

TECHNICAL GUIDE

USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service
Columbia, SC

SECTION I

April 2007

WETLAND DETERMINATION AND/OR DELINEATION TOOLS

INTRODUCTION

Field offices use a variety of tools and sources of information when making wetland determinations and/or delineations in support of the applicable wetland labels attached to a site, based on the condition of that site as of December 23, 1985. The wetland legacy tools used in the wetland determination and/or delineation are located in various places at the Field Office.

Table 1 - Wetland Legacy Tools and Their Location in the Field Office lists the wetland legacy tools as well as where most of the tools are located.

All documentation related to wetland determination and/or delineation will be kept in the appropriate producer case file. It will stay with the land regardless of changes in ownership. If the land is split into multiple ownerships, make sure that all wetland determination/delineation documentation is copied and filed in all applicable case files for future reference.

Wetland determinations/delineations and all supporting documentation, regardless of age, are not to be discarded.

TABLE 1. Wetland Legacy Tools and Their Locations in the Field Office

WETLAND LEGACY TOOLS	LOCATION IN FIELD OFFICE
U.S.G.S. topographic maps depicting the site and the watershed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Topographic Images" in f:\geodata\ topographic image 2. Paper copies 3. Field office map case
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetland Inventory maps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. http://wetlandfws.er.usgs.gov/NWI/index.html 2. Paper copies 3. Field office map case
Site-specific maps, including county location maps and conservation plan maps, etc., (i.e., the photo base used to delineate the wetland area)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Producer case file 2. Customer Service Tool Kit 3. Field office map case
NRCS soil survey maps, including published soil surveys and/or site specific soil mapping where hydric soils or soils with hydric inclusions on the site have been previously identified. This includes all documentation regarding site-specific soils data sheets created during an on-site investigation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Producer case file 2. http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/ 3. Customer Service Toolkit 4. NRCS County Soil Survey – hard copy
Aerial photographs, including Black and White NHAP and Color IR photography	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Customer Service Toolkit: f:geodata 2. ArcGIS 3. Field office map case
FSA compliance slides of the site	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Local FSA office 2. Customer Service Toolkit: f:geodata
Climatological data to ensure that the wetland signatures were reflective of long term hydrological conditions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Producer case file 2. eFOTG section II climatic data, WETS tables: http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/treemenuFS.asp
Approved mapping conventions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NRCS State Office
Hydric soils list and addendum	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Producer case file 2. Soil Data Viewer 3. FOTG http://soils.usda.gov/use/hydric/ 4. Customer Service Toolkit
"As Built" designs of prior drainage installation and/or allowable maintenance, if available	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Producer case file (wetland determinations/delineations and all supporting documentation, regardless of age, are not to be discarded)
All mitigation, restoration, creation and/or minimal effect evaluations, plans, and designs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Producer case file (wetland determinations/delineations and all supporting documentation, regardless of age, are not to be discarded)

<p>All wetland and/or floodplain easements that specify specific wetland areas, the basis under which the easement, restoration, creation, mitigation or minimal effect was completed, and the dates of acquisition and implementation of the easement, restoration, creation, mitigation or minimal effect functional evaluation</p>	<p>1. Producer case file (wetland determinations/delineations and all supporting documentation, regardless of age, are not to be discarded)</p>
<p>Drainage district maps</p>	<p>1. Producer case file 2. Field office map case</p>
<p>Floodplain maps</p>	<p>1. Producer case file 2. Paper copies 3. Field office map case</p>