

Wetland Confirmation Service and Non-Growing Season Determinations

DNR will begin piloting the issuance of wetland confirmations during the non-growing season over the winter of 2019-2020. This service will be provided on a case by case basis, as site conditions allow. Sites that are good candidates for non-growing season wetland confirmations include, but are not limited to, review areas that lack all three wetland parameters (upland determinations) and review areas that have distinct wetland boundaries. DNR will take the following information into consideration before issuing confirmation decisions during the non-growing season.

- A. Were data for all three wetland parameters collected in the field and properly documented?
 - This means standard wetland delineation data forms must be completed.
- B. Were all standard wetland delineation reporting protocols followed?
 - This means a complete wetland delineation report must be prepared and submitted to DNR.
- C. Will environmental conditions allow DNR to complete an adequate field review?
 - This means that if deep snow, frozen soil, unidentifiable vegetation, or indefinite topography changes are present, DNR may not be able to issue a confirmation decision.

If DNR determines that any of the above information is lacking, or that site conditions will prevent an adequate field review, a wetland confirmation decision will not be issued until the following spring.

As a pilot, DNR wetland identification specialists are the only wetland professional that is able to perform wetland confirmations at this time. Professional delineators including assured delineators are welcome to work with DNR staff for appropriate sites where winter confirmations are feasible.

Examples of sites that may be able to have a wetland confirmation review completed outside the growing season are depicted below.



Areas that lack all three wetland parameters (upland determination). Photographs from DNR E-permitting database.

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Why

- Reduce unnecessary project delays for areas that clearly do not have wetland resources, or areas with distinct wetland boundaries.

When

- On a case-by-case basis for wetland delineations completed during the non-growing season.

How

1. Complete necessary field work, including data collection, wetland flagging, and mapping.
2. Complete a standard wetland delineation report.
3. Make a wetland confirmation service request using DNR's E-Permitting system.
The E-permitting system can be accessed here:
<https://permits.dnr.wi.gov/water/SitePages/Wetland%20ID%20General%20Permit.aspx>

Who

- Any wetland professional including assured and non-assured delineators.
- Standard fees will be applied to confirmations or identification requests that are processed.

For More Information Visit the WDNR Wetland Identification Webpage:
<https://DNR.WI.Gov/topic/Wetlands/Identification>

