# U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permit Overview July 7, 2009

For:



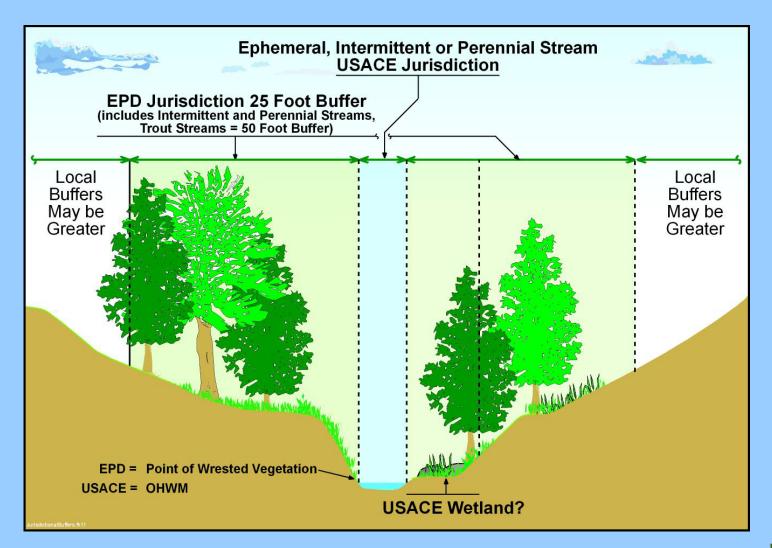
Presented by:

Cological

Solutions

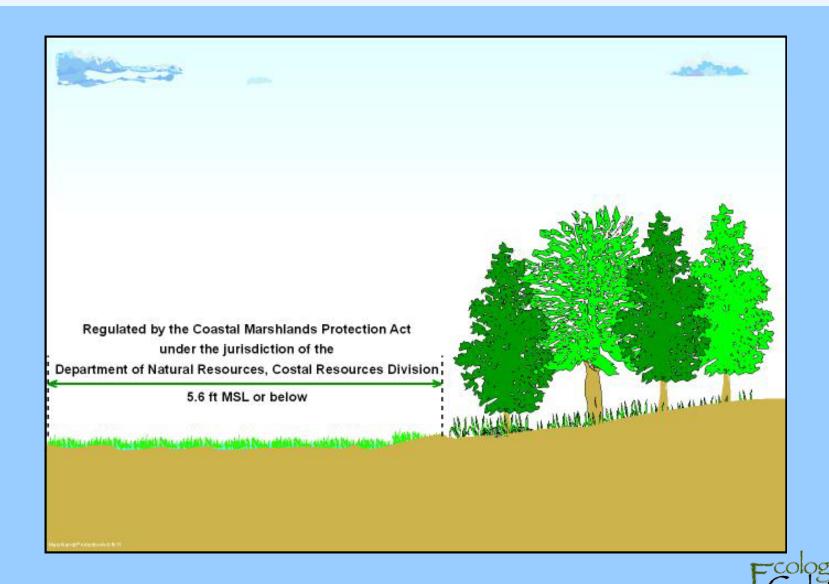


#### Who Has Jurisdiction?

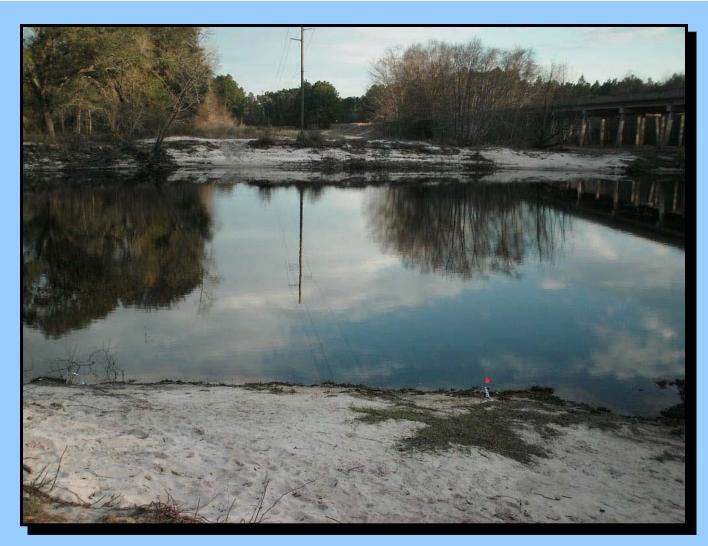




## Who has Jurisdiction? (cont'd)



## **Perennial Stream**





# Canal



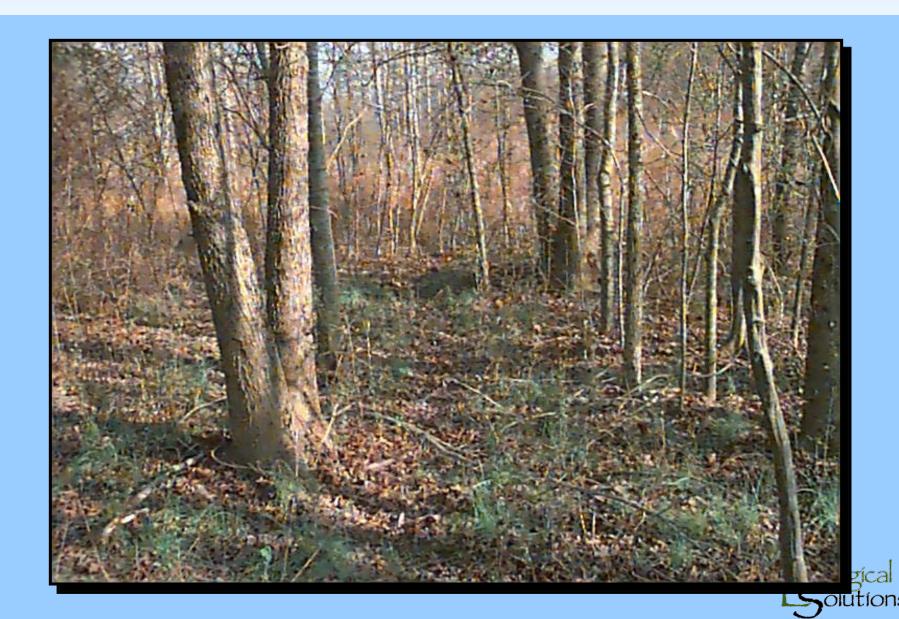


# Wetlands





#### Wetlands



## Wetland/Canal?





# **Jurisdictional Open Water?**





# **Jurisdictional Open Water?**





I've just received great news from my real estate agent in Florida...
They've found land on my property!



---Milton Berle



#### **Regulatory Overview**

- Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (USACE)
- Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act (USACE)
- Erosion and Sedimentation Control Act (EPD stream buffers)
- Coastal Marshlands Protection Act (DNR)



#### **Section 404 Overview**

#### General Permits

- Regional Permits Activity specific permits specific to each Regulatory District
- Nationwide Permits 50 activity specific permits across the U.S. for projects with minor impacts
- Letter of Permission Abbreviated permitting process for projects that exceed NWP thresholds but that do not have the potential for significant impacts
- Individual Permit Specific permits for projects with the potential for significant impacts



#### **Proposed Regional Permits**

- Four Regional General Permits (RGPs) were placed on Public Notice on April 29, 2009:
- The goal of the proposed RGPs is expedited review of public-funded projects that would otherwise require an Individual Permit
- Like the Nationwide Permits, the Regional Permits are Activity Specific:
  - 105 Widening or Improvement of Existing Transportation Projects
  - 106 Bridge Replacement Projects
  - 107 Construction of Institutional Facilities such as Governmental Offices, Schools, Libraries, and Museums
  - 108 Construction of Infrastructure projects such as Water Treatment Facilities and Storm Water Management Facilities



#### Proposed Regional Permits (cont'd)

- Public comment period has expired (May 28, 2009)
- USACE to hold workshop in late July 2009 regarding comments and expected date of issuance
- Permits require additional coordination beyond the NWP program:
  - Cultural Resources Survey
  - Documentation of at least one public workshop
  - Pre-Construction Notification Required
- Cannot be used in tidal waters



#### Proposed Regional Permits (cont'd)

#### Impact thresholds

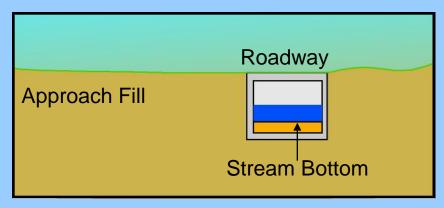
- Non-linear projects 5 acres of wetlands and/or 1,000 feet of intermittent or perennial streams
- Linear projects 10 acres of wetlands and/or 2,000 linear feet of intermittent or perennial streams. No single crossing can impact greater than 3 acres of wetland and/or 500 feet of streams



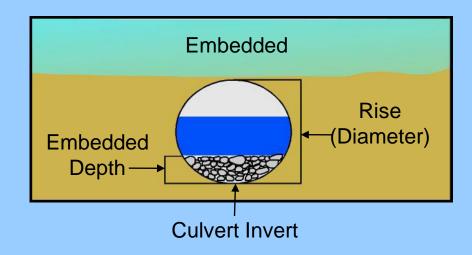
#### **Nationwide Permits**

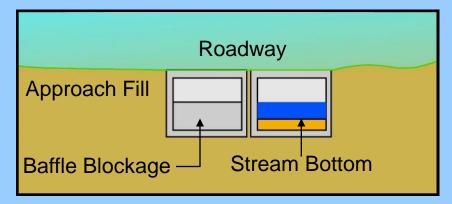
- 50 NWPs covering general activities
- Most commonly used:
  - 3 Maintenance
  - 12 Utility Line Activities
  - 13 Bank Stabilization Activities
  - 14 Linear Transportation Projects
  - 29 Residential Developments
  - 39 Commercial and Institutional Developments
  - 42 Recreational Facilities
  - 43 Stormwater Management Facilities
- Regional Conditions require:
  - Earlier engineering
  - Permitting coordination (NWPs and Stream Buffer Variances)

## **Culverts (perennial streams)**

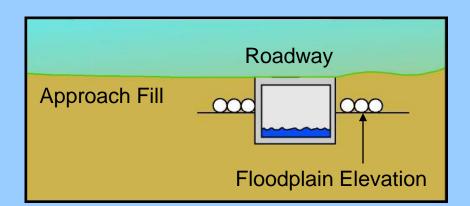


Culvert buried below streambed to appropriate depth





Culvert buried below streambed to appropriate depth





#### **Rule of Thumb**

# **404 Permitting Thresholds Non-linear Private Projects**

	PCN	IP
Wetland	>0	>0.5 acre
Stream (perennial, intermittent, or ephemeral)	>0 l.f.	>300 l.f.

Mitigation
>0.1 acre
> 100 l.f.



#### **Rule of Thumb**

# 404 Permitting Thresholds Non-linear Public-funded Projects when proposed RGP applies

	PCN For NWP	RGP	IP
Wetland	>0	>0.5 acre	>5 acres
Stream (perennial, intermittent, or ephemeral)	>0 l.f.	>300lf	>1000 I.f.

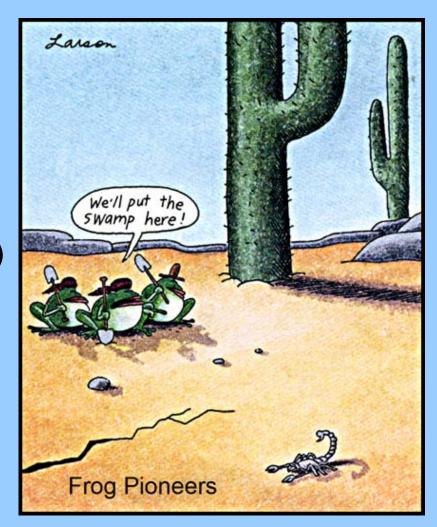
Mitigation
>0.1 acre
> 100 l.f.



#### Rule of Thumb

#### **Mitigation Credits and Cost**

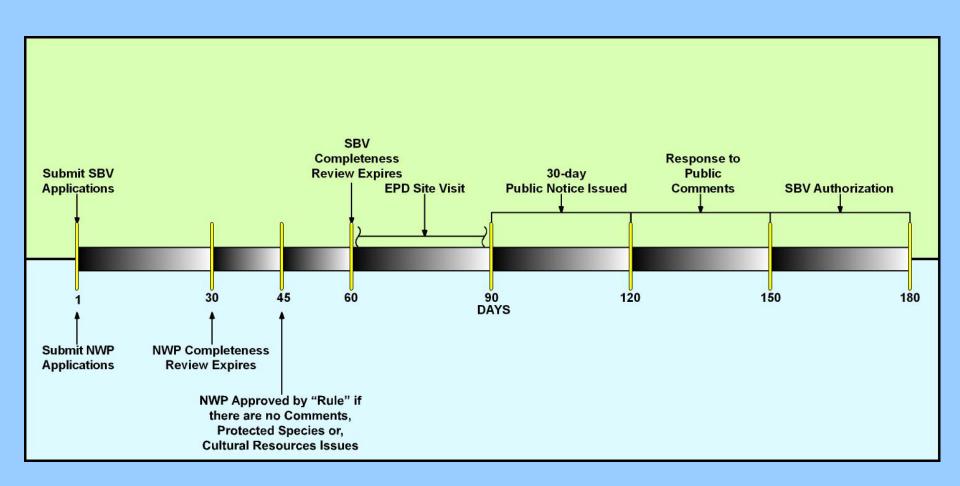
- 1 acre of wetland impact = 7-8 credits (\$7,500\*/credit) or \$52,500 - \$60,000/wetland acre of impact
- 1 foot of stream impact =
  4-5 credits (\$85 \$110+\*/credit)
  or \$340 \$550/foot of impact



\* Based on recent mitigation bank costs, actual cost will vary based on watershed location and credit availability.



# Nationwide Permit and Stream Buffer Variance Typical Timeline\*





#### Nationwide Permit Overview

Thank you erikalford@ecologicalsolutions.net

July 7, 2009
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