

September 7, 2005

NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY ACT MANUAL (NFSAM)
Third Edition, Amendment 6
180-V-NFSAM, Amendment WI 27

Subject: To update policy regarding the release of information related to wetland inventories, determinations, and delineations.

Purpose: To provide a state supplement to the NFSAM to all Wisconsin NRCS offices.

Effective Date: This supplement is effective upon receipt.

Background: NRCS National Bulletin 180-5-5 dated August 9, 2005 has provided new guidance on how NRCS employees are to respond to requests for information related to wetland inventories, determinations, and delineations. Previous guidance had restricted the release of wetland related documentation developed for the enforcement of the wetland compliance requirements of the Farm Bill.

Effective immediately the following information related to wetland determinations is releasable to the public and to Federal, State, and local agencies and entities:

- Maps or aerial photographs (including GPS boundaries) showing wetland locations/boundaries (unrelated information, such as acreage of adjacent properties, shall be redacted);
- Site visit reports and documentation of site conditions prepared by NRCS;
- Wetland delineation data sheets prepared by NRCS;
- Photographs taken onsite by NRCS showing physical characteristics only;
- Wetland mitigation and restoration plans developed by NRCS;
- Technical determinations, e.g., functional assessments, scope and effect determinations, made by NRCS; and
- Wetland inventory maps when labeled "DRAFT" or "NOT OFFICIAL" or "FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY, NOT AN OFFICIAL DETERMINATION".

Correspondence to or from landowners that contains personal or proprietary information (e.g. personal identification, business decisions/plans, conservation plans etc.) may be subject to the confidentiality provision, the Privacy Act and the Freedom of Information Act.

This notice supersedes Amendment WI 26.

Filing Instructions: File Amendment 27 in the NFSAM after Part 514.41, Providing Wetland Determinations to Other Agencies, page 514-58. Remove and discard NFSAM 3rd Edition Amendment 6 180-V-NFSAM Amendment WI 26 dated April 4, 2005.



Acting for

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