

# Wisconsin Wetland Study Council (WSC)

## MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 14, 2024 | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm | Teams and in-person

<u>Agenda Topic</u>	<u>Notes/Follow-up</u>
<b>Call to Order</b>	<p>WSC Attendees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Jen Schmidt</li><li>- Tracy Hames</li><li>- Tim Andryk</li><li>- Jeff Kraemer</li><li>- Stacy Jepson</li><li>- Carol McCoy</li><li>- Ben Callan</li><li>- Paul Kent</li></ul> <p>Other participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Tom N</li><li>- Allison W</li><li>- Jennifer Westernhauser</li><li>- Kara Brooks</li><li>- Jane Landretti</li><li>- Scott Wind</li><li>- Klara Henry</li><li>- Scott Rewolinski</li><li>- Erin Obrien</li><li>- Kate Hanson</li></ul>
<b>Public Comment</b>	None
<b>Agenda Approval</b>	<b>Decision:</b> <i>Approved (Jepson and Andryk)</i>
<b>Board Minutes Approval</b>	<b>Decision:</b> <i>Approved (Callan and Kraemer)</i>
<b>2025 Meeting Dates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Keep same timelines (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every other month 10 to noon)</li><li>• Discussed field visits – July 16 field meeting</li><li>• <b>DNR to schedule/place calendar holds</b></li></ul>
<b>General Permit Update</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 5 GPs still on hold</li><li>• Consultation with Lac du Flambeau tentatively scheduled for December</li></ul>
<b>Legislative Update</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Update on Assured Delineator Bill</li><li>• Is progressing, and most items have reached consensus with all stakeholders. Only one item remaining for discussion.</li><li>• Jeff Kraemer to share proposed language with WSC on final discussion item.</li></ul>

<b>Integrated Watershed Committee</b>	Will have a document ready to share for the January meeting.
<b>Wetland Dashboard</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussed data, and net wetland gain.</li> <li>• Topic to revisit in the future: inclusion of data from transportation projects.</li> <li>• Brief discussion held about whether the net gain is doing enough to compensate for the wetland functions that have been lost across the landscape, historically.</li> </ul>
<b>Act 183/Wetland Exemption Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Producing a report that shows the data, reflecting Act 183 effects. Request to study council for this meeting is for them to provide input on what type of additional information they would like to include in the report.</li> <li>• TH – could an average acreage of request be documented somehow (or median)</li> <li>• JK – could we include an average amount of time spent on exemption reviews</li> <li>• BC – can we farm time codes to get that estimate of time spent on typical review?</li> <li>• TH – can the hours spent be used to show revenue lost</li> <li>• JK – recommends financing of program and effects of Act 183 on Program finances be included in the report</li> <li>• TA – thinks the more appropriate route is to focus on what services are not being completed at the expense of focusing on Act 183 Exemptions, rather than financial implications.</li> <li>• The committee will present a full report at the Jan meeting and include data on impacts to DNR program and public/services.</li> </ul>
<b>Discussion of September Public Comments</b>	<p>Permitting Conservation Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TH – recommends forming a committee to discuss the issues</li> <li>• BC – With agreement of issue summary document, DNR will now provide responses to each item in the document. This could be a starting point for discussions that the committee can use to begin evaluating the topics. DNR will provide responses, not recommendations during this stage. Product will include categorization of items, and then provide DNR responses to each item.</li> <li>• TA – Recommends stakeholders participate in the eventual committee that studies this issue. Also suggests DNR reach out to stakeholders on this topic, not just the WSC members.</li> </ul>
<b>New business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>

<b>Adjournment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="690 142 1071 172">• Kraemer and Andryk (11:51)</li></ul>