



# WETLAND MONITORING & ASSESSMENT BASICS

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CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 404/WETLANDS PROGRAM



# YOUR PATH



# MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT

- DECEPTIVELY SIMPLE WORDS
  - STATUS, HEALTH, & FUNCTIONALITY
  - DECISION MAKING & PLANNING
- SUPPORTS
  - ESTABLISHING A BASELINE OF EXTENT, CONDITION & FUNCTION
  - DETECTING CHANGE
  - CHARACTERIZING TRENDS



# RECOMMENDED APPROACHES

[HTTPS://WWW.EPA.GOV/WETLANDS/WETLANDS-MONITORING-AND-ASSESSMENT](https://www.epa.gov/wetlands/wetlands-monitoring-and-assessment)

- **LEVEL 1, "LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT"**
  - COARSE, LANDSCAPE SCALE INVENTORY INFORMATION
  - REMOTE SENSING/GIS
  - CLASSIFICATION
- **LEVEL 2, "RAPID ASSESSMENT"**
  - USING RELATIVELY SIMPLE, RAPID PROTOCOLS
  - ORAM, MNRAM, WIRAM, ETC.
- **LEVEL 3, "INTENSIVE SITE ASSESSMENT"**
  - INTENSIVE RESEARCH-DERIVED, MULTI-METRIC INDICES



# KEY RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENT

- CORE ELEMENT FRAMEWORK (CEF)
  - MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT
  - VOLUNTARY RESTORATION & PROTECTION
  - REGULATORY
  - WETLAND WATER QUALITY STANDARDS
- REVISED CEF: FEBRUARY 2023

TRIBAL, STATE, AND TERRITORY  
WETLANDS PROGRAM CORE ELEMENT FRAMEWORK  
2022


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2023

# KEY RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENT



United States Environmental Protection Agency

## Protecting Waters and Wetlands in Indian Country:

A Guide for Developing Tribal  
Wetland Management Programs

May 2022  
EPA 840321005



## Wetland Program Plans Handbook

*A resource to assist states and tribes in developing strategic  
approaches to achieve comprehensive Wetland Programs*

- 2013 WETLAND PROGRAM PLAN HANDBOOK
  - ASWM/NAWM SUPPORTED
  - CORE ELEMENTS & STRATEGIC PLANNING
- PROTECTING WATERS & WETLANDS IN INDIAN COUNTRY
  - TRIBAL CONTEXT & FOCUS
  - TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE
  - CASE STUDIES



# THANK YOU!

- PROGRAM NEEDS
- EXISTING RESOURCES
- LEARN FROM OTHERS
- CONNECT