DEVELOPMENT of WETLAND WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

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Oklahoma Water Resources Board

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State of Oklahoma
OWRB
WATER RESOURCES BOARD
the water agency

Wetland Water Quality Standards

□ Where were we…
  ◻ A quick review

A Quick Review

- EPA grant to develop wetland WQS

- Grant objectives
  - Wetland definition
  - Propose wetland WQS for Board consideration

- Another Quick Review
  - Standards have 3 components
    1. Beneficial Use
    2. Criteria (narrative or numeric)
    3. Anti-degradation Policy

Progress to Date

- Wetland Definition
  - Extensive discussion
  - General agreement to use federal definition

- Beneficial Uses
  - Ongoing discussion
  - Will be focus of upcoming meetings

- Criteria
  - Not initiated

- Anti-deg Policy
  - Not initiated

- Other Slippage in the Schedule
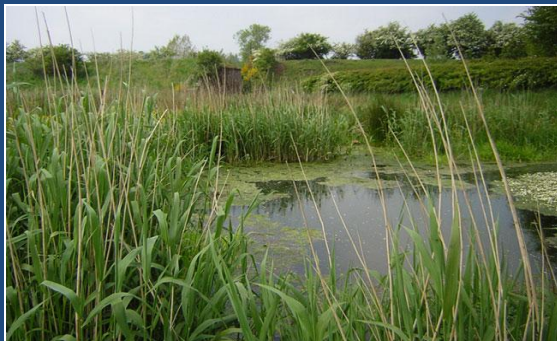 - Personnel changes

Time Line

Task	Date (estimated completion)
Draft Regulatory Language & Supporting Documents	Early Summer 2014
Feedback/Input from WTWG	Winter/Spring 2014 (multiple meetings)
Stakeholder Outreach Wetland Work Group	Spring/Summer 2014 (multiple meetings)
Potential document revisions based on stakeholder input	Late summer 2014
Feedback/Input from WTWG	Late Summer 2014
Initiate Rulemaking	Fall 2014

Wetlands WQS – the Big Picture

OCC
Lead Agency Wetland Planning - Wetland Program Plan

OWRB
Responsible for WQS for all waterbody types, including wetlands

Oklahoma Wetland Waterbodies

Wetland WQS
- Definition
- Beneficial Uses
- Narrative Criteria
- Anti-Deg

Tools & Regulatory Implementation

- Development of Assessment Protocols

- Special Studies

- 401 Water Quality Certification

- Integrated Report

- 319 Projects

- Corp Com Clean-up requirements

- Other???

Wetlands WQS – Guiding Principles

- Recognize wetlands as a unique waterbody type in the standards

- Develop meaningful and workable standard for wetland protection

- Standard comprehensively rooted in wetland science

- Standard compatible with existing/future assessment protocols

- Provide clarity to regulatory programs

Interaction with WTWG

- Meeting Format
  - In person group meetings
  - In person & webinar group meetings
  - Webinar only meetings
  - Individual agency focus discussion

- Time Commitment
  - Little or a lot
  - Track progress or active involvement

- Participation Style
  - Group discussion
  - Written feedback
  - Phone call

Interaction with WTWG

- Effective Participation & Progress
  - Iterative process
    - Meeting preparation
    - Group discussion/participation
    - Output
    - Group feedback

Open Discussion & Questions