



Bureau of Waterways Engineering and Wetlands

Chapter 105 Waterways and Wetlands Program Update

MAWWG NEBAWWG
2024 Meeting

Josh Shapiro, Governor

Jessica Shirley, Acting Secretary

DEP Non-Regulatory Agenda

Rescission of Guidance - Pennsylvania Wetland Replacement Project 363-0200-003.

This outdated technical guidance document establishing the original In Lieu Fee program is no longer applicable.

Publication for Comment - Pennsylvania Function-Based Aquatic Resources Compensation Protocol 310-2137-001

Procedures and methodology for determining the appropriate level of compensatory mitigation required for impacts to aquatic resources under 25 Pa Code § 105.20a.



DEP Regulatory Agenda

Reg Revisions Process - Dam Safety and Waterway Management 25 Pa. Code Chapter 105, Pennsylvania Clean Streams Law, Dam Safety and Encroachment Act

This rulemaking proposes to amend Chapter 105 to provide updates and clarifications to definitions and requirements to improve permit application submission and permit review efficiency.



Clean Water Academy Training

Clean Water Academy

- Chapter 105 Wetland Determination Training
 - In collaboration with USACE focuses on Wetland Hydrology, Vegetation, and Supporting Information.
 - Natural Resources Conservation Services on hydric soils and hydric soil indicators (soon available)
 - Additional trainings from The Army Corps of Engineers, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC) and the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS). This collaborative effort will offer a program of courses that will provide a user 15-20 hours of crucial wetland determination training with PDHs.
- Access to the Clean Water Academy for this and other training is available at PA Clean Water Academy:
<https://pacleanwateracademy.remote-learner.net/>



Restoration Workgroup Formation

PA Waterways and Wetlands Restoration Workgroup

- Forming Steering Committee to develop the workgroup's structure and purposes; members will include representatives from government, academia, practitioners, and NGOs
- Workgroup is expected to be fully formed by Fall 2025





pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Bureau of Waterways Engineering and Wetlands

Questions

David Goerman

dgoerman@pa.gov

717 772-5071

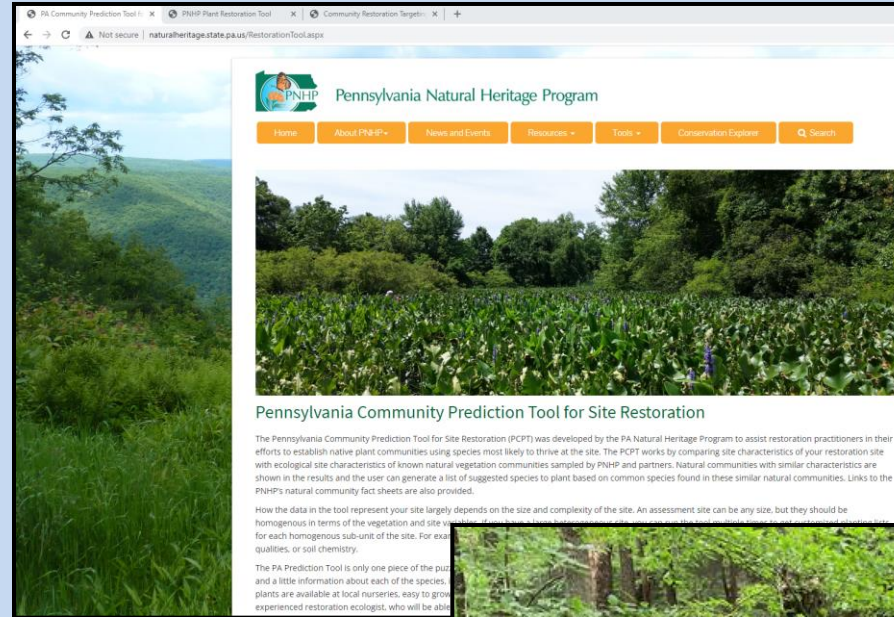
Seeps and Floodplains Project

- Focused on the characterization of under-surveyed aquatic resources in Pennsylvania.
 - Floodplains associated with the upper Potomac tributaries, the upper Genesee River, Lehigh River, and Schuylkill River.
 - Forested seeps
- Provided a better understanding of plant community distribution and condition.



Restoration Related Work

- Completion of PA Plant Community Predictor Tool for site restoration
- Process based restoration project using woody materials to restore floodplain expanse and function



Wetland Plan for DCNR

- Development of a strategic wetland plan for the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR).
 - DCNR is responsible for almost 173, 000 acres of wetlands but does not address this resource in management plans for State Forests and State Parks. Identified the need for a wetland plan.
 - Worked with stakeholders to identify current and future wetland needs.
 - The draft plan contains elements that complement the PA State Wetland Plan but also includes objectives and tasks specific to the needs of public land managers.

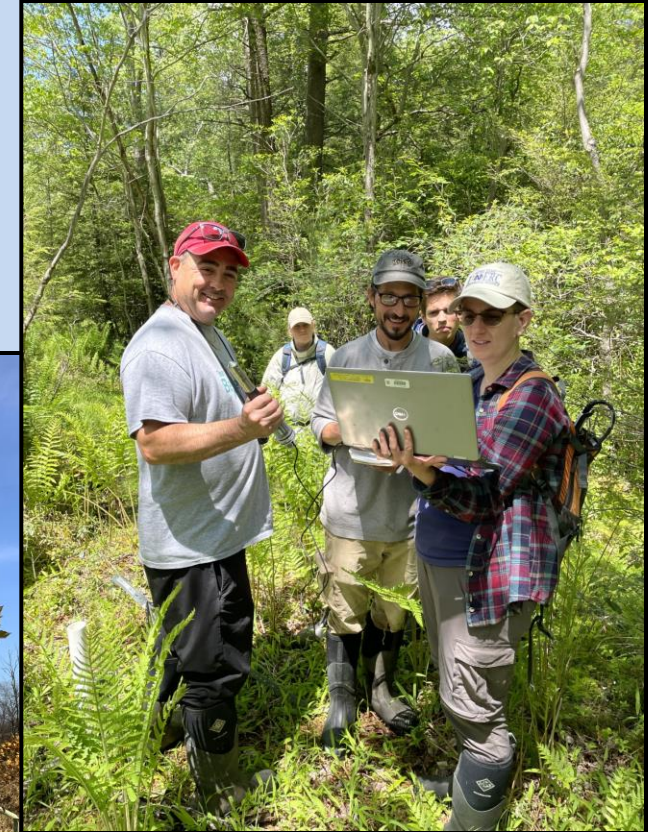
Wetland Assessments

- Target wetlands are those on state lands.
- Met with stakeholders to determine assessment needs, assessment format, and database design.
- Currently in the research and development phase of a wetland assessment protocol that meets the needs of DCNR.



Additional Wetland Work

- Riparian buffer plantings
 - Planted almost 30 acres of riparian habitat over nine counties
- Vernal pools
 - Creation, restoration, and monitoring
- Aquatic organism passage projects of PGC lands
- Monitoring
 - Long-term peatland monitoring



QUESTIONS

Mary Ann Furedi
mfuredi@paconserve.org

