

Wetland Study Council Meeting

February 27, 2020

Participants: Tracy Hames, Robert Rosenberger, Karen Gefvert, Stacy Jepson, Matt Howard, Tom Larson, Paul Kent

Agenda Topic	Notes/Follow-up
Federal WOTUS jurisdiction rule implications for WDNR wetlands program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New rule to take effect 60 days from 1/23/2020• Federally regulated wetlands to be reduced• Could lead to increased demand for JDs and nonfederal wetland exemptions• WDNR to provide talking points and WOTUS factsheet to Council (action item)
Review discussion with USACE from 1/23/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Range of options for process improvement:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Develop a JD process similar to the wetland delineation process○ Train professionals (such as assured delineators) to make JDs that WDNR will accept for nonfederal exemptions (action item)○ Fund a Corps position for reviewing JDs and flood mitigation and resiliency work (action item)○ Make an ask to WI federal delegation to allow Corps to delegate JD responsibility (action item)
404 assumption and alternatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council to revisit draft statement on 404 assumption from 2019• Option to pursue assumption to remain open should other alternatives be deemed infeasible
Council officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Motion to appoint Seth Hudson as Council Chair and Tracy Hames as Council Vice Chair passed unanimously.
ILF Program Factsheet	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changes suggested including adding first point on general mitigation, when ILF can be used for mitigation, and simplifying language for project timelines (action item)
Future meeting planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Future meetings planned for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Thu 3/19, 9:00-11:00am○ Thu 4/16, 9:00-11:00am, move to 10:00-12:00pm?○ Thu 5/21, 9:00-11:00am○ Thu 6/18, 9:00-11:00am