

Section III**Wetland Conservation Compliance Provision Improvement Action Plan**

In order to maintain a good relationship between NRCS staff and our customers, Montana NRCS will provide an efficient wetland determination/delineation and review process and will ensure separation between field conservationists and USDA program participants. NRCS field staff will not deal directly with USDA participants within their service area during the Wetland Conservation Compliance (WCC) certified wetland determination/delineation process, including appeals. WCC Provision efficiency will be provided by using trained Certified Wetland Specialists to conduct determination/delineations, appeals, scope and effect determinations, etc.

A certified wetland determination/delineation is triggered by receipt of an AD-1026 and /or a "569" form indicating activity in a wet area which may make commodity crop production possible. The District Conservationist will arrange for Certified Wetland Specialist assistance from outside of the service area when responding to such notification of activity in a wetland. To the extent possible, area and state level assistance will be reserved for WCC Provision appeals. Area Resource Soil Scientist assistance may be necessary for initial certified wetland determination/delineation work. Montana NRCS employees with Job Approval Authority to make wetland determinations are listed in the following matrix.

Section III

MATRIX OF WETLAND JOB APPROVALS
MONTANA NRCS

NAME	Duty Station	OFFSITE- DETERM/DELIN	SOILS- DETERM/DELIN	VEG- DETERM/DELIN	HYD- DETERM/DELIN	WC LABELS	SCOPE AND EFFECT	MINIMAL EFFECT*	MITIGATION EASEMENT	HGM MODELS
Albert, Meredith	GFAO		3	2	3	2	1	1	1	
Becker, Steve	SO		2	2	3	3	3	1	1	a, b, c, d
Blaine, John	MAO		3	3	3	3	2	1	1	
Brooker, Jay	MAO		3	3	3	3	2	1	1	
Caquelin, Rick	GFAO		3	3	3	3	2	1	1	
Cole, Pat	BAO		3	3	3	3	2	3	1	a, d
Combs, Jeff	SO		2	3	3	2	1	3	1	a, c, d
Drummond, Bill	SO		3	3	3	3	2	1	1	
Ellenburg, Martin	MCAO		1	2	2	1	1	1	1	d
Eneboe, Stacy Denny	Conrad FO		3	3	3	3	2	1	1	
Feist, Don	Plains FO		3	3	3	3	2	1	1	
LaLiberty, Joel	BAO		3	3	3	3	2	1	1	
Lauridson, Pat	MAO		3	3	3	3	2	3	1	d
Mahoney, Chris	Bozeman FO		3	3	3	3	2	1	1	
Mitchell, Robert	MCAO		3	3	3	3	2	1	1	
Ostberg, Cari	GFAO		3	3	3	3	2	1	1	
Sacks, Julie	MAO		3	3	3	3	2	1	1	
Schrecengost, Josh	GFAO		3	3	3	3	2	2	1	a, d
Paddock, Jennifer	WSS FO		3	3	3	3	2	1	1	
Whithed, Matt	Hamilton FO		3	3	3	3	2	1	1	
LEVEL 1	Has attended appropriate training, but lacks the experience to conduct the task independently.									
LEVEL 2	Has successfully completed all required training, including updated courses. Can apply the principles with limited oversight. Data sheets require review by a Level 3 Wetland Specialist.									
LEVEL 3	Has successfully completed all required training, including updated courses. Has demonstrated proficiency in applying the principles. No review is needed.									
a	HGM DEPRESSIONAL Pothole Models									
b	HGM SLOPE Model									
c	HGM RIVERINE Models									
d	Montana DOT Wetland Assessment Method									
	I certify that those staff members provided the highest job approval authority (Level 3) have <u>successfully completed all appropriate training, including updated courses</u> , related to the skills needed to accomplish the specific task listed and have repeatedly <u>demonstrated the proficiency</u> needed to make an adverse technical decision as defined in the NRCS Appeals Procedures (7 CFR 614). *All minimal Effects must be concurred on by the State Resource Conservationist.									
	STATE RESOURCE CONSERVATIONIST: /s/ by Kale Gullett, 4/24/2015 (Original filed in SO)									
	STATE SOIL SCIENTIST: /s/ by William J. Drummond, 4/24/2015 (Original filed in SO)									
	STATE CONSERVATION ENGINEER: /s/ by Steve Becker, 4/24/2015 (Original filed in SO)									