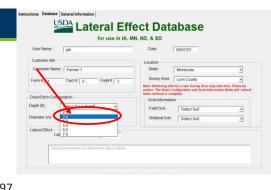
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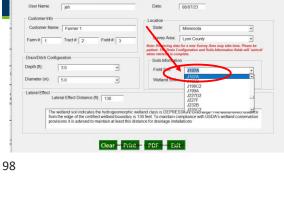






08/07/23



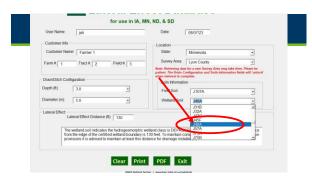


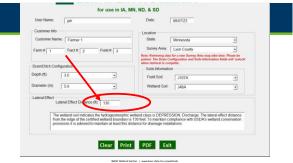
for use in IA, MN, ND, & SD

Date:

User Name:

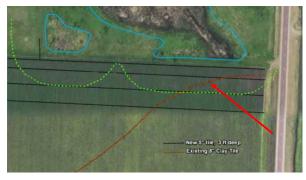
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Setback Distance Use

	Sequencing	🗆 Replacement Plan 🛛 🗋 Bi	
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westiken repaintern rype.	Basi Crefts	Creeks	
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echnical Evoluation Panel Fi			
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Approved with Condition	Constant Andrew Ma	E Asserved	D Devied
List Conditions	Decel second.	IN MORTHMEN	C) Device
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in pert 6420,0420 must ensu			
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8. the activity does not block		ercourse, except when done p	
8. the activity does not block to prevent movement of uno		ercourse, except when done p in accordance with a recomme	
8. the activity-does not block to prevent movement of uno commissioner; and	destrable fish species	in accordance with a recomme	ridation from the
8. the activity-foes not block to prevent movement of uno commissioner; and C. the activity is conducted in	destrable fish species	in accordance with a recomme	ndation from the
<ol> <li>the activity does not block to prevent movement of uno commissioner; and</li> <li>the activity is conducted is requirements, including best</li> </ol>	destrable fish species n compliance with all t management practic	in accordance with a recomme other applicable federal, state on according to the document	ndation from the and local interested in part
8. the activity-does not block to prevent movement of use commitatorie; and C. the activity-is conducted in requirements, including best PADS0112, thems 1, M, and P	Antrable fish species in compliance with all t management practic V, and water resource	in accordance with a recomme	ndation from the and local interested in part
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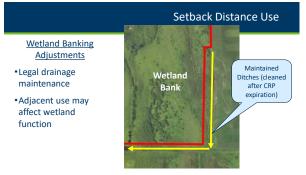
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#### Setback Distance Use



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#### Incompatible Adjacent Activities may lead to...

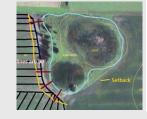
- •Boundary changes
- •Reduced credit, or no credit areas



#### Violations



- Restoration order issued and perforated tile was
  replaced with non-perforated tile.
- SWCD verified that restoration order was complied with.



- Violations
- SWCD initially issued a NOD for a setback of 90' for this producer.
- SWCD was reviewing aerials for another project near this particular site and notice potential violation.
- SWCD discussed problem with producer
- Perforated tile within the setback distance was replaced with non-perforated tile.

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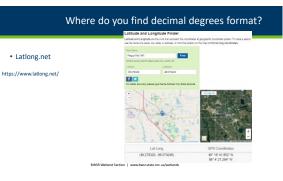
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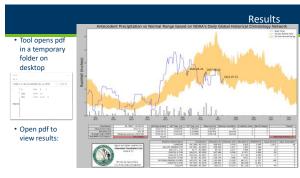


https://www.epa.gov/wotus/antecedent-precipitation-tool-apt

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#### Antecedent Precipitation Evaluation Review

- Important for accurate interpretations/observations
- Done by the delineator
- Included in the report
- Should support your conclusion.
- Not always clear...Best Professional Judgement needed.
- Several methods available, each with certain strengths/weaknesses...
- Discussed in detail via BWSR and other Guidance Documents.