

# Wetland Technical Work Group

## Results of Wetland Brainstorming Exercise

January 30, 2014

---

### **Brainstorming Output**

Natural (not treatment/constructed, not accidental)  
Habitat  
Obligate – plants/animals vs. opportunistic  
Wildlife  
Wet/dry  
Sedimentation  
Flood attenuation  
Storage  
Water quality and/or chemistry  
Sustainable  
Use – ex: ag, rec, ect...  
Recharge  
Discharge  
Biota  
Diversity – different wetland types & habitat types within a wetland  
Connected to the landscape  
Landscape position  
Connectivity  
Man made  
Isolated vs. non-isolated  
Hydric soils  
Vegetation  
Nutrient cycling  
Filter  
Carbon sequestration  
Declining  
Active  
Classification  
Public perception  
Aesthetics  
Alligators  
Variable  
Microbes  
Community  
Stream flow maintenance  
Recreation  
Sensitive/sensitivity  
Economics  
Filtration – vegetation  
Water source  
Bird – habitat & birding activity  
Breeding ground  
Fish nursery

Tadpoles  
Duckweed (needs a home too!)  
Topography  
Floodplain  
Riparian area  
Preservation  
Degraded watersheds  
Sink  
Buffer  
Aquifer recharge  
Hydrology  
Anthropogenic  
Hydrodynamics  
Scum  
Methane  
Slime  
Foreign  
Preventing degradation  
Exotic/invasive  
Stopover – wintering grounds  
Migratory birds  
Fragile  
Accumulative  
Enhancement  
Restoration  
Water treatment/improvement  
Management  
Heterogeneity  
Swamp  
Biological/integrity  
Mud bugs  
Ecosystem  
Mosquitoes  
Hunting grounds  
Agricultural

- ❖ Brainstorming output was discussed/clarified and lumped into 6 group identified categories. Some output fits in more than one category.

### **Group Identified Categories**

1. Characteristics
2. Habitat
3. Hydrology
4. Functions
5. Use
6. Concerns

#### 1. Characteristics

Hydric soils

Obligated plants & animals vs. opportunistic – wetland dependent flora/fauna

Soil - active microbes in the soil

Water/hydrology

Biota/organism

Heterogeneity – on the landscape and within the wetland itself

Variable – variability between wetlands and within a given wetland

Connected to landscape

Characteristics are classification tools

Ecosystem

Isolated vs. non-isolated

Man made

Swampy

#### 2. Habitat

Habitat has 3 components – physical, biological, and chemical

Wildlife

Biota – animals and vegetation

Diversity

Birds

Breeding grounds

Fish nursery

Tadpoles

Alligators

Stop over – wintering grounds

Migratory

Birds

Mud bugs

Community

Mosquitoes

Hunting grounds – feeding predator vs prey

Scum

Slime  
Riparian area  
Ecosystem  
Threatened & endangered species

### 3. Hydrology (sub-group of characteristics)

Wet/dry – hydroperiod  
Flood attenuation  
Storage  
Recharge – aquifer  
Discharge  
Topography  
Water source  
Connectivity  
Hydrodynamics  
Landscape position – floodplain, slope, ect..  
Downstream  
Stream flow maintenance

### 4. Functions

Water treatment (natural) water quality enhancement  
Filtration  
Flood attenuation  
Recharge  
Storage (water storage)  
Habitat  
Carbon sequestration  
Nutrient cycling  
Buffer – landscape buffers, buffer between wetland waterbody and upland area, filter, flood buffer  
Sink  
Sediment retention  
Stream flow maintenance

### 5. Use – Human uses

Recreation  
Agriculture  
Aesthetic  
Food  
Timber Harvest  
Hunting  
Mud bug harvesting  
Cultural – cattail harvest

Water treatment (constructed treatment wetland)  
Flood retention  
Restoration – watershed enhancement

### 6. Concerns

Sustainable  
Anthropogenic impacts  
Management – preservation  
Wetland degradation – ecosystems and watersheds  
Methane  
Exotic/invasive species  
Foreign objects – trash dump, soil waste disposal  
Maintaining biological integrity  
Public perception  
Declining – losing overall wetland area and losing watershed function, cumulative decline  
Cumulative impacts – landscape level  
Cumulative losses – loss of wetland function  
Fragile/Sensitive – cumulative impacts and cumulative stressors  
Maintaining diversity  
Preventing degradation  
Sedimentation  
Economics

### Multi-Voting

- ❖ Group conducted multi-voting to prioritize output for potential input to beneficial use descriptors and further discussion.
  - ✓ Multi-voting Criteria: From a technical perspective, identify essential wetland characteristics.
    - Output from category 6 was not included in voting because this output does not align well with development of beneficial use descriptors. This output will likely be utilized at another stage in standards development.
  - ✓ Multi-voting had 2 Tiers.
    - Tier 1: 3 votes per person, Select top 3 group identified categories (excluding category 6, Concerns)
    - Tier 2: 5 votes per person, Select top 5 essential wetland characteristics beneath any category (excluding category 6, Concerns)

# Wetland Technical Work Group

## Results of Wetland Brainstorming Exercise

January 30, 2014

### ❖ Multi-voting Results

#### Tier 1

<b>Category</b>	<b>Number of Votes</b>
Uses	11
Habitat	11
Functions	9
Characteristics	9
Hydrology	8

#### Tier 2

<b>Category</b>	<b>Category Characteristic</b>	<b>Number of Votes</b>
Use	Recreation	7
	Agriculture	2
	Water Treatment (constructed)	1
	Restoration	2
<b>Category total votes</b>		<b>12</b>
Functions	Water treatment/enhancement (natural)	9
	Filtration	2
	Flood attenuation	7
	Habitat	7
	Stream flow maintenance	1
<b>Category total votes</b>		<b>26</b>
Hydrology	Wet/Dry Hydroperiod	8
	Hydrodynamics	1
<b>Category total votes</b>		<b>9</b>
Habitat	Biota (vegetation & animals)	12
	Birds	1
	Community	1
	Threatened & Endangered Species	1
	Diversity	1
	Wildlife	1
<b>Category total votes</b>		<b>17</b>
Characteristics	Hydric Soils	5
	Obligate plants/animals vs. opportunistic (wetland dependent flora/fauna)	2
	Water/Hydrology	5
	Biota	1
	Variable	1
	Ecosystem	2
<b>Category total votes</b>		<b>16</b>