



**Natural Resource Conservation
Service (NRCS)/
US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
Partnership**

*Working Together
Toward Shared Goals*



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USACE Liaison

Cynthia J. Wood

Institute of Water Resources

Alexandria, Virginia

(703) 428-6413

Cynthia.J.Wood@usace.army.mil

NRCS Liaison

Tim Sweeney

National Water Management Center

Little Rock, Arkansas

(501) 210-8917

Tim.Sweeney@ar.usda.gov



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Overview

- **Partnership- Past and Current**
- **Handbook**
 - Purpose
 - Shared Goals
 - Mission, Authorities, Organization
 - Other Major Sections of Handbook
- **Next Steps in Partnership**



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Partnership History

- **August 2002: Exchange of Agency Personnel** (Liaisons)- NRCS, National Water Management Center and USACE (MVD)
- **July 2005: NRCS/USACE Partnership Agreement signed**
- **December 2005: MOA between USACE and NRCS** (established framework for the provision of goods and services between the agencies)





**Ms. JoEllen Darcy (ASA CW) and Mr. Dave White, NRCS
Signing Ceremony of the Renewed NRCS/USACE Partnership Agreement
May 26, 2011**

6 Focus Areas of the New Agreement

1. **Watershed Planning and Implementation**
2. **Wetland Creation, Restoration, and Enhancement, including Coastal Restoration**
3. **Recovery from Disasters Impacting Natural Resources, including Restoration**



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Focus Areas of the New Agreement

4. **Water Quality Improvements, Water Supply Development and Water Management**
5. **Coordination of other programs/activities including Wetland Conservation Compliance (Swampbuster) and Regulatory Programs (Section 10/404 Permits)**
6. **Coordination of programs/activities that promote wise use of floodplains, including participation in the Federal Interagency Floodplain Management Task Force**



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What is Partnering?

**What is the Goal
for the NRCS/USACE
Partnership?**



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Partnering is a way of working together that creates and fosters a commitment between two or more entities for achieving mutually beneficial objectives and for creating synergy by maximizing the effect of each organization's resources.



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Strong partnering relationships are based upon **trust**, dedication to common goals, and an **understanding** of each other's expertise, expectations, and values.



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NRCS/USACE Partnership Goal

To promote a long term working relationship to improve the efficiency of delivery of services to our respective clients related to management of water and related natural resources with respect to the missions and authorities of NRCS and USACE.




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What is currently being done to accomplish this goal?



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What is currently being done to accomplish this goal?

1. Communications (monthly teleconferences, liaisons, brochure, website)
2. Data sharing (Wetland Reserve and Floodplain easement locations)
3. Renewed Partnership Agreement and Regional agreements



NRCS/USACE Regional MOU Partnership Agreement



Signing Ceremony

15 April 2011



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What is currently being done to accomplish this goal?

4. Action Plan/Plan of Work for 2011
5. Formed the NRCS/USACE Regulatory Workgroup to address issues facing Regulatory
6. NRCS/USACE Handbook



NRCS/USACE Partnership HANDBOOK

A Field Guide to Working Together Toward Shared Goals



APRIL 2011 Version 1.0



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NRCS/NWMC website

<http://wmc.ar.nrcs.usda.gov/partnerships/COE/partnership.html>

USACE website

http://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/docs/projects/Partnership_Handbook_April_2011.pdf



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Purpose of the Handbook

To facilitate active cooperation and collaboration between NRCS and the USACE at the field level on water resource issues and challenges.



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The NRCS/USACE Partnership Handbook

Identifying Shared goals



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What are those Shared Goals:

- ❖ Wetland protection and restoration
- ❖ Flood risk management
- ❖ Wildlife habitat creation
- ❖ Sediment management
- ❖ Natural disaster recovery
- ❖ Integrated water resources management



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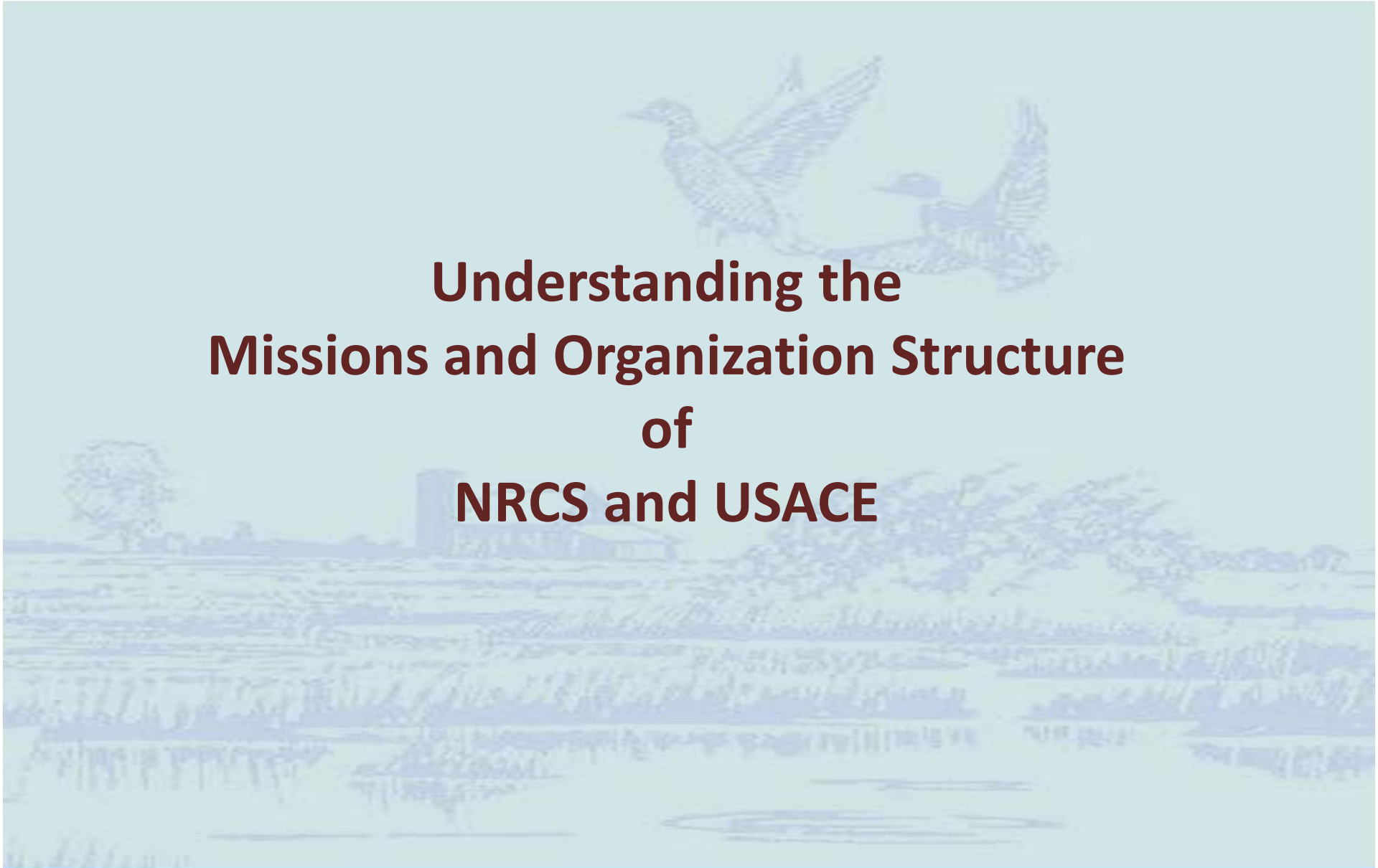


	NRCS Programs					
USACE Programs	Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) Wildlife Habitat Program (WHIP)	Conservation Technical Assistance, Environmental Quality Incentives (EQIP), Grassland Reserve Program Floodplain Easement Program (FPE)	Emergency Watershed Protection Program Floodplain Easements	Emergency Watershed Program - Traditional Stream clearance and Restoration, Debris Removal Dam program	Watershed Programs Rapid Watershed Assessments Mississippi River Basin Initiative Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Chesapeake Bay Initiative	Wetland Conservation Provisions of the Food Security Act (Swampbuster)
CAP Ecosystem Restoration Authorities: (Sec. 1135, Sec. 206)	Wetland Restoration Wildlife Habitat		Wetland Restoration Flood Risk Management			
CAP - Beneficial Uses of Dredged Material (Sec. 204) Regional Sediment Management Program		Sediment Management				
Emergency Management Program, erosion control, clearing of streams (Sec 208)				Natural Disaster Recovery		
CAP and Individually Authorized Flood Risk Management Projects, Dam Safety Assurance Program			Flood Risk Management	Flood Risk Management		
Watershed Programs – Technical Assistance to States, Watershed and River Basin Assessments (Sec 729)					Integrated Water Resource Management	
Regulatory Program (Section 404 of the Clean Water Act)						Wetland Protection



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Understanding the Missions and Organization Structure of NRCS and USACE



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NRCS' Mission:

Helping People Help the Land

NRCS provides science-based conservation assistance for the management of natural resources for present and future generations.



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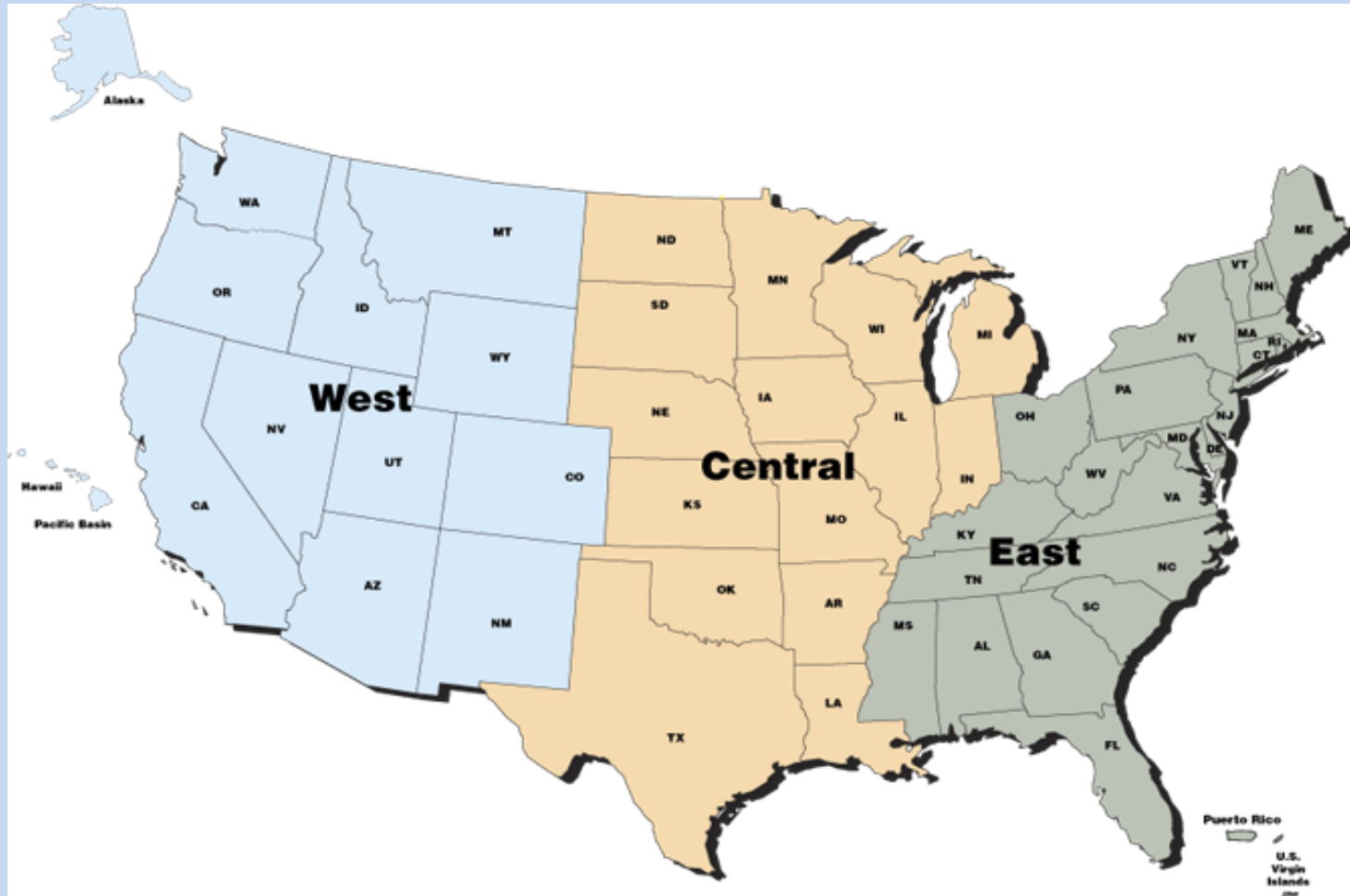


NRCS Authorities, Programs and Initiatives

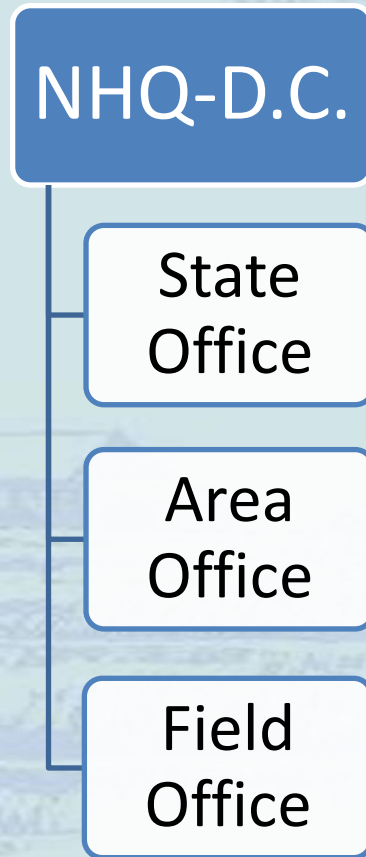
- * Wetland Conservation Provisions of the Food Security Act (FSA-Swampbuster)
- * Wetland Reserve Program (WRP)
- * Wildlife Habitat Program (WHIP)
- * Conservation Technical Assistance CTA)
Stream Restoration
- * Environmental Quality Incentives (EQIP)
- * Grassland Reserve Program (GRP)
- * Watershed Program
Emergency Watershed Protection Program
Stream clearance, Debris Removal
- * Dam Rehabilitation Program
- * Initiatives:
Mississippi River Basin Initiative
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative



NRCS Regions



NRCS – (Line-Staff) Organization



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NRCS Organization (Section 2 of Handbook)

“NRCS works at the local level – field offices at USDA Service Centers in nearly every county in the Nation.”



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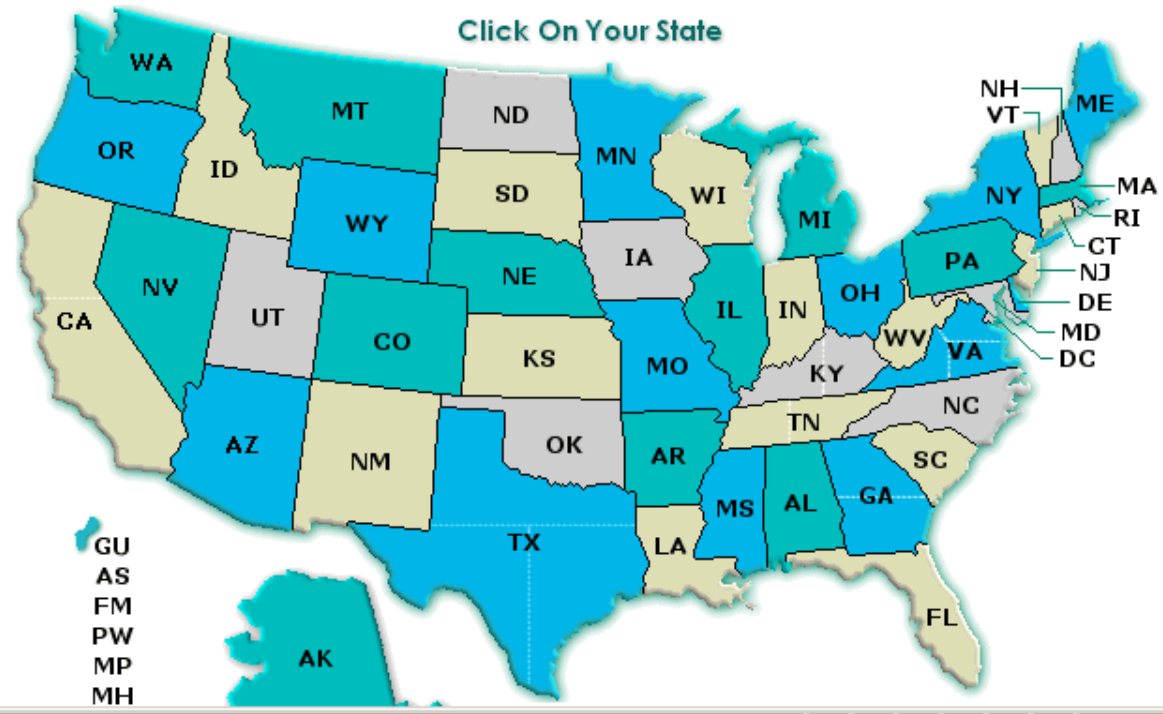
USDA United States Department of Agriculture Service Center Locator



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USDA Service Centers are designed to be a single location where customers can access the services provided by the Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Rural Development agencies. This web site will provide the address of a USDA Service Center and other Agency offices serving your area along with information on how to contact them.

Natural Resources Conservation Service



USDA United States Department of Agriculture Service Center Locator



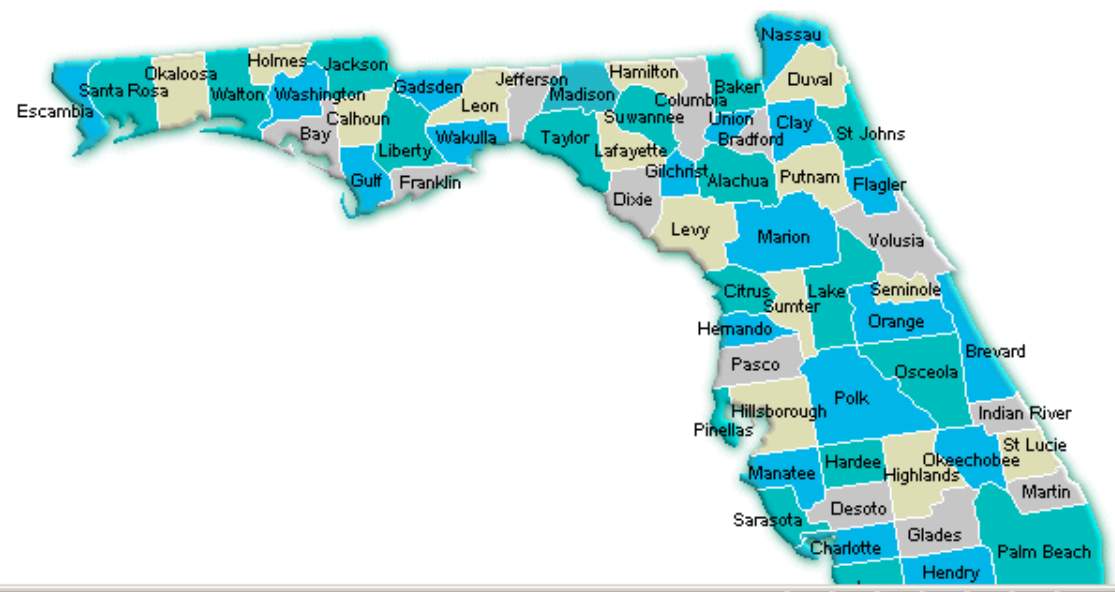
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Natural Resources Conservation Service

Florida Counties

Click on the map to select a county



USDA United States Department of Agriculture Service Center Locator



Text Version Home State Map USDA USDA eForms FSA NRCS RD

Serving POLK County, Florida

Natural Resources Conservation Service Offices In Your County

<p>NRCS SERVICE CENTER OFFICE BARTOW SERVICE CENTER 1700 HWY 17 S BARTOW, FL 33830 (863) 533-2051 (863) 533-1884 Fax</p> <p>Mailing Address: 1700 HWY 17 S STE 2 BARTOW, FL 33830</p>	<p>Edward Sheehan District Conservationist (863) 533-2051 (863) 533-1884 fax Edward..Sheehan@fl.usda.gov</p>	<p>➤ Street Map ➤ Driving Directions</p> <p>Site: 2128 Office:60710</p>
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Natural Resources Conservation Service Offices Outside Your County

<p>NRCS PLANT MATERIALS CENTER BROOKSVILLE PLANT MATERIALS CENTER 14119 BROAD ST BROOKSVILLE, FL 34601-4525 (352) 796-9600</p>	<p>Janet Grabowski Plant Materials Manager (352) 796-9600 (352) 799-7305 fax janet.grabowski@fl.usda.gov</p>	<p>➤ Street Map ➤ Driving Directions</p> <p>Site: 6187 Office:104212</p>
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<p>NRCS MLRA SOIL SURVEY OFFICE FORT MYERS MLRA SOIL SURVEY OFFICE 3434 HANCOCK BRIDGE PKWY FT MYERS, FL 33903-7094</p>	<p>HOWARD YAMATAKI MLRA Leader (239) 997-7331 ext 3 (239) 997-7557 fax</p>	<p>➤ Street Map ➤ Driving Directions</p> <p>Site: 2220</p>
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USACE' Mission:

Overall mission:

To provide design, engineering, and construction services for a variety of military and civilian projects worldwide that

- *strengthen our Nation's security,
- *energize the economy, and
- *reduce risks from disasters.



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USACE' Civil Works Mission:

Serve the public by providing the Nation with quality and responsive:

- **Development and management of the Nation's water resources;**
- **Promotion of sustainable marine transportation systems;**
- **Protection and management of the natural environment;**
- **Restoration of aquatic ecosystems;**
- **Flood risk management and emergency management; and**
- **Engineering and technical services**

in an environmentally sustainable, economic, and technically sound manner with a focus on public safety and collaborative partnerships.



USACE Authorities and Programs

Study Authorities

Implementation Authorities

Continuing Authorities Program (CAP)

Individually Authorized Projects



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USACE Authorities and Programs

CAP Ecosystem Restoration Authorities: (Sec 1135, Sec. 206)

CAP Beneficial Uses of Dredged Material (Sec 204)

Regional Sediment Management Program

Emergency Management Program

Flood Risk Management Projects (CAP/ Individually Authorized)

Dam Safety Assurance Program

Watershed Programs – Technical Assistance to States

Watershed and River Basin Assessments (Sec 729)

Regulatory Program (Sec 10 R&H/ Sec 404 CWA)

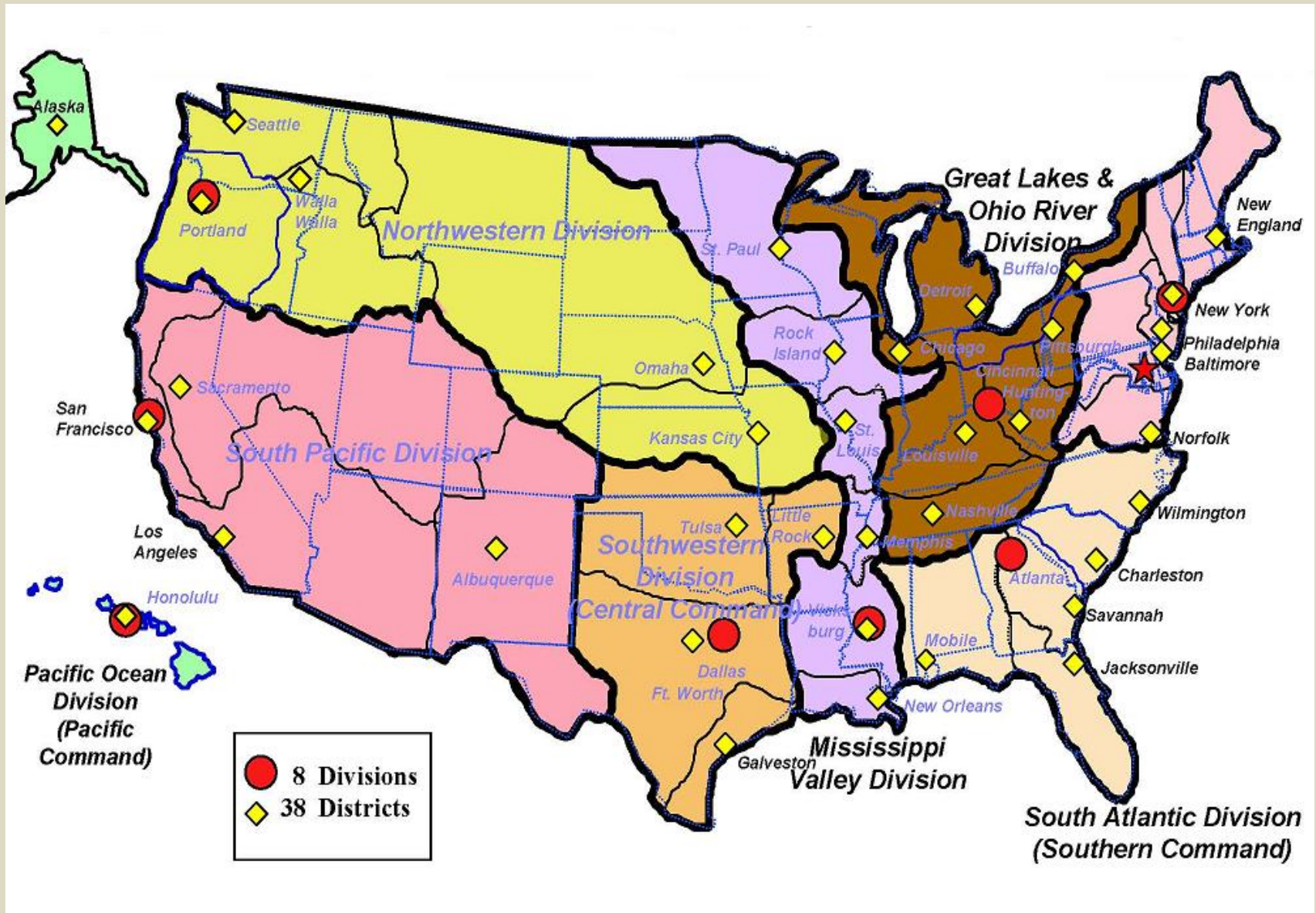


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USACE Divisions and Districts



Corps Regulatory Offices (from Section 2 of the Handbook):

“An additional resource for locating the appropriate District office is located on the USACE Regulatory HQ Homepage. This [interactive tool](#) guides the user to the responsible district office and is especially helpful in states covered by more than one USACE District.”



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Regulatory (Permits)



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Are you looking for your local Regulatory office? If so, please choose the state you are located in, and I will take you directly to the appropriate Corps District's Regulatory website.





LINKS



**EMERGENCY
ACTIONS**

[Emergency Actions](#) – Listing of all permits issued under U.S. Army Corps of Engineers emergency procedures



OBTAIN A PERMIT

[Obtain a Permit](#) - Information related to obtaining a Department of the Army permit for work within areas within the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



VIDEO LIBRARY

[Video Library](#) - Learn more about the USACE permitting process by watching the videos posted in this library.

- [National Notices and Program Initiatives](#) - Links to National notices and recent program initiatives from our Headquarters Office.
- [Program Overview](#) - Information regarding the history and development of the Regulatory Program



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Regulatory Division

Jacksonville District administers the largest regulatory permitting program in the Corps, which provides protection for waters of the United States, including federally delineated **wetlands** and navigable waters.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program began in 1890 with the responsibility of protecting and maintaining the nations navigable waterways. As a result of changing public needs and evolving policy via new laws and court decisions, protection has been extended to all waters of the United States, including many wetlands.

Pending Applications




Search for the status of pending permit application.

Public Notices




View recently issued Public Notices.

News & Announcements



Reissuance of Nationwide Permits and Regional

Media Gallery



Regulatory Video Library

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- Pending Application Status
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Regulatory Division - Office Locations & Contacts

The Jacksonville District Regulatory Division is one of the largest regulatory offices in the Corps. The office consists of the Division Chief, Deputy Division Chief, two Branch Chiefs, ten Section Chiefs, and over 100 project managers, clerical and support staff.

The Jacksonville District Regulatory Division has jurisdiction over the geographic area of Florida, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The Division is geographically aligned in two Permitting Branches, which are further divided into nine Sections, and a Special Projects and Enforcement Branch. Effective January 16, 2011, the geographic (county) assignments of some of the regulatory offices within North Branch have been changed. The revised areas of coverage are shown on this [map](#). Enforcement Section's area of coverage is shown on this [map](#).

Division Office

Physical Address: 701 San Marco Blvd., Room 372, Jacksonville, FL 32207-8175

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4970, Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019

Fax: (904) 232-1904

Staff Member	Telephone
Donnie Kinard, Division Chief	904-232-1177
Tori White, Deputy Division Chief	904-232-1658
Administrative Assistant	904-232-1177

Quick Links

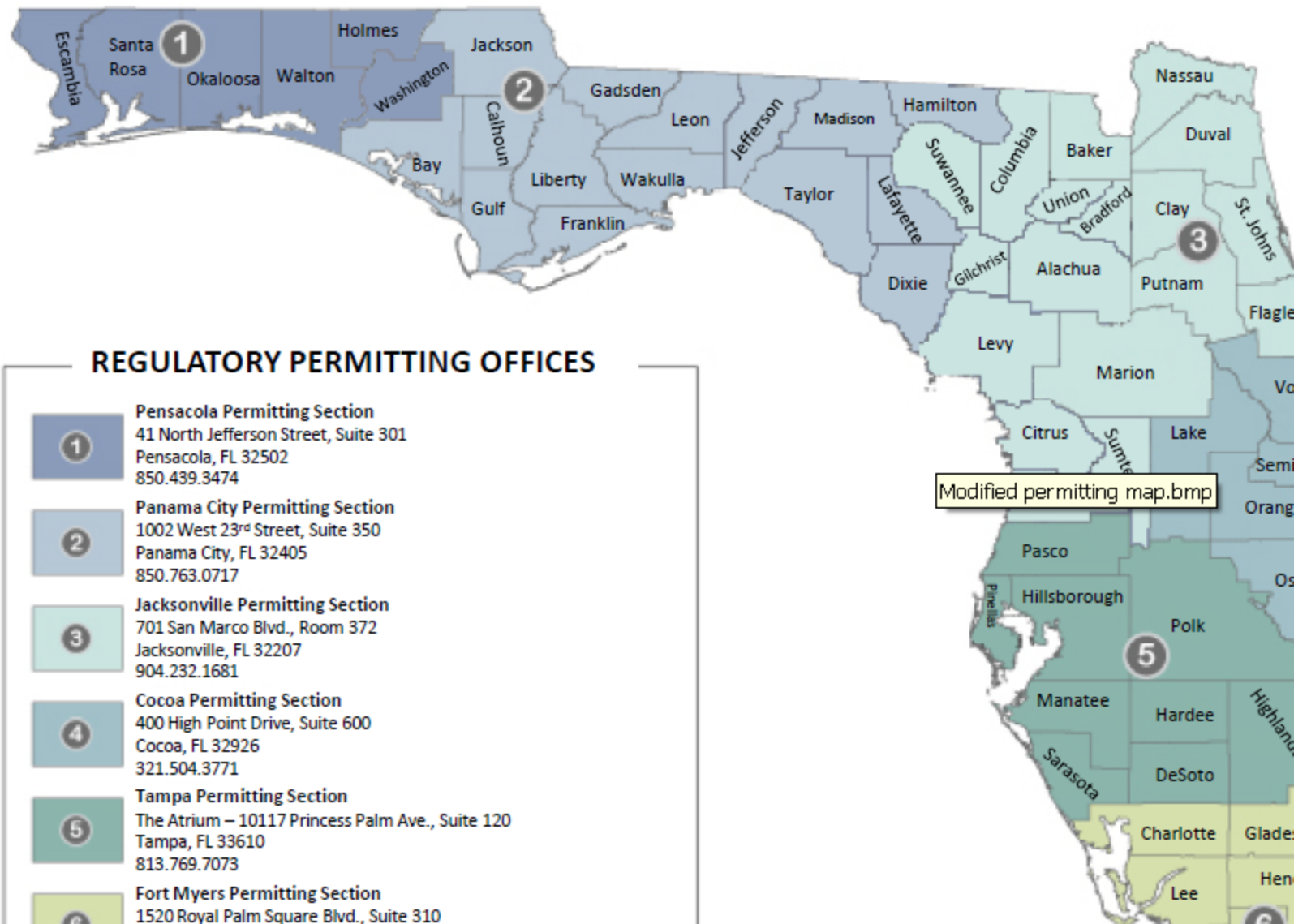
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External Links

Navigation bar of a Windows Internet Explorer browser showing the URL <http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Divisions/Regulatory/DOCS/offices/RegulatoryPermittingOffices.pdf>. The address bar also shows a partial URL [http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Divisions/Regulatory/...](http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Divisions/Regulatory/). The toolbar includes icons for back, forward, home, stop, print, save, and zoom, along with a search box containing the text "Find".



Modified permitting map.bmp

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Jacksonville Regulatory Division

Tampa Permitting Section

The Atrium
 10117 Princess Palm Avenue, Suite 120, Tampa, FL 33610-8302
 Fax: (813) 769-7061 - [Directions](#)

Staff Member	Telephone
Charles Schnepel , Section Chief	813-769-7071
Yolanda Bringhurst , Admin. Assistant	813-769-7073
Angela Ryan	813-769-7069
Darlene Dannels	813-769-7068
John Fellows	813-769-7067
Mark Peterson	813-769-7065
Mary Saunders	813-769-7064
Mindy Hogan	813-769-7066
Patricia Wolf (located in Jacksonville)	904-232-1669
Tracy Hurst	813-769-7063



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To navigate through the Regulatory Program Sourcebook, please select the section below you are most interested in. To watch a video available on specific subjects, please click on the video icon next to the subject.

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Permitting - Types of Permits - Nationwide Permits

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II. Permitting

Types of Permits

Nationwide Permit

Nationwide permits authorize a category of activities throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, and are valid for an individual project only if the conditions of the appropriate permit type are met. After a review of the project, the Corps issues a verification letter pursuant to the applicable Nationwide Permit(s).

An integral part of the Corps' regulatory program is the concept of nationwide permits for minor activities. Nationwide permits (NWP) are activity specific, and are designed to relieve some of the administrative burdens associated with permit processing for both the applicant and the Federal government. Some activities authorized by NWP require pre-construction notification to the District Engineer before commencing with the work. This notification requirement to the District Engineer is necessary to ensure that activities authorized by these NWP have minimal individual and cumulative adverse impacts on the aquatic environment. Anyone not complying with the terms and conditions of a NWP may still receive authorization via a "standard permit", but the application must be individually evaluated and coordinated with third parties, including the federal and state resource agencies. Review of an application for a "standard permit" takes additional time to complete, as conflict resolution may be required.

In addition to the NWP general conditions, Division Engineers are authorized to add regional conditions specific to the needs and/or requirements of a particular region or State. Regional conditions are an important mechanism to ensure that impacts to the aquatic environment authorized by the NWP are minimal, both individually and cumulatively.

NWP can only be authorized for a five-year period, at which time they must be re-evaluated for their impacts on



US Army Corps of Engineers

Permitting - Types of Permits - Nationwide Permits

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3. Maintenance
4. Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement, and Attraction Devices and Activities
5. Scientific Measurement Devices
6. Survey Activities
7. Outfall Structures and Associated Intake Structures
8. Oil and Gas Structures on the Outer Continental Shelf
9. Structures in Fleeting and Anchorage Areas
10. Mooring Buoys
11. Temporary Recreational Structures
12. Utility Line Activities
13. Bank Stabilization
14. Linear Transportation Projects
15. U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges
16. Return Water From Upland Contained Disposal Areas
17. Hydropower Projects
18. Minor Discharges
19. Minor Dredging
20. Oil Spill Cleanup



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Official Source for
**permitting policies,
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procedures** of
the Jacksonville
Regulatory Division





District Site Map


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Wetlands - Wetlands Jurisdiction

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Jacksonville Regulatory Program Sourcebook

III. Wetlands

Wetland Jurisdiction

Delineation

Wetlands are currently defined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as "those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted to life in saturated soil conditions". Not all wetlands fall within the Corps' regulatory jurisdiction. Information regarding how the Corps evaluates whether or not a wetland is regulated is available from the [CWA Guidance](#) page.

The following PDF documents provide more information about requesting a wetland delineation, applicant information required for a wetland delineation, and memorializing the wetland delineation by survey. The amount and type of information requested by each individual Corps field office may vary somewhat from that presented here. Please check with the [field office](#) nearest your project location to verify their respective needs.

- [1987 Wetland Delineation Manual \(On-line Edition\)](#)
- [Final Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plain Region \(Version 2.0, November 2010\)](#)
- [Data Form from the 2010 Final Regional Supplement:](#)
 - [Print and fill out version \(PDF\)](#)
 - [Interactive version \(PDF\)](#)
- [Public Notice on surveying of wetland delineations \(June 17, 1997\)](#)
- [Public Notice on the Jacksonville District's Delineation Process \(January 5, 2009\)](#)
- [Suggested Information for Expediting the Review of a Jurisdictional Delineation](#)

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Collaborative Efforts



Sharing Resources

NRCS Wetland Reserve and Floodplain Easement Data



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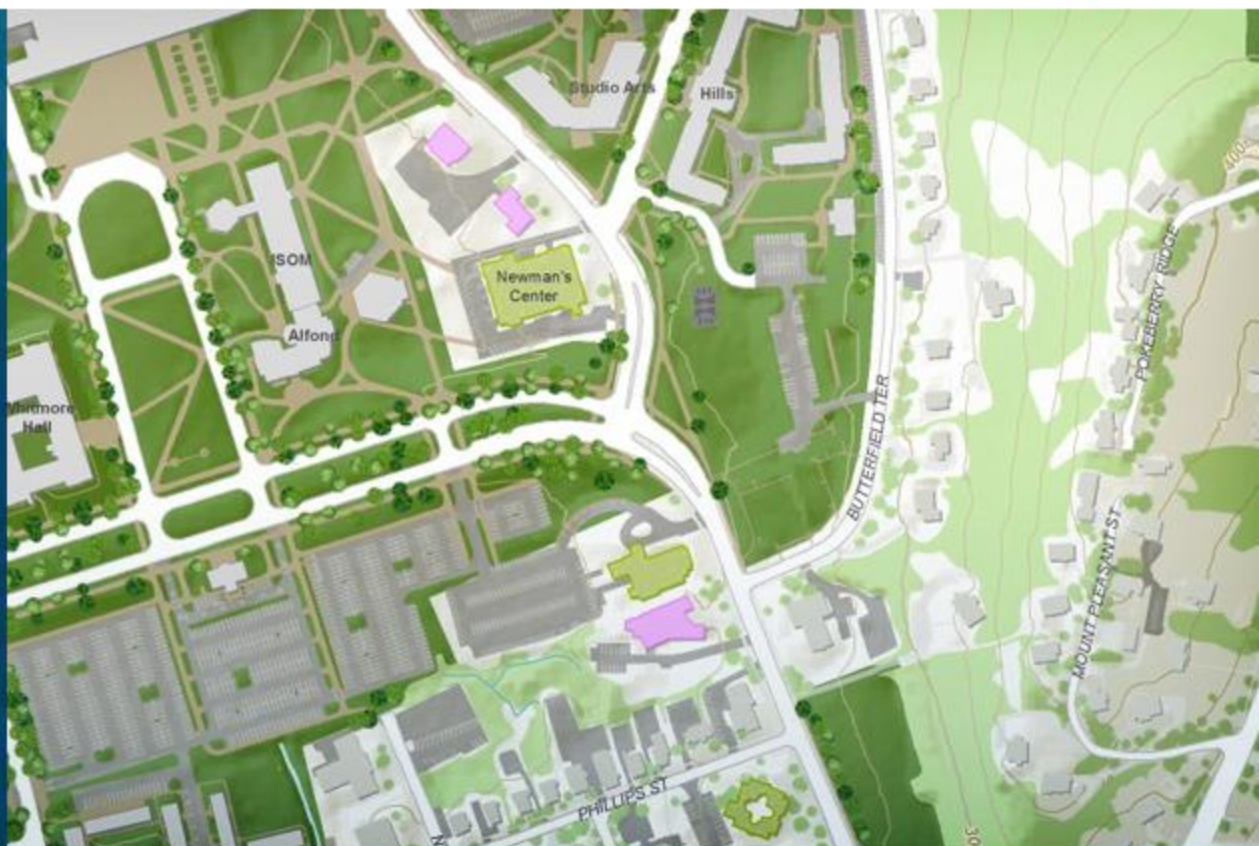
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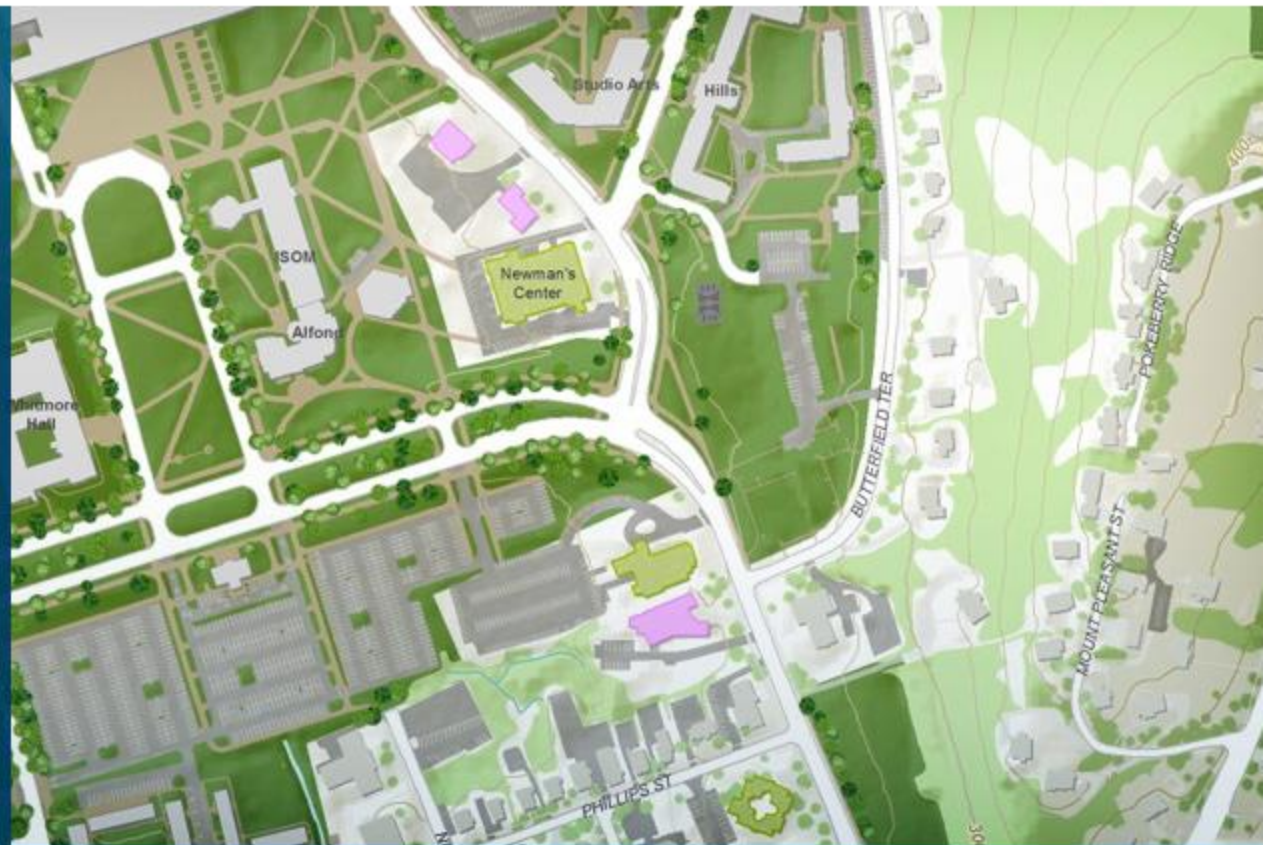
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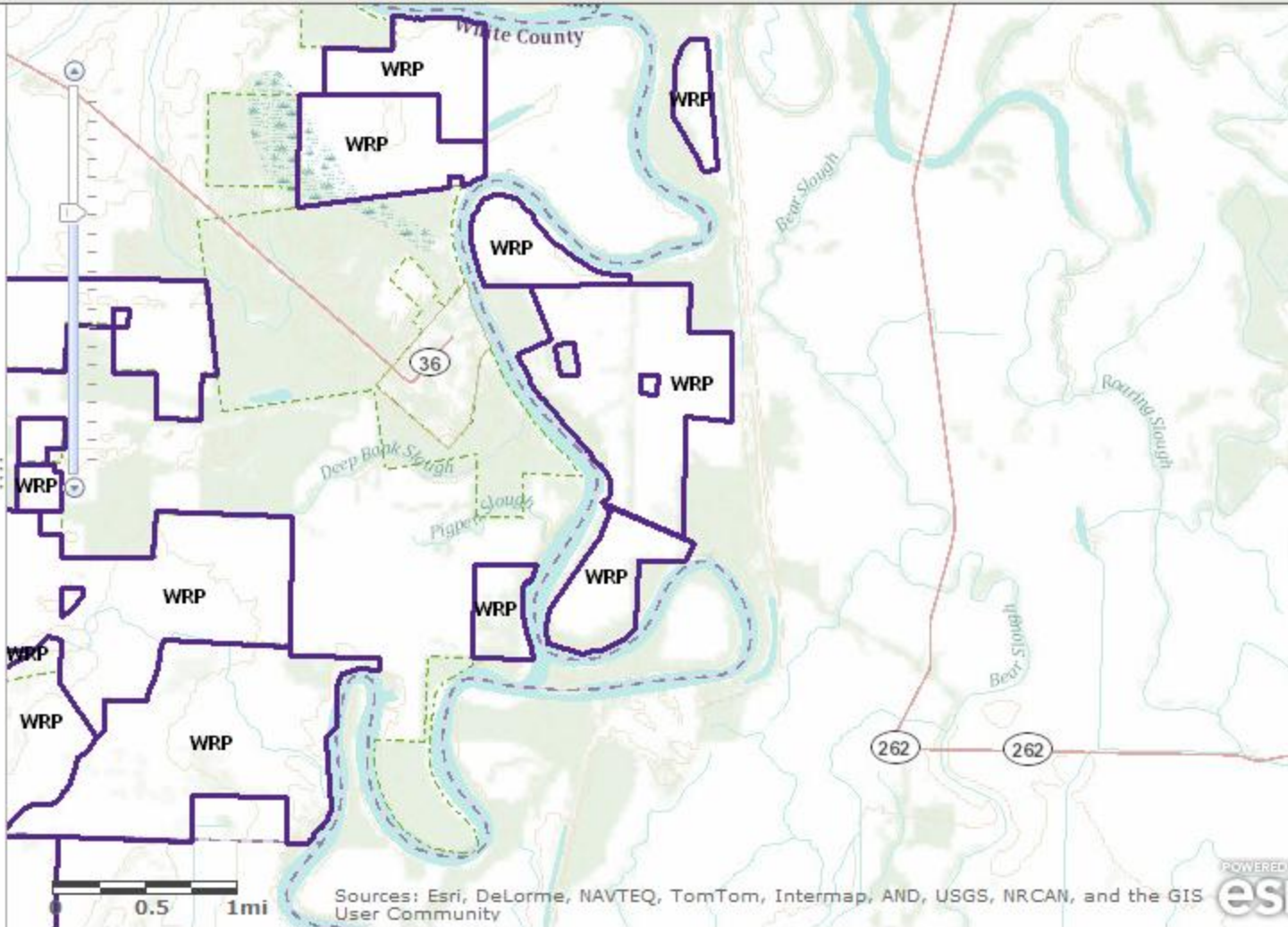
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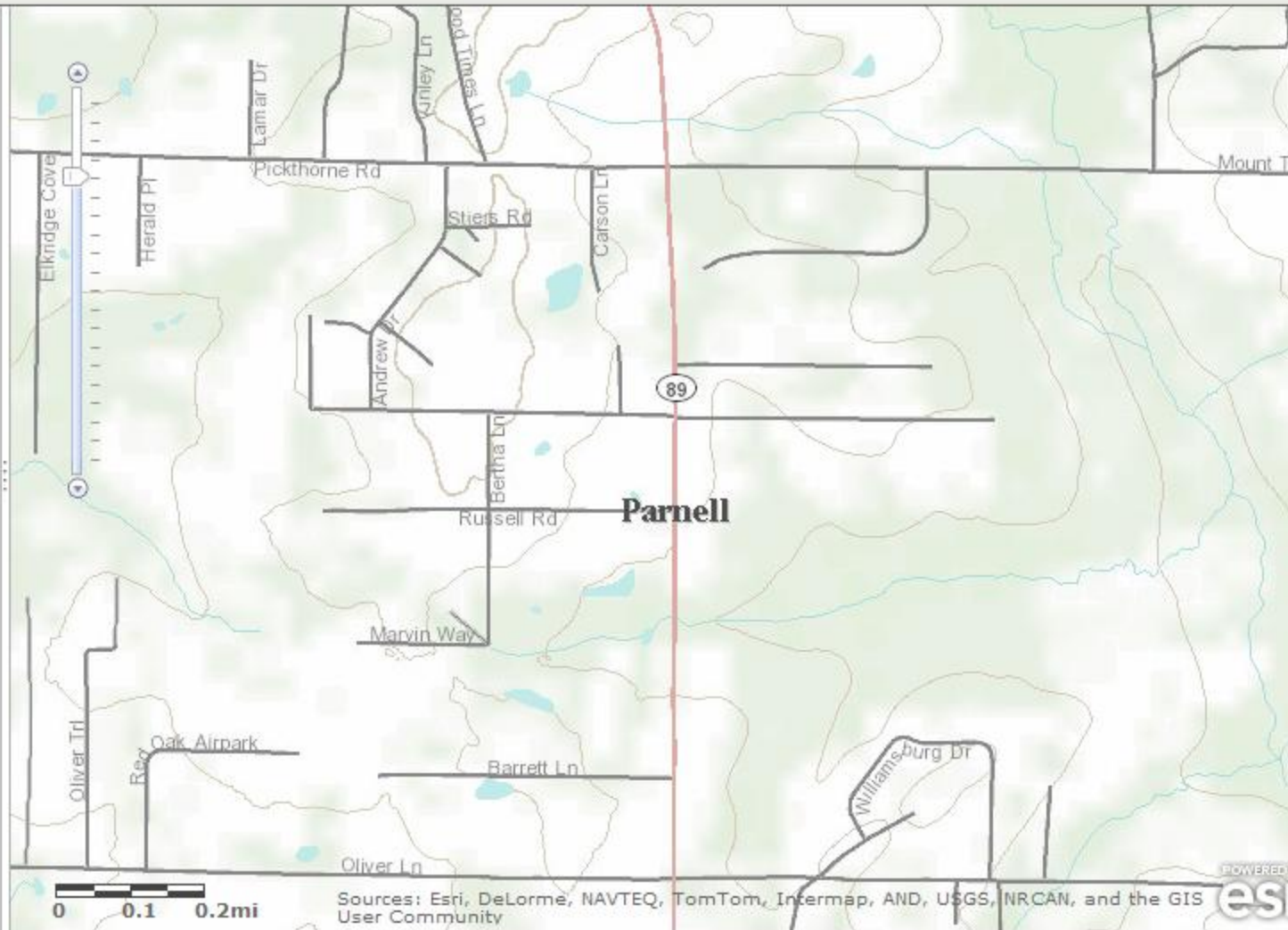
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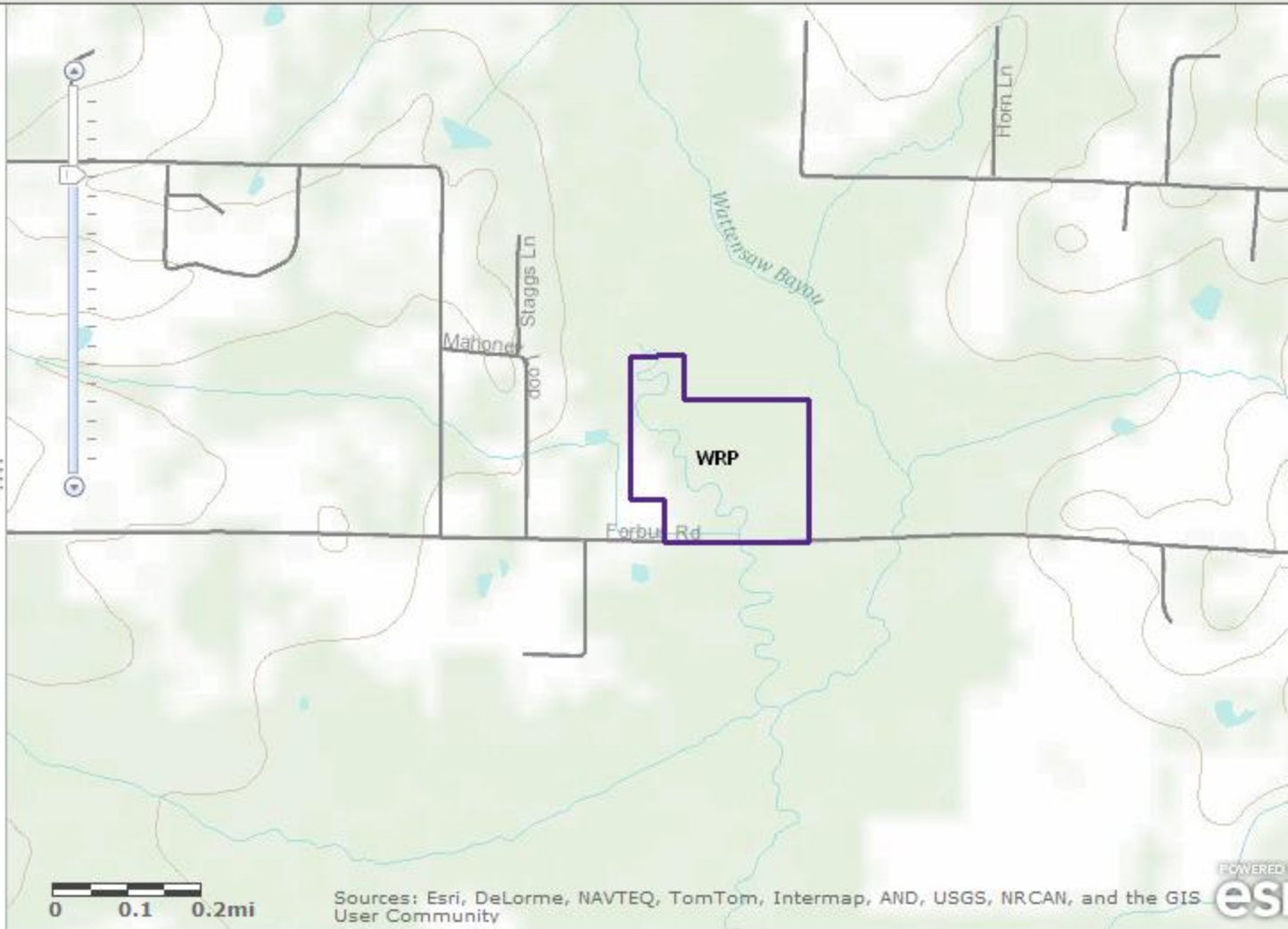
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Next Steps for the Partnership

- USACE presence/participation on NRCS State Technical Committees
- Annual Meetings between State Conservationists and corresponding USACE District Commanders to discuss upcoming work, priorities, etc.
- Regional MOUs such as one recently signed in the Mississippi Valley
- Communication of both success stories and difficulties/barriers to liaisons
- Policy papers addressing recurring problems and how to overcome them
- Look for new areas for partnering (e.g. large Ecosystem Restoration Project/Initiatives)



USACE Liaison

Cynthia J. Wood

Institute of Water Resources

Alexandria, Virginia

(703) 428-6413

Cynthia.J.Wood@usace.army.mil

NRCS Liaison

Tim Sweeney

National Water Management Center

Little Rock, Arkansas

(501) 210-8917

Tim.Sweeney@ar.usda.gov



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QUESTIONS?



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