



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Norfolk District Announces Implementation of the Interim Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plain Regional Supplement to the 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual

On December 3, 2008 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Norfolk District announced in a public notice the publication and one-year trial implementation of the *Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plain Interim Regional Supplement* (Supplement) to the 1987 *Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual* (1987 Manual). Starting January 3, 2009 the data forms and wetland indicators detailed in the Supplement must be used for all wetland delineations performed within the Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plains. Field testing will be conducted by interagency teams comprised of State and Federal wetland scientists for one (1) year prior to finalization, in order to determine the ease of use and to what extent wetland boundaries may differ from those delineated using parameters set forth in the 1987 Manual. Wetland delineations performed prior to January 3, 2009 within the Coastal Plain region, but not yet submitted to the Corps for confirmation, will be grandfathered.

The Supplement is applicable in regions of Virginia generally east of Interstate 95 and is also applicable in Washington D.C. Graphics in the Supplement depicting the approximate boundaries of the Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plain depict fairly distinct breaks; however, transitional areas will obviously exist along sub-regional boundaries. If a delineation is required in a transitional area along the edge of the Coastal Plain or Piedmont regions, the Norfolk District Corps office may be contacted to determine whether the Supplement or the 1987 Manual should be used. During the interim period, if application of the Supplement has resulted in a significantly different wetland boundary than that determined using the 1987 Manual, both delineations may be submitted to the Corps. The Corps District will then make the final determination based on analysis of all of the submitted information and this information may, in turn, result in potential modifications to the Supplement.

The full Public Notice and links to the Supplement can be found at the following address: http://www.nao.usace.army.mil/technical%20services/Regulatory%20branch/PN/Interim_Supplement_PN/Interim_Supplement_PN.htm

For more information, please contact your WEG Project Manager at any of our offices: Williamsburg (757) 220-6869, Richmond (804) 267-3474, Herndon (703) 437-3096 or Fredericksburg (540) 785-5544.