



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
St. Paul District



# SPECIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

**ISSUED: May 8, 2025**

**EXPIRES: June 7, 2025**

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## **ANNOUNCING METHODOLOGY FOR DETERMINING WETLAND MITIGATION CREDIT POTENTIAL FOR HYDROLOGIC RESTORATIONS ON CULTIVATED FIELDS IN WISCONSIN**

**Summary:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers St. Paul District Regulatory Division (Corps) and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (Wisconsin DNR) are announcing the opportunity to use a standardized method for determining credit potential associated with proposed wetland hydrology restorations in fields that are subject to annual cultivation. The Corps and Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) developed this methodology for use in Minnesota in 2019, and since then, implementation of this methodology has helped to streamline credit determinations. In Wisconsin, applicants proposing permittee responsible mitigation or sponsors proposing bank or in-lieu fee wetland restoration projects may use this [methodology](#) in association with seeking project approval under the 2008 Federal Mitigation Rule (33 CFR Part 332), and ch. NR 350, Wis. Adm. Code.

**Use of Guidance:** Project proponents can use this credit determination method for areas they propose to hydrologically restore<sup>1</sup> that are subject to the effects of cultivation activities of a certain frequency and extent. Use of this methodology will help applicants or sponsors quickly determine the number of potential credits a proposed hydrology restoration could generate, provided all other requirements and standards for wetland mitigation are met. Applicants or sponsors may use this methodology for any new or current (currently under review) mitigation proposals involving wetland hydrology restoration on cultivated fields, including mitigation banks, ILF sites and permittee-responsible mitigation.

Program-specific requirements and limitations are referenced in the methodology and project proponents should refer to the Federal Mitigation Rule, ch. NR 350, Wis. Adm. Code, and other applicable documents for a more comprehensive understanding of all program requirements and procedures.

While this methodology will apply to most restorations on cultivated fields, the method may not be appropriate for every possible restoration scenario. Given the complexities of wetland

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<sup>1</sup> Defined as restoration via rehabilitation and re-establishment under Corps and DNR rules and guidance

hydrology restoration, the Corps and DNR may determine that use of this methodology is not appropriate for all proposals. In such cases, the applicant or sponsor should use standard procedures for crediting determinations. The Agencies will not re-open approved Mitigation Bank Instruments or approved bank plans for reconsideration of credit potential consistent with this method. This method is not applicable for determining credit potential for wetland creation, enhancement, preservation or non-wetlands.

**Feedback and Training:** The Corps and Wisconsin DNR will host a virtual training session on May 29, 2025 to answer questions, outline lessons learned and implemented in Minnesota since its issuance there, and collect feedback. If you are on the Corps' email distribution list for mitigation-related announcements, you have received an invitation from Leslie Day. If you are not currently on the email distribution list, please contact Leslie Day at [Leslie.E.Day@usace.army.mil](mailto:Leslie.E.Day@usace.army.mil) to receive a calendar invite.

You may also email any comments or questions about use of this methodology to [Leslie.E.Day@usace.army.mil](mailto:Leslie.E.Day@usace.army.mil) and [chelsey.lundeen@wisconsin.gov](mailto:chelsey.lundeen@wisconsin.gov). In the absence of email, you may mail comments to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District Regulatory Division, c/o Leslie Day, 332 Minnesota Street, Suite E1500, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101 or Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, c/o Chelsey Lundeen 101 N Ogden Rd, Peshtigo, WI 54157.