



Standards Oversight Council (SOC)

Developing effective technical standards that protect Wisconsin's natural resources

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DRAFT COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

Wednesday, August 20, 2014 || 9:00 am – 12:00pm || WI Land+Water office, 131 W. Wilson St., Suite 601
Attendees: Jim, Pat, Mary Anne, Gretchen, Gini. On phone - Bruce.

Updates

- [Reviewed action items from last meeting](#). Added incomplete items to these meeting notes.
- Army Corps of Engineers has implemented policies that allow clients to bypass Army Corps permitting process if their clients are actively engaged with NRCS field staff and following NRCS standards for practices. This may encourage more involvement from Army Corps into SOC process.
- No questions on recent staff report. Highlights include:
 - Office move
 - Launch of new website, wisconsinlandwater.org
 - All WI Land+Water staff have new emails. Gini's new email is gini@wisconsinlandwater.org.
 - Gini and Pat are working on new NRCS funding agreements. NRCS agreements are requesting more products and details within their requests and work plans, causing increased work load.
- Update from Inter-agency Training Committee (Jim) – Next meeting will be on September 23rd.
 - SITCOM is moving forward with regional on-site trainings coordinated through WI Land+Water office. If agencies have any pertinent training needs, you can contact Christina Anderson, Christina@wisconsinlandwater.org. There was discussion regarding the need for training on repairing concrete, concrete placement and inspection.

Team Updates

- DNR standards
 - 1004, Bioretention – just completed broad review, in the final drafting phase.
 - 1060, Storm Drain Inlet Protection – published 7/2014.
 - Polymer Toxicity standard – Jan Kucher, Gretchen Wheat. Potentially started in 2014.
 - Filtration Devices (new standard) for remediation and redevelopment sites, waiting for research results
 - 1002, Site Evaluation for Infiltration – 2015
 - 1061, Dewatering - 2015
- NRCS 590, Nutrient Management – upcoming meetings: Sep 17, Oct 15, Nov 13
 - The team is nearing completion of a full first draft of the standard and Tech Note.
 - We are planning for the initial review to take place during Oct 17 to Nov 7. The team is considering an initial live conference call with invited reviewers where team members will summarize the proposed changes and concepts in the draft. The call is proposed to take place the week of October 20th.
 - The broad review is tentatively planned for February.
- NRCS 393, Filter Strip – Extensive EZ process.

WI Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection • WI Department of Natural Resources •
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- This team held three full-day meetings so far to review the standard and Tech Note. The team has approved the draft standard for broad review with some revisions. They will hold one more meeting to finalize the Tech Note, before sending both documents out for broad review in October. The full team will review all the comments to consider incorporation into the new standard.
- Pat and Gini to look in additional NRCS standards up for review.

2014 Budget vs YTD & 2015 Budget

The current financials and draft budget for 2015 were reviewed.

The costs of the SOC program have been stable over the last few years. WI Land+Water has had some recent excess in funds in the past due to vacancy of the SOC Coordinator position. The grant funding through NRCS will be decreasing in upcoming years and in the next granting cycle beginning October 2014. NRCS did approve an extension of the current grant which will allow the remaining \$10,000 to complete remaining objectives in the next few quarters. Due to decreasing funds available, Jim will work with WI Land+Water Board to consider funding a small percentage of SOC Coordinator position to work on organizational tasks associated with SOC.

SOC Program Manager Performance Review

Gini left the meeting. The attending council members discussed staff performance to inform upcoming annual performance review on Sep 9th.

Next Meeting – Nov 19 at WI Land+Water. 131 W. Wilson #601.

Goal: Collect upcoming agenda items.

- If new attendees, have topic on mutual agency/partner benefits.
- Review and update existing 2015 Work Plan.
- Finalize and approve 2015 budget.

Action Items:

- Pat will work to keep Standard 634A Shoreland Habitat standard on the NRCS website as a reference.
- Gini and Mary Anne to revisit need for Custodian shift on Shoreland Habitat standard 634A. We may need to plan a scoping meeting. Tribes are a major user of this standard.
- Pat will check in with Army Corps of Engineers to engage them in SOC process.
- Gini will continue to explore options for video production and move forward with framework.
- Gini will continue to work on updating the Handbook with recent changes, including biennial Technical Standards Assessment/Survey format, budget format, and staff evaluation.
- Jim will work with Christina and SITCOM on training recommendations, specifically regarding concrete.
- Gini and Mary Anne will reach out to DOT, potentially Bob Armstrong, for participation in November SOC meeting.

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