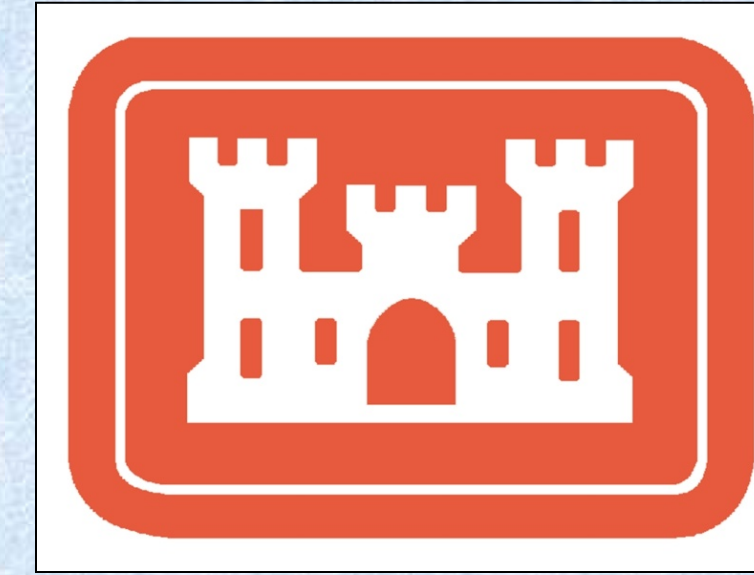


REGIONAL SUPPLEMENTS TO THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS WETLAND DELINEATION MANUAL: 2012 STATUS REPORT

Jacob F. Berkowitz - U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center



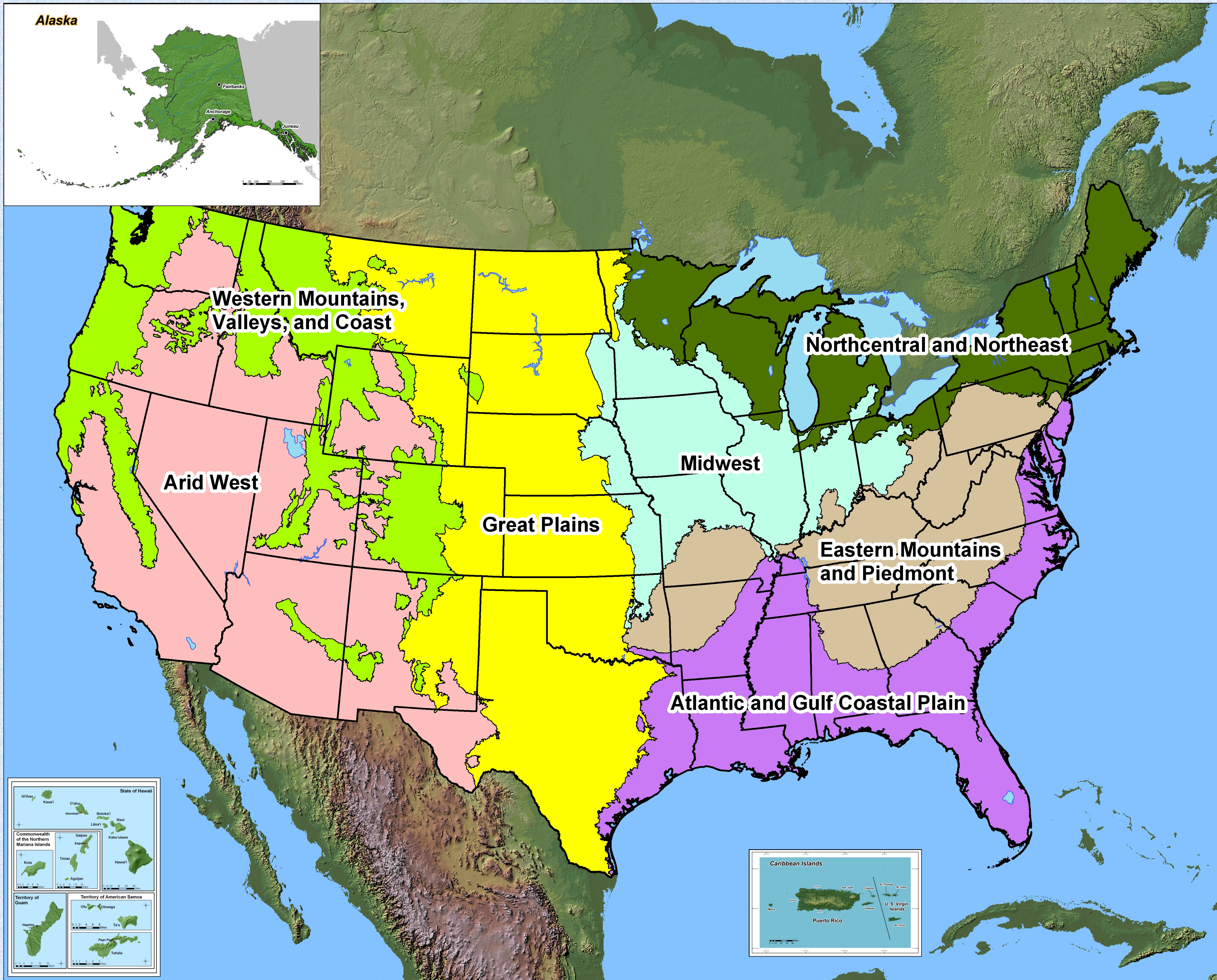
Background:
 The project to develop ten Regional Supplements to the *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual* is now nearing completion. To date, ten supplements have been published and implemented in their regions. Following completion of a one year interim period and subsequent review, each regional supplement has now been updated and published as Version 2.0. Additionally, revisions to the *Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual* are ongoing.

Purpose:

- Update the 20-year-old wetland delineation manual to reflect the state-of-the-science
- Improve sensitivity to regional differences in climate, landforms, geology, soils, hydrologic regimes, and plant and animal distributions
- Address National Academy of Sciences recommendations
- Establish a continuing mechanism to propose, review, and approve periodic updates

Contents of a Regional Supplement:

- Description of the region
- Hydrophytic vegetation indicators
- Hydric soil indicators
- Wetland hydrology indicators
- Guidance for “difficult wetland situations” in the region
- Data form



Publication Schedule:

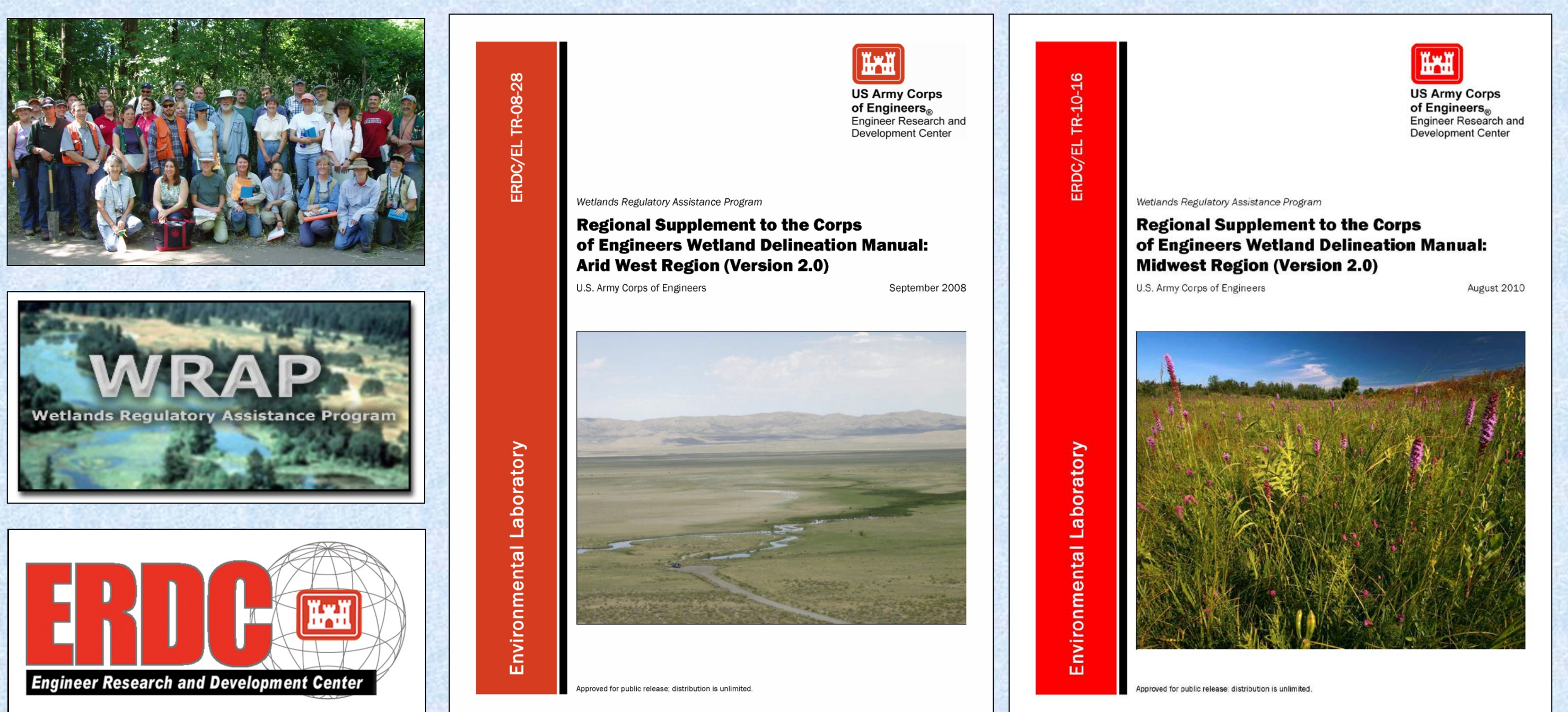
Regional Supplement	Target Date
Alaska (Version 2.0)	Published
Arid West (Version 2.0)	Published
Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast (Version 2.0)	Published
Great Plains (Version 2.0)	Published
Midwest (Version 2.0)	Published
Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plain (Version 2.0)	Published
Caribbean Islands (Version 2.0)	Published
Northcentral and Northeast (Version 2.0)	Published
Hawaii and Pacific Islands (Version 2.0)	Published
Eastern Mountains and Piedmont (Ver. 2.0)	Published
Revision of the 1987 Manual (Draft)	Ongoing

- Partners:**
- More than 200 individuals have served on Regional Working Groups, including representatives of the following agencies and universities:
- **Federal**
 - US Army Corps of Engineers
 - USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - US Environmental Protection Agency
 - US Fish and Wildlife Service
 - US Forest Service
 - **State and Local**
 - Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
 - Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department
 - Arkansas Multi-Agency Wetland Planning Team
 - Florida Department of Environmental Protection
 - Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources
 - Indiana Department of Environmental Management
 - Iowa Department of Transportation
 - Lake County Illinois Forest Preserve
 - Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
 - Maine Department of Agriculture
 - Maryland Department of the Environment
 - Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
 - Minnesota Department of Environmental Quality
 - Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
 - New York Department of Environmental Conservation
 - Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
 - Oregon Department of State Lands
 - Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources
 - Southeast Wisconsin Planning Commission
 - Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
 - Texas Department of Transportation
 - Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
 - Toledo Ohio Metropolitan Park District
 - Washington Department of Ecology
 - **University**
 - Austin Peay State University
 - Colorado State University
 - Stephen F. Austin State University
 - Tennessee Tech University
 - Texas A&M University
 - University of Alaska
 - University of Hawaii, Manoa
 - **Other**
 - Another 75 people, mostly private-sector experts, have served on independent peer-review teams for each Regional Supplement.

- Steps in the development and implementation of a Regional Supplement:**
- Form a Regional Working Group of wetland experts from Federal, state, and local agencies
 - Draft the Regional Supplement in cooperation with the Regional Working Group
 - Review of the draft supplement by the interagency National Advisory Team (NAT)
 - Review by an Independent Peer-Review Team of mostly private-sector volunteers, following US Office of Management and Budget guidance
 - Field test the draft supplement following a protocol developed by the NAT
 - Release the draft supplement on a Public Notice for review and comments
 - Finalize and publish the Regional Supplement
 - Corps Districts in the region release Public Notices implementing the “interim” supplement for a 1-year trial
 - Revise and publish Version 2.0 of the supplement
 - Release Public Notices for final Regional Supplement Implementation



The Corps of Engineers thanks all those who have contributed to this effort!



For information and updates:
http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/RegulatoryProgramandPermits/reg_supp.aspx