

Wetlands Discipline Report Checklist

Project Name: _____ Job Number: _____

Contact Name: _____

Date Received: _____ Date Reviewed: _____ Reviewer: _____

(SAT = Satisfactory; INC = Incomplete; MIS = Missing; N/A = Not Applicable)

Answers are required for questions which have no N/A box.

A Wetland Discipline Report summarizes the findings of a wetland assessment report, and evaluates the project's impacts (direct, indirect, and cumulative). The report may be written early in the project design phase, prior to the selection of a preferred alternative, and should include an impact analysis of each alternative.

Discipline reports can be highly detailed or extremely concise depending upon whether the level of impact or controversy is substantial or minimal. Project teams should take care to "right-size" the discipline report so it adequately addresses the impacts and controversy without over-analyzing or providing unnecessary information. The level of documentation should be sufficient to allow transportation staff to make informed decisions about alternative selection, mitigation measures, and early consultation with regulatory agencies.

I. Summary

This section summarizes the key information in the report and presents any conclusions reached so both can be included in the EIS, EA, or DCE with only minor modification. The summary should be limited to no more than two pages, and should be written in [Plain Talk](#) language

SAT INC MIS N/A

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | A. Introduction. States the purpose of the report. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | B. Project Description. State the project purpose and need and a brief description of the project. If alternatives are being considered, include a description of each and the major differences between them. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | C. Existing Conditions. Summarize the characteristics of each wetland (or groups of similar wetlands). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | D. Impacts. Summarize the direct, indirect, and cumulative wetland impacts of the project for each alternative, and indicate the amount and type of adverse effect on wetlands in the study area. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | F. Mitigation. Summarize any mitigation that should be considered for the temporary and permanent wetland impacts of the project for each alternative. |

II. Introduction

This section states the purpose of the report.

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | A. States the purpose of the report. |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|

III. Project Description

This section should state the purpose and need for the project and describe and illustrate the project, including each alternative considered in the analysis.

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | A. Purpose and need for the project and project description. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | B. Site location shown on regional map (i.e., state highway map or system map). |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | C. Describe the alternatives, including the No-Build. Should provide a more in-depth description than what is found in Section I. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | D. Map of alternatives. |
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IV. Existing Conditions

This section describes observed wetlands as summarized from an attached wetland assessment report.

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | A. Study Area. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. Project setting briefly described. Include the physiographic region, general topography, dominant habitat and vegetation type(s), regional soils, nearby water resources, and land use types. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. Study area identified in text (e.g., all areas within 10 feet of toe of fill, all ROW, etc.). | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. Study area map showing the limits of the area examined for wetlands and waters and the location of each wetland described in the report. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Identify regulatory authority (federal, state, and/or local as appropriate). | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | B. Wetlands and waters. For each wetland identified, provide a brief summary of the information in the wetland assessment report, including: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. Wetland name and/or ID number. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. Wetland location shown on the Study Area map or other exhibit. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. USFWS (Cowardin) classification. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Hydrogeomorphic (HGM) classification. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Rating according to Ecology's four-tier rating system | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. Rating according to applicable local jurisdiction, if different. (Include information on required buffers.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. Wetland size. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8. Connection or proximity to other wetlands or surface waters. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | 9. Dominant vegetation communities described. |

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- 10. Discuss the functions of each wetland.
- 11. Describe buffers.

Note: Analysis should be commensurate with the level of impact. Wetlands identified or delineated which will be completely avoided must still be shown on figures and discussed in report, but their descriptions may be less detailed than that of impacted wetlands.

V. Impacts

This section describes the direct (permanent), indirect and cumulative wetland impacts of the proposed project, and any alternatives, and quantifies the adverse effect on wetlands in the study area. Impacts should be reported as a range to the nearest 1/10 of an acre (for example, Alternative 3 will require 2.0 to 2.5 acres of permanent wetland impact). Describe (and quantify where possible) the following for each alternative:

SAT INC MIS N/A

- A. Describe how impacts are identified.
- B. Direct impacts (e.g., filling, dredging, alteration to hydrology) caused by the proposed alternatives.
- C. Indirect impacts. Reasonably foreseeable effects caused by the proposed alternatives that may occur later in time or farther removed than the direct effects.
- D. Discuss possible cumulative impacts to wetlands including long-term maintenance and operation of roadway (e.g., supports increased development resulting in increased pollution, sedimentation and fragmentation, degradation of buffer). Result from the incremental impacts caused by the alternatives when considered with the impacts of other past, present or reasonably foreseeable future actions. May be individually minor but collectively significant.
- E. Discuss impacts to wetland functions based on rating system and other function assessment methods used.
- F. Summarize the impacts to wetlands under each alternative, giving impact totals for each category of wetland and Cowardin type (may be presented in table format).
- G. Mention any rare plants and wetland-dependant wildlife species, and reference Discipline Report that addresses them.
- H. Discuss quantity and level of function of buffer impacts, if applicable.

Note: A Biological Assessment may be required if the proposed project has federal involvement (i.e., funding or permits) and federally listed species are potentially present. This should be prepared under separate cover (see Biological Assessment section).

VI. Mitigation

This section describes any mitigation that should be considered for the temporary and permanent wetland impacts of the project for each alternative:

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | A. Discuss mitigation measures for the direct and indirect wetland impacts. All relevant, reasonable mitigation measures that could alleviate the effects of the project must be identified. Wetland mitigation must be developed in the following priority order: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | 1. Avoid. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | 2. Minimize – limit degree or magnitude. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. Rectify by repair, rehab or restore. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Reduce impact over time. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | 5. Compensate. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | B. Reference the mitigation measures described in the NEPA/SEPA Mitigation Memo. |

Note: NEPA/SEPA Mitigation Memos and mitigation design are generally outside the scope of this document and are addressed under separate cover.

VII. References

Lists all published sources of data and other information used in preparing the report.

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | A. List all published sources of data and other information used in preparing the report. |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
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VIII. Appendices

Lists all necessary appendices attached to the report.

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | A. Wetland Assessment Report. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | B. Map clearly showing existing and proposed alternatives in impact areas. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | C. Map clearly showing areas of potential direct wetland impacts. |