



Standards Oversight Council (SOC)

Developing effective technical standards that protect Wisconsin's natural resources

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NRCS Stream Protection/Restoration Standards Team

MEETING NOTES

Wednesday, August 11, 2021 ▲ 8:30am – 10:00am ▲

Online Meeting

8:30 Welcome (Kate, Steve)

Goal: Welcome, attendance, review meeting goal.

Welcome back! We perform a microphone check and confirm attendance:

Steve Becker (Sponsor and Team Leader)

Seth Ebel

Bob Micheel

Nate Anderson

Mike Dreischmeier

Ken Potter

Ben Lee

Stacy Dehne

Jeff Hastings

Bart Chapman

Absences: Faith Fitzpatrick, Jeff Schure, Marty Melchior, Joe Schmelz

Guests: None

Some general items:

- This will be the last time we meet before publication. We want to hear your thoughts.
- Thank you for everyone on this team for preparation before this meeting to draft responses and edit the text. Before this meeting, we broke out the responses to the public comments into subgroups of this team. These subgroups worked on draft responses and some text edits, which Steve adjusted a bit further and filled in some gaps and consistency issues. Steve will send response files to Kate later today to respond to reviewers—some edits depending on input from the team today.

- Today's goal is to make any final edits before publication. Thanks for sticking with this journey. NRCS is striving for the work product is acceptable to most people.

Review Key Revisions (Steve, Team)

Draft 7 of CPS 395 Stream Habitat Improvement and Management;

Draft 8 of CPS 580 Streambank and Shoreline;

Draft 7 of CPS 582 Open Channel; and

Draft 7 of CPS 584 Channel Bed Stabilization

Goal: Review the more substantial revisions to the standards based on Broad Reviewer comments. Approve standards for publication.

The team has the proposed final files via email this morning. Based on the degree of comments during the Broad Review, this meeting will focus on just CPS 580, as that's where the more significant comments were. The other three standards didn't have many edits.

Steve reviews the updated CPS 580 file for each of the above standards on-screen. Edits since the Initial Review are redlined to more easily identify what has changed.

Larger points from the team discussion on **CPS 580**:

- Glossary may be helpful, particularly for a new user, but the team feels the Broad Review questions are more related to training on details and not really about vocabulary. Not all standards have a glossary and this is WI-specific. The new text already added detail within the text for OHWM and bankfull flow. Steve poses if anyone on the team is interested and able to put together a glossary within a week? No volunteer from the team, so glossary is left out and training will fill in technical details.
- A lot of design is based on OHWM in shoreline protection (rather than streambank). Reference to NR328 was added as a more accurate reference for wave height.
- "Treatment" instead of "revetment" for a more general term, and also consistent with other usage within this standard.
- "Pollution control" was maintained as that is the language used elsewhere by NRCS (WI Construction Spec 5) and captures things like oil and grease over just sediment.
- Mike talked directly to commenter who had nuanced comment about CPS 342 sometimes in conflict with shoreland zoning (like native vs introduced grasses). The issue is more with zoning and will not be addressed further in the standard.

Deep root reinforcement is a good goal, but not appropriate as a requirement in 580.

- We want to leave the extent of the geotechnical investigation up to the designer but because this is an engineering standard, there needs to be some engineering standard of care. The language related to infrastructure on the bank is adjusted to provide some NRCS criteria for the requirement but leaving some information more vague so there is site-specific level of care, trusting user “common sense.” The field staff that are implementing the standard can provide a better service if there are some details in the standard but not adding a financial burden that would result in the practice not being implemented.
- Critical sites section had numerous points, including:
 - Team wants to maintain additional requirements for Critical Sites that show where further evaluation is warranted. There should be a way to get out of this requirement in some situations, for example if there’s a small culvert 150’ downstream of a bridge. Water surface model changed from required to “consider” so as not overly prescriptive.
 - Team discusses variation across the state in consideration of comments related to northern part of the state.
 - Streambank protection standard is used sometimes to address other problems like sediment transport and deposition issues. If the hydraulic analysis results in greater protection and more in-depth analysis (like Hec-Ras), it may kill the project which could be a positive outcome. Steve will make some edits and have the final decision on wording related to geotechnical investigations and entrenched channels.

Next Steps (Kate, Team)

Goal: Team exit survey; Review any Action Items; Identify the timeline toward publication and training.

Action Items:

1. **Team:** Complete the exit survey online. **Kate** will email link to the team.
2. **Kate:** prepare 8/11/21 draft meeting notes, **Steve** reviews, then full **Team** reviews. Kate to post final notes online.
3. **Steve** will send Kate the responses to Broad Review comments. **Kate** will respond to each of the Broad Reviewers and post online.
4. **Steve** will make final polishing edits to 580 related to Critical Sites and get that text to the team by tomorrow morning. Give Steve one last review of 580 by the end of the day Tuesday 8/17/21.

5. **Other 3 standards** - team should review versions from this morning and get Steve any final comments by Tuesday 8/17. **Kate** will forward Steve comment on Open Channel from the meeting chat box.
6. **Steve** will work on publication next week within the NRCS document management process. He expects it will be published at the end of August (~27th).
7. **As part of publishing, Steve will prepare a brief on what has changed since the last version. This will go out with the SOC publication announcement.**

10:00 End – Meeting adjourned at 10:10 am